

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 213. Vol. VIII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 16th, 1915.

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

Price 11.

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



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

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

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

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

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,  
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

### WAR'S EFFECT ON MEETINGS.

The effect of the war on ringing has loomed largely in the business of the various associations who have met for their annual meetings during Easter, but, with one or two exceptions, it is noteworthy that the meetings themselves have been, really, very successful. In most cases, perhaps, there has been a falling off in the attendance, though that is probably due more to the suspension of cheap travelling facilities than to any other cause. For the most part, also, the clergy who have been approached have been willing to allow the bells of their churches to be rung, and the ringers have specially appreciated this permission at such a time.

The Midland Counties' Association's annual meeting at Derby seems to have been more affected by the conditions than any other, and the fact that the attendance in so large an organisation numbered less than a quarter of a hundred, goes to show that the average ringer does not care a great deal about the business of his association, as long as things go on satisfactorily. When he attends a meeting it is for the pleasure he gets of meeting old friends and having a "pull" with them; the purely business part of the proceedings, shorn of the opportunities for social intercourse, have very little attraction. At least the experience of the Midland Counties' Association points to this, for the small attendance may be directly traceable to the change of plans, which cancelled the ringing and made the fixing of arrangements for tea impossible. Sir Arthur Heywood, the president, has taken a strong line upon ringing in war time, and one must admire his consistency in the stand he took with regard to the use of bells for the Derby meeting. But the fact remains that with nothing but a purely business programme as an inducement to members, the Midland Counties' Association's gathering was numerically, at any rate, a very poor affair.

We are glad to see that the associations, wherever they meet, are hastening to secure that those of their members, who have demonstrated their patriotism by responding to the call to arms, shall not lose the connection with their respective organisations through unpaid subscriptions while they are engaged upon the stern task in which they are taking a hand. The numerous meetings held through Easter have shown a general desire on the part of ringers to honour their comrades, who are giving their all to their country. To ensure the retention of their membership while the war lasts is, of course, the least the associations could do, but we think that rather than the associations should suffer financially, it would be better and would show a greater individual appreciation of what is being done if the various towers paid the contributions of their absent members. Where a large number have gone from one belfry this might not be possible, and in such cases, perhaps, a part might be raised by those who remain behind.

## MODERN WORK

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Dear Sir,

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

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

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

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

CHAS. C. CARR, LTD.  
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and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION  
AND THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, LEICESTER.

On Easter Tuesday, April 6, 1915, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5020 CHANCES;**

Tenor 21½ cwt.

GEORGE CLEAL ... .. Treble	JOSIAH MORRIS ... .. 6
SAMUEL COTTON ... .. 2	T. LEONARD ALLEN ... .. 7
HARRY BROUGHTON ... .. 3	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... .. 8
HAROLD G. JENNEY, P.C. 4	ALFRED MARTIN ... .. 9
ERNEST MORRIS ... .. 5	THOMAS TAYLOR ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

\* First peal of Caters.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, April 5th, 1915, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.

WILLIAM PALMER ... .. Treble	FRANK WITHERS ... .. 5
PERCY LAFLIN ... .. 2	THOMAS BLOORE ... .. 6
CHARLES WAITMAN ... .. 3	WILLIAM DAVIES ... .. 7
GEORGE GARRISON ... .. 4	*CHARLES WEBB ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS BLOORE.

\* First peal. This completed the conductor's 50 peals which have been rung in 20 different towers. Rung as a wedding peal on the marriage of Miss Florence Palmer (daughter of Mr. W. Palmer, the tower-keeper) to Mr. William Crawford, of Bromsgrove. Mr. Palmer has now completed 50 years' service at the church. It was also a birthday peal for Mr. P. Laflin.

NORTHOWRAM, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 10, 1915, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANCES;**

Tenor 16 cwt.

*EDGAR BOTTOMLEY ... .. Treble	†JAGGER RUSHWORTH ... .. 5
*FRANK BOOTH ... .. 2	ELI BARBER ... .. 6
EDWARD KERSHAW ... .. 3	ALBERT JAGGER ... .. 7
ERNEST LAWSON ... .. 4	*MALLINSON TAYLOR ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. FIRTH, and  
Conducted by ALBERT JAGGER.

\* First peal. † First peal of Major. The ringers of the treble, 2nd and tenor were proposed members of the Yorkshire Association previous to starting. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Samuel Lord Watkinson, the donor of the bells and tower, and brother of the Vicar.

TARLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 10, 1915, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

THOMAS DAY'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt., in F sharp

JOHN MARSDEN ... .. Treble	RICHARD P. HEALD ... .. 5
TOM LOFTHOUSE ... .. 2	PETER CROOK ... .. 6
JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... .. 3	REGINALD L. INCE ... .. 7
FRED RIGBY ... .. 4	WALTER BLACKLEDGE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

First peal on the bells and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Bishop Moorhouse, who passed away on the previous day. The ringers of the 5th and 6th hail from Bolton, 7th from Whittle-le-Wood, and the remainder from Chorley.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.  
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION  
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 10, 1915, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THORSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH FAULKNER ... .. Treble	SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 5
VICTOR WHITE ... .. 2	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... .. 6
*RICHARD ROUND ... .. 3	†ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... .. 7
HARRY HILL ... .. 4	*GEORGE POPNELL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ABRAHAM GREENFIELD.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method as conductor. Rung, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Miss Wood, who for many years was an earnest church worker in the parish of Netherton.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 10, 1915, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN PALFRAMAN ... .. Treble	JAMES COTTERELL ... .. 5
GEORGE ROBINSON ... .. 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD ... .. 6
WILLIAM CLARK ... .. 3	EDWARD CROWTHER ... .. 7
ERNEST H. SIMPSON ... .. 4	THOMAS B. KENDALL ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and  
Conducted by JAMES COTTERELL.

SIX BELL PEAL.

HEMINGBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.  
THE CLEVELAND & NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 7, 1915, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and five 720's of Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

J. J. TUNE ... .. Treble	G. C. TERRY ... .. 4
M. T. TUNE ... .. 2	E. D. TUNE ... .. 5
A. HATFIELD ... .. 3	REV. W. P. WRIGHT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by REV. W. P. WRIGHT.

Rung by the local band as a farewell peal to their Vicar, the Rev. W. P. Wright, President of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, who is to be instituted Vicar of St. Silas Church, Sheffield, on April 15th.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who are serving with H.M. Forces:—

- Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, Chaplain to Forces.
- Second-Lieut. Francis J. L. Mitchell, of St. Leonard's, Streatham, Royal Garrison Artillery, Weymouth.
- Sergeant J. Bennett, Royal Marines, is now serving on H.M.S. "Phaeton."
- Spr. Wm. Gilmore, of St. Andrew's, West Hartlepool, Royal Engineers.
- Gnr. John Hughes, of St. Andrew's, West Hartlepool, Royal Garrison Artillery, stationed at Hartlepool.
- Robert E. Waterson, of the Fakenham, Norfolk, Society, 9th Batt. Norfolk Regiment, volunteered at Rangoon, India, and came home to serve with the regiment.
- W. M. Tuthill, of Fakenham, Norfolk, Divisional Royal Engineers.
- From St. John's Guild, Darlington:—
- Pte W. Broadley, A.O.C., last heard of on an armoured train at the front.
- Pte J. Craven, R.A.M.C., at the front.
- Pte A. Hunter, 5th Durham L.I., at Newcastle.
- Pte L. Venus, Medical Unit, R.N.D., Blandford, Dorset.
- From St. Chad's, Shrewsbury:—
- Pte F. Taylor,
- Pte E. Jones, and
- Pte T. W. Belton, Kitcheners' Army.
- Pte A. Tickner, Shropshire Regiment (T.), now in India.
- From St. Augustine's, Broxbourne, Herts:—
- Pte F. G. Saban, Herts Regiment (T.).
- Pte T. Clarke, Herts Regiment (T.).
- Pte A. Brenton, 4th Beds Regiment.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

The following further contributions to the Prince of Wales' Fund have been received:—

	£	s	d.
Amount already acknowledged	76	14	0
Ringers of Heston, Middlesex (per Mr. H. C. Chandler)	0	15	0
York Minster Society (March collection) (per Mr. G. Horner)	0	3	6
Total	£77	12	6

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT WARWICK.

The eighth annual meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Emscote on Easter Monday, and, taking everything into consideration, may be said to have been fairly successful, about 32 members being present from Allesley, Birmingham, Berkswell, Coventry, Chilvers Coton, Emscote, Nuneaton, Rugby, Stoke Golding, Southam, and Tamworth. The bells at Emscote and Leamington were raised about 11.30 a.m., and kept going in various methods, with intervals, till 4.30, when the members adjourned to Emscote Vicarage, where they sat down to an excellent tea, very kindly provided by Miss Dickins, and to which full justice was done.

After tea the business meeting was held, and the various officers appointed. The Rev. H. C. A. Back, of Berkswell, was elected President, in place of the Rev. A. Williams, who has resigned on account of ill-health and left the district, and it was resolved that a letter of thanks be written to him for his services to the Guild. The vice-presidents were all re-elected, with the addition of the Rev. Canon Wood. Mr. James George was again elected Ringing Master; Mr. H. Kettle, hon. secretary; and Mr. G. Dickins and Mr. L. Lapworth, hon. treasurer and hon. auditor respectively. The following members were elected to serve on the committee: Mr. A. Roberts, Stoke-in-Coventry; Mr. A. J. Hessian, Rugby; Mr. T. Bloore, Sutton Coldfield; Mr. A. James, Berkswell; Mr. T. W. Chapman, Nuneaton; Mr. J. Upton, Wolvey; Mr. G. A. Martineau, Solihull; Mr. John King, Southam; Mr. John Pinfold, Dunchurch; and Mr. H. Reader, Chilvers Coton.

The Secretary reported that, owing to the war, only three peals had been rung since the last general meeting, held in June, and all these had been rung with the bells half-muffled, one at Stoke-in-Coventry in memory of Lord Roberts; one at Stoney Stanton in memory of Mr. C. H. Fowler, a life member of the Guild; and one at Erdington in memory of Mr. Genders, the donor of the bells.

The question of subscriptions of the numerous members who have enlisted was discussed, and it was resolved that these members should remain on the books without further payment till their return. Mr. H. O. White kindly offered to pay the subscriptions of the Rugby members who have joined the colours, and a suggestion was made that in every band where members had enlisted, the remainder should pay the subscriptions of the absentees between them, and this met with general approval.

It was also reported that two members of the Guild had been killed in action—Private Keen, of Tamworth, and Private Griffin, of the Southam band.

The quarterly meeting for July was arranged for Erdington, and a monthly meeting in May for Brinklow, while the President gave the members an invitation to Berkswell for the June meeting, which was accepted.

A very hearty vote of thanks to Miss Dickins for providing the tea, and to the clergy for the use of their bells, concluded the meeting.

The members afterwards adjourned to St. Mary's, Warwick, where the bells were kept going till 8.30. The methods rung during the day included Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Triples, Double Norwich, Superlative, and Plain Bob Major and Bob Minor.

RINGERS AS CHURCHWARDENS.

At the Easter Vestry, held at St. Barnabas', Linslade, Bucks, Mr. A. Vickers was elected Vicar's churchwarden, in succession to Mr. W. Jeffs, who had held the office for 18 years. Mr. Vickers has been a ringer at St. Barnabas' for several years, and Mr. Jeffs was a former member of the band. Both Mr. Vickers and Mr. Jeffs are employees of the London and North Western Railway, the former as clerk in the district manager's office, and the latter as signaller at Leighton Buzzard Station.

WOUNDED AT NEUVE CHAPELLE.

A. E. Carder, a member of the Ickleton company, who is serving with the Cambridgeshire Regiment, was wounded in the left arm in the fighting at Neuve Chapelle on March 14th. We are pleased to hear he is progressing favourably.



## THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

There was a capital attendance of members of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild at the annual meeting at Shoreditch on Saturday. The war had no serious effect upon the day's proceedings, except that some familiar faces were absent—detained by military duties elsewhere. Among these were Lieut. J. H. B. Hesse, the vice-president of the South and West District, and Pte B. Prewett, who has recently gone into training. The Master, Mr. William Pye, was also absent, but from another cause—the death of his wife—and many were the expressions of sympathy that were heard with him. Mr. Arthur T. King, the genial President, was once again among his old friends, and one could not help noting that the attendance included quite a number of men whose names have been familiar to the Exercise for well over a generation—such men as Mr. Isaac Shade, Mr. Ben. Foskett, Mr. Edwin Barnett, Mr. W. Doran, and Mr. James George, who had come up specially from Birmingham, to mention only a few. That the day's proceedings should centre round a twelve-bell tower made them all the more attractive, and most of the branches of the Association were represented. Indeed, quite early the belfry was crowded, and not a few of the visitors had their first pull on twelve.

The congregation that assembled in the church for the special service was of quite goodly proportions. The Rector (the Rev. E. F. Birch) officiated, and the sermon was preached by the Vicar of Little Munden, Heris (the Rev. A. G. Langdon) himself a ringer and a past President to the Berks County Association. He based his address on the words: "I will not offer unto the Lord my God that which doth cost me nothing" (2 Samuel xxiv, 24), and here are some of the salient points from his remarks:—

"Why," he asked, "do we want a service or a sermon when ringers come together?" Possibly one answer is that it is because ringing in our minds is connected very largely with the service of God, and it is certainly connected with the House of God. Where else in this country, except in the House of God, can you find a peal of bells like that upon which we have been exercising ourselves this afternoon? There is nothing particularly sacred about bell ringing, any more than there is about any other exercise, and yet it is connected in our minds and always will be, I believe, with the Church of God. Now there is another, and I believe, a deeper and, maybe, a truer answer to the question than that. Why did we take up bell ringing? Was it in order that we might serve our Church in that way, that we might do some work for the Church? Well, I tell you honestly, that is not the reason why I took up bell ringing. I have never got very far with it, but I took it up because I liked it, and I think probably a good many of us ringers took it up for the same reason; not because we wanted to work for our Church, but because we liked it, because it fascinated us and we wanted to go in for and overcome the difficulties that are connected with it. I believe in the minds of a great many of us, however, there is a deep longing to offer unto the Lord our God something that we have got and not always something that somebody else appears to have got, and which somebody else seems to think we ought to have. We feel that we should like to offer up our best, and if we are to look upon religion as something which is merely piety—I think everyone of us feels a deep respect for those who look on religion in that way—it does not appeal to us, and we are not going to offer to the Lord our God something which costs us nothing, and which, if only the truth be told would to us be very little short of hypocrisy, very little short of humbug. We have a deep feeling that our religion ought above all things to be sincere, that it ought to be true and without any pretence whatever. Now, I do not believe for one moment that everything we like in this world is wrong, but at the same time let us beware of casting from our religion everything that we find hard. If we can regard this bell ringing as part of our service to God, very well and good, but there are other ways of looking at bell ringing. If we look upon it as an art—and we, as bell ringers, want it to be regarded more than it has been in the past as a serious art—then do not let us offer that which costs us nothing. There may be some of us who do not even regard it as an art, possibly, but only as an exercise, much as we should regard cricket or football. Personally, I believe I took up bell ringing many years ago for much the same reason as I should have taken up cricket or football. Well, even then, do not let us offer, for our own self respect, that which costs us nothing. Let us, however we look at bell ringing, be among those who are regarded by the outside world as men who live clean, upright, honest, temperate and sober lives, and then, even though our bell ringing, in our own minds, is not regarded as in any sense connected with the worship of our God, it will, if we are living this kind of life, provide a sound and a sure foundation on which we can build up more especially spiritual things afterwards, even when this world is passed away. However, we regard our bell ringing, or anything else, beware of making an offering—giving of our strength, giving of ourselves in any way—which is among the things which cost us nothing.

The tea was held in the Church Room, and about 90 members and friends sat down, the Rector (the Rev. E. F. Birch) presiding, supported by the President (Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.), Miss E. K. Parker the hon. treasurer (Mr. F. A. Milne), the hon. secretaries (Messrs. C. T. Coles and H. C. Chandler), and the District Masters (Messrs. J. Armstrong and T. Beadle). Before the business meeting began, the Rector welcomed the members to Shoreditch, and said he hoped to see them there again. The President then took the chair.

### THE REPORT.

The annual report naturally contained a reference to the cessation of ringing owing to the war, prior to which, it was stated, the society had been making satisfactory progress. Up to that time the number of peals accomplished was 71. Subsequently only twelve peals were rung, including nine peals on handbells—a fitting tribute to those who were obeying their country's call. The report continued:

One of the chief features of a year of abundant promise was the number of peals of Stedman Cinques rung upon handbells. To have rung ten such peals in the course of a single year is undoubtedly a record to be proud of, and it is even more remarkable than it seems to be at first sight, because one of the peals, rung at 129, Brunswick Street, Haggerston, on May 4th, was the first short-course peal of Cinques ever rung double-handed. The composition was one of 69 courses, and contained no less than 339 bobs and three singles. We offer to the whole band our congratulations on the achievement of a really remarkable performance, and especially to the conductor, Mr. William Pye, whose ability as a conductor, whether on lower bells or handbells, is a household word to ringers everywhere.

We heartily congratulate the Acton (St. Mary's Guild) on ringing, on the 15th February, their first peal by an entirely local band, viz., a peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. J. R. Mackman, to whose unwearied energy is largely due the great progress made by this branch of the Association. A new record was set up on Easter Monday, April 13th, by the ringing of four Surprise Major peals by the same band in one day. These peals were rung at Egham, Chertsey, Staines (St. Peter's) and Old Windsor, the methods being Bristol, London, Cambridge and Superlative, and were conducted by Mr. William Pye. Such a performance could not have been accomplished without the kindly co-operation of the clergy and tower-keepers at the above churches, which we hereby gratefully acknowledge. On April 23rd, a "George" peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at the Church of St. George, Camberwell, conducted by Mr. George E. Pye, the whole forming a fitting accompaniment in celebration of St. George's Day. The first peal of Bob Royal by the Association on tower bells was rung on August 1st, at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, conducted by Mr. Robert Maynard, junr., it being also the first peal in the method by the whole of the band. The half-muffled peal of Stedman Cinques which was rung at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on November 21st, was the 100th twelve-bell peal by the conductor, Mr. W. Pye, who is the first to accomplish a century of peals on twelve bells.

During the year there were elected three honorary members and 63 ringing members, and after allowing for deaths, resignations, etc., we close the year with a very satisfactory total membership of 735, this being the highest yet reached by the Association. An entirely new band has been formed at Harrow-on-the-Hill, and has become affiliated to the Association. The band at St. Mary's, Willesden, has also joined the Association.

Our record of bell restoration is the smallest for many years. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have completed the rehanging of the eight bells at All Saints', Edmonton.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank also report having recast the tenor bell of a set of four bells at Ashford, rehanging the peal in a new frame. The same firm have completely overhauled the bells at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, Idol Lane, E.C., refitting the gudgeons to the bearings, and causing the ringing of the bells to be a much greater pleasure than before. The ninth bell at St. Margaret's, Westminster, has been rehanging in new fittings.

Before closing this report, we must not omit to place on record our appreciation of the work done by our Joint Hon. Secretaries. We have on more than one occasion pointed out that we can better show our appreciation of them by saving them trouble, and this chiefly in the matter of the payment of our subscriptions. It is not fair to any Association to drain it of its lifeblood, by neglecting to pay these very elusive shillings. And so let us pay them promptly—lest we forget; lest we forget!!

The 83 peals rung were made up as follows: Kent Treble Bob Major, 3; Grandsire Triples, 11; Minor (one method), 3; Bob Major, 4; Bob Royal, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 7; Superlative Surprise Major, 10; Cambridge Surprise Major, 4; Cambridge Surprise Royal, 2; Norfolk Surprise Major, 2; London Surprise Major, 4; Bristol Surprise Major, 4; Stedman Triples, 7; Stedman Cinques, 15; total, 83; of which 19 were rung on handbells, viz.: Grandsire Triples, 2; Bob Major, 3; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 1; Stedman Cinques, 3; Stedman Cinques, 10.

The 64 peals on tower bells were rung in 44 different towers, and, inclusive of those who rang in the handbell peals, 180 members took part in them. There were 23 conductors, and of those who took part in the peals on tower bells 47 rang their first peals in a new method, ten their first peals in any method, four their first peals of Superlative, one his first peal of Cambridge, five their first peals of Norfolk, one his first peal of London, one his first peal of Bristol, two their first peals of Cambridge Royal, one her first peal of Stedman Cinques, and three their first peals of Stedman Cinques. On handbells six rang their first peals in a new method, three their first peals of Stedman Cinques, and one his first peal of Stedman Cinques on two working bells. Two members were successful in their first peals as conductors, both on tower bells.

The balance sheet of the Central Fund showed a loss on the year's working of 2s. 5d., the balance in hand being £17 17s. 8d.

The President reviewed the report at some length. The war apart, he said, they had had a very satisfactory year. Many good things had been done, and there were, he supposed, very few associations which were able to boast of having rung no less than 15 peals of Stedman Cinques in the year. Ten of them were on handbells, and that in itself was a great achievement. It was fitting that they should observe silence generally in regard to peals for pleasure at this time, as such peals would not be quite in accordance with their feelings at such a time of anxiety and trouble. — The report and balance sheet were adopted.

The election of one member in the tower was confirmed, and Mr. York Bramble was elected a non-resident member.

#### OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The re-election of Mr. King as President was carried by acclamation, on the motion of Mr. F. A. Milne, seconded by Mr. J. Armstrong.

Mr. King briefly acknowledged his re-election in felicitous terms, and then proposed the re-election of Mr. William Pye as Master. He touchingly referred to Mr. Pye's recent severe bereavement, and said he took upon himself to write to him in the name of his colleagues in the Association, to express to Mr. Pye their deep sorrow at his loss. — Mr. Alps seconded the motion for Mr. Pye's re-election, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Alps, as an old friend, asked to be permitted to move "That the members of the Middlesex Association, in annual general meeting assembled have learned with profound regret of the loss which their worthy master has sustained, and tender their sincere and heartfelt sympathy with Mr. Pye in his sad bereavement." — Mr. James George seconded, and the resolution was carried in silence by the members standing.

The following officers were then re-elected: Mr. F. A. Milne, hon. treasurer; Messrs. C. T. Coles and H. C. Chandler, hon. secs.; Messrs. J. E. Miller and W. Pickworth, hon. auditors.

The President again nominated Mr. F. A. Milne (North and East District) and Mr. J. H. B. Hesse (South and West District) as vice-presidents.

The President and Messrs. J. H. B. Hesse, W. Pye and J. R. Sharman were re-elected representatives of the Association on the Central Council.

#### OTHER BUSINESS.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) said they had inserted a Roll of Honour in the Annual Report. It was as complete as they could make it at present, but there would be others to add to it next year. The committee had considered the question of these members subscriptions. Some had paid before they went; others had had their subscriptions paid for them by the local societies. The committee thought it would be unfair to ask these men for their money if they had not paid, and recommended that their names should be retained on the books. If hands wished to pay the subscriptions of their members who were away in the Army and Navy, they were at liberty to do so, but if the subscriptions were not paid the society would keep the absent men in full membership. He, therefore, moved: "That the names of all members of the Association serving in H.M. Forces be retained on the books during the period of the war." — Mr. F. A. Milne seconded, and the motion was carried.

The question of a Sunday service ringing scheme, which has been under consideration of a special sub-committee, was brought forward by the hon. secretary. It was based upon attendance, Mr. Coles pointing out that the committee thought if points were given for methods, it would be a great hardship on those who could only ring Grandsire and Plain Bob. — Mr. W. Lawrance moved that no scheme for Sunday service ringing be considered (that did not take into account the methods rung). — Mr. Milne seconded.

Mr. J. Parker and Mr. J. Armstrong both spoke against any Sunday ringing scheme, the latter remarking that if a man wanted to ring on Sunday he would go, and if he did not want to ring he would not go, points or no points.

The President thought the more fact of having a number of rules would be of very little use. The members' own sense of what constituted a Sunday duty ought to be sufficient to bring them to the church and to the bells. While they thanked those who had taken the trouble to draw up the rules, he thought it would be better to accept a resolution which would, in fact, for the moment stop the scheme and give opportunity for further consideration. — Mr. J. Waghorn, senr., however, moved the previous question, and this was carried nem. dis.

It was decided to visit West Ealing or Heston for the next annual meeting.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. F. E. Birch for the service and permission to use the bells at Shoreditch, to the Rev. H. Shaw for the use of the bells at Bishopsgate, to the Rev. A. G. Langdon for his eloquent sermon, to Mr. H. J. Bradley (Shoreditch) and Mr. T. Walker (Bishopsgate) for their help in making the arrangements, to the organist of Shoreditch, and the ladies concerned in serving the tea.

A vote of thanks was passed to the officers for their services during the year, and a similar compliment to the chairman for presiding terminated the business.

Afterwards handbell ringing, including Stedman Caters and Cinques, took place, those taking part being Miss E. K. Parker, and Messrs. E. Pye, G. R. Pye, A. W. Grimes, J. Hunt, W. Shepherd, W. J. Nudds and W. A. Alps. The tower bell ringing during the day included Stedman Cinques and Treble Twelve at Shoreditch, and various Triple and Major methods at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate.

## THE NEW PEAL AT ERITH.

### FOUNDERS' TRIAL AT CHRIST CHURCH.

On Thursday, April 1st, 1915, the writer formed one of a band of ringers invited to carry out on behalf of the Founders (Messrs. John Warner and Sons, of the Spitalfields Bell Foundry, London), a test of the ring of eight bells installed in the newly-erected tower of Christ Church, Erith, the tower, spire and bells being a gift to the church by the Vicar (the Rev. A. W. Boulden).

The tower and bells are not yet dedicated. In fact, the hanging of the bells has been completed only during the last few days, and the finishing touches have yet to be put to the tower. Before ringing, the band went aloft to inspect the bells, which are hung in a steel frame, with Warner's patent self-aligning bearings, and present a very smart appearance. The weight of the tenor is 17 cwt. 23 lbs., and diameter 46 inches, and the octave is in the key of E. The bell chamber is fitted with louvres, and the window openings behind the louvres are lined with heavy glass, in order to prevent the sound of the bells from annoying the occupiers of residences near the church.

Ringling commenced in the presence of the Rev. A. W. Boulden, Capt. W. T. Allen and Mr. H. Palmer, churchwardens, and Mr. R. Warner, representing Messrs. Warner and Sons, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung, the bells being lowered before the commencement of evensong at 8 p.m. The ringers were delighted with the tuneful sound and "go" of the bells, both of which are excellent. In spite of the fact that the new ropes had a natural tendency (common to all new bell ropes) to stretch to a considerable extent, the men controlled their bells with ease, and there is no doubt that when the ropes have settled down with use, the ringing of these bells will be a pleasure to all who have the opportunity of using them.

The ringing chamber is not yet completed, but it is clear that the band of ringers which will presumably now be formed in connection with the church will have exceptionally comfortable quarters in which to practise the art.

The band invited to take part in the trial was as follows: Messrs. E. Barnett, senr., R. Brough, G. L. Povey, and P. E. Bex (of Crayford), Mr. D. Barnes (St. John's, Erith), and Messrs. J. Hunt, F. Smith, and Powell, of the founders' firm. During the evening, Messrs. E. Davis, J. Lowry and O. Robinson (of St. John's, Erith) also took part in ringing on the bells.

The inscriptions on the bells are as follow:—

Treble.—To the Glory of God these Bells were erected A.D. 1915. A. W. Boulden, Vicar. W. T. Allen and H. Palmer, churchwardens.

2. Praise God in His Holiness.
3. Let everything that hath breath, Praise the Lord.
4. We Praise Thee O God.
5. All the earth doth worship Thee.
6. Day by day we magnify Thee.
7. Holy, Holy Holy, Lord God Almighty.

Tenor.—O all ye Works of the Lord praise ye the Lord.

Each bell also bears the inscription: "John Warner and Sons, Founders, London, 1915."

## WINCHESTER GUILD.

### PLEASANT MEETING OF PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester Guild was held on Easter Monday at Shedfield. Representatives were present from Portsmouth, Portsea, Fareham, Wickham, Swaomore, Bishop's Waltham, Gosport, Titchfield, Ryde, Curdridge, and the local band. The Master of the Guild (the Rev. C. E. Matthews) and the hon. secretary (Mr. G. Williams) were also present. Forty-two members sat down to tea, the tables having been tastefully decorated by Mrs. Tithrage and Mrs. Pritchett, who attended to the wants of the visitors. — The Vicar (the Rev. L. R. Smith) welcomed the ringers to Shedfield, and said he would be happy at all times to assist them in the great work they were called on to do for the good of the church. He was pleased to tell them that Mrs. Franklin, of Shedfield Lodge, had borne the whole cost of the tea, and had given permission for the members to view the extensive grounds and gardens.

The Master presided over the business meeting, at which three full members and two probationers were elected. It was decided to have another meeting at Titchfield on Sept. 4th, the Master remarking that he would be pleased to welcome the Guild members there. — Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom, and to Mrs. Tithrage and Mrs. Pritchett for their kindness. The Master was asked to write to Mrs. Franklin to thank her for her generosity in giving tea, and her kindness in permitting the ringers to inspect the grounds, an offer which was taken advantage of, and was much appreciated.

Afterwards a service was held in the church, at which the Guild form was used. The prayers were read by the Vicar, and the organist and choir were in attendance. The sermon was preached by the Master from 2 Kings xx, 2, "Thus saith the Lord, get thine house in order for thou shalt die and not live."

The ringing during the day included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, College Single, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise, Miss Carden, of Titchfield, taking part.

## THE EXPERTS OF TO-DAY.

MR. WILLIAM PYE'S REPLY TO MR. PROCTOR.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I am sorry I could not reply to Mr. Proctor before, but, as many readers of this journal are aware, I have unfortunately been occupied in more important duties. He says he has no grievance against Mr. Grimes or myself, if that be so I wonder he makes a target of us alone. When he has done as much for others as either Mr. Grimes or I have, it will be time then for him to dictate to other people. He says we live in a favourable district where a threepenny or sixpenny tram or bus ride will take us anywhere. Perhaps he will be surprised when I tell him that the average cost of my peals exceeds £1. I realised many years ago that if I had any ambition to climb to the top of the ladder, whether in ringing or any other hobby, some sacrifice must be made, and rather than be tied up I have let many opportunities slip away, and I should not be exaggerating in the least in saying that, had I not taken up ringing seriously I should have been able to retire before now. I have never hoped, as your correspondent appears to have done, to make a name at someone else's expense.

I can assure Mr. Proctor that the broad acres of Yorkshire or the fenlands of Lincolnshire would never have stopped me getting about. Probably he will be surprised when I tell him that my brother and myself and W. Keeble used to go 70 miles after a hard day's work to help a band practice Surprise methods till a peal in everything up to London had been rung. To do this we had to be up till 12.30 midnight, and then get up at 5 a.m. to work the next day. Never a believer in flattery, no unnecessary ink was spilled over footnotes, and like many other things, it passed by unnoticed.

As regards the attack he makes about ringing the same composition over again, I have called this peal once, and, if I remember rightly, no other member has called it more than once with one exception, and he has called it several times. But in justice to him it is only fair to say that four times to my knowledge it has been done at a minute's notice, after meeting short for either Royal or Cinques, and it is amusing to hear Mr. Proctor's "tommy rot" about the band knowing every change. I can safely say that I could not write down this particular peal from memory. When one has called over 600 different compositions, it is no easy task to retain any particular peal in your head, unless it was a peal of Triples which you had rung several times, and if Mr. Proctor is so clever as to be able to do it, I think it's a great pity he does not put his ability into practising a little more instead of trying to poison the minds of beginners against the present-day experts.

It is within the power of every individual to help himself, and if he does not do that he cannot expect others to help him. I was taught to ring the treble to Doubles; what other knowledge I possess I have had to pick up myself by persevering and getting about among ringers. Never were the opportunities so great as they are to-day for beginners. A man may be a Samson in strength or a Goliath in stature, but these will avail him little unless he is strong in character. He must possess a certain amount of will power if he wants to get on.

Mr. Proctor says my band contains some remarkable men. Quite true, but these men, by their energy and perseverance, have helped to make themselves what they are. He also says Nelson was the greatest admiral of his time, but we require a greater one to-day. I have grave doubts as to whether we have a greater man to-day than Nelson. What would he have done had he the modern weapons at his disposal that our men have to-day?

I think your correspondent makes a bold statement when he talks about the opinions of 95 per cent. of the present-day beginners. Here we have a man who, outside his own district, is practically unknown, talking about the opinions of the Exercise at large. I don't think I shall be exaggerating when I say I have met more thousands of ringers than he has hundreds, and I should not be so bold as to say I know the opinion of 95 per cent. of ringers. I have travelled far and wide, and met and made many friends, and have had invitations to places where I have not yet been able to visit. I am pleased to say that I have always been well received, and although much has been expected we have generally exceeded expectations. And during the past 17 years I have received visitors to London from all parts, and I can safely say that everything possible has been done to oblige them, and the majority have returned home more than satisfied.

As regards Sunday service ringing, I walked ten miles every Sunday for years, whether it rained, hailed, snowed or "blowed," and my brothers are still doing it to-day. In conclusion, I may tell Mr. Proctor that when he has helped as many ringers to score their first peal in various methods on all numbers of bells as I have, and has helped to arrange over two thousand attempts for peals and only failed to put in an appearance about half a dozen times, he can then start to dictate to other ringers as to what they ought to do.—Yours faithfully,

W. PYE.

### CRITIC CRITICISED.

The subject was discussed at the meeting of the Middlesex Association on Saturday, when the President (Mr. A. T. King) proposed the re-election of Mr. W. Pye as Master. Mr. King said he felt very strongly that a matter of perfectly legitimate discussion about experts should have degenerated into the abuse of a man whose qualities they all admired. They might not always agree with Mr. Pye on all matters, but whether as a composer, a ringer or a conductor, there were very few who came up to his standard (applause). Of such a man as that they

ought, as an Association, to feel proud, and he was glad to see Mr. Grimes' able letter, in which he had put Mr. Proctor right. On the question of calling the same composition over and over again, he could say confidently that there was no man living who had called as many different peals of Stedman Caters as Mr. Pye. While he believed in fair criticism, he thought a man should make sure of his ground before he criticised another. So far as that Association was concerned, they knew Mr. William Pye, and appreciated him, and his re-election as Master would be a sufficient answer to Mr. Proctor.—Mr. W. A. Alps seconded the motion in a trenchant speech. Their friend, Mr. Grimes, he said, in the democratic vernacular, had attributed Mr. Proctor's remarks to ignorance, but to his mind, before anybody found fault with a man who had displayed the great merits of Mr. William Pye as a ringer and conductor on 8, 10 and 12 bells, both in the tower and "in hand," he must have a great amount of confidence in himself, which he (the speaker) could only call "cheek" (laughter and applause).

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT BEDFORD.

Considering the adverse conditions now prevailing, the annual meeting of the Bedfordshire Association on Easter Monday was a successful one. As usual, the meeting was held at Bedford, and about 40 members in all were present. During the day, the towers of St. Paul's and St. Peter's Churches were open for ringing, and in addition to the various six-bell methods practised at the latter church, touches of Double Norwich Major, Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Treble Bob Royal were rung at St. Paul's. The lunch and business meeting took place at St. Mary's School, the President (Canon Baker) being in the chair, supported by the Rev. A. Rust (hon. secretary), Miss Evelyn Steel and Mr. Edwin Ransom (vice-presidents), Miss D. Steel, etc.

The 32nd annual report of the Committee stated that the work of the Association, considering the adverse circumstances, had been satisfactory. The summer festival, which was held at Dunstable on July 11th, was well attended, and they were fortunate in securing Canon Papillon as their special preacher. The outbreak of war in August naturally affected the work of the Association, and many ringers had responded to the call of their country. It was recommended that all performing members who had enlisted should be retained as members for the period of the war. No peals had been rung since the commencement of the war, but up to the beginning of August the following had been rung: Bob Major 1, Stedman Triples 1, Surprise Minor 1, other peals of Minor 4, Kent Treble Bob Major on handbells 1. It was also recorded that 108 720's of Minor in 57 methods had been rung during the year at St. Peter's, Bedford.

The report was adopted, and Mr. Harris, of Woburn, suggested that the names of members serving the country should be put on record.

Owing to two or three of the District Secretaries having joined the colours, it was not found practicable to prepare a complete balance sheet, but the Hon. Treasurer reported a balance on the right side, and it was arranged that a statement should be prepared for the Auditor.

The Rev. A. Rust proposed the re-election of Canon Baker as President, and Mr. E. Ransom, in seconding, said they were not unmindful of the fact that their President was gaining in confidence and respect as he advanced in life.

The resolution was carried, and the President said Mr. Ransom and he were the only two present who had "known the child from its birth." Other responsibilities came as he advanced in life, and the County Education Committee claimed a good deal of the time and work of Mr. Ransom and himself.

The Vice-Presidents, Mr. Charles Herbert (founder of the Association), Mr. E. Ransom, and Miss Steel were re-elected.

Mr. King (Luton) proposed, and Miss Steel seconded, that Mr. Rust be re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, with the best thanks of the Association for the trouble he had taken.—This was carried with acclamation, and Mr. E. Tanqueray was re-elected Hon. Auditor, the President stating that Mr. Tanqueray was one of the original members, and he conducted the first 720 Bob Minor rung by the Association.

### JOINT MEETING WITH HERTS ASSOCIATION SUGGESTED.

The Chairman said they had been for one year in the Diocese of St. Albans, and, while maintaining their independence as a County Association, it seemed desirable that they should recognise the community of interest existing between themselves and the Hertfordshire Association. Both were of about the same age, and started at a time when there was a great revival of interest in ringing. It would be pleasant to meet and express their brotherly sentiments at a joint summer festival at some place on the borders of the two counties, and they might ask the Bishop to preach the sermon. He understood that the Bishop was of opinion that the Diocesan organisations should be kept going.

After some discussion, the meeting decided nem. con. that a summer festival should be held, but some doubt was expressed as to whether a joint meeting would be practicable this year. It was, therefore, agreed that the festival be held independently this year, at Leighton Buzzard and Linslade, on Saturday, June 26th.

Mr. Rust read a letter from the Rev. H. Tyrwhitt Drake (late of Sandy), stating that owing to his removal from the county, he had not found it possible to proceed with the Sandy ringing scheme, but he should be happy to help, when the war was over, if they desired to continue the scheme.

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## BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

## ST. MARTIN'S, LEICESTER.

BY ERNEST MORRIS.

As long ago as Henry VIII's time St. Martin's Church, Leicester, had a peal of bells. It is presumed that there were five, for the charges for ringing at funerals and obits never mention more than that number. North, in his "Church Bells of Leicestershire" and "Chronicles of St. Martin's, Leicester," gives many extracts from the churchwardens' accounts which are very interesting, and a few of which are appended:—

- "1544.—Buryals of wyche the bels be not pd. for (then follows a list of receipts for the burials of many persons. The payment for 3 bells was 8d.; 4 bells 20d.; 5 bells 5s. 4d.; for burial in the church 6s. 8d.) More oying to ye chirche ye same day for the bels as aperryth, on this syde of this Lefe. . . . . xxxvijs. iiijd."
- "1546-7.—Itm pd. to the ryngers for Kynge Henry the eyght. . . . . xijd."



ST. MARTIN'S, LEICESTER.

- "1549-50.—Itm pd. to Thomas Wylmore for hys qrt wags for rynging of the day bell. . . . .xxd."
- Itm pd. to Wm. Smyth for mendgng ye gret bell clappr. . . . .ijs."
- "1558-9.—pd. for ale to the Ryngers when the quenes grace was pelamyd . . . . viijd."
- "1585-6.—Reseaved of the p'ishners of St. Martins for the charges and castinge of the forr (fore or treble) bell as followethe. [Then follows a list of donations amounting to £11 18s. 6d.] charges for castinge the forr bell of the parish of Saynt Martin in Leicester, in the yeare of our lord 1585, Master James Clarke then beynge Mayor. [Then follows a list of all expenses of taking down, recasting and rehanging the treble—which was done by Newcombe—amounting to £10 11s. 8d.]
- "1603-4.—Item payd to the Ringers when her Ma'tie was in town. . . . .ijs iiijd."

- "1604-5.—Item leade forth when the greate Bell fell downe. . . . .xxijs. xjd."
- Item payd for mendinge the chyme when the greate bell fell downe. . . . .ijs."
- (The bell was rehung by Mr. Newcombe, who in 1610-11 recast the second.)
- "1612-13.—Item pd. to the Ringers for Ringinge 3 days when the Kinge and prince was here xviijs vjd."
- "1614-15.—Item payd to the Ringers for Ringinge when his Ma'tie came to Leicester xiijs."
- "1616-17 (a similar payment).
- "1617.—M. That if the seckerston shall Ringe at any tyme when any nobleman cometh to the towne he must have ijs. vjd. from the churchwardens if he have nothings sent him from the Inn where they lye."
- "1621-2 ffor ringinge to praiers every sabboth and holie daie. . . . .ijs."
- "1624-5.—Paid for 5 Ringers for Ringinge at the first and second time pclaiminge the Kinge vs."
- In 1629-30, a new frame being required for the bells, 9s. was spent in going to Lutterworth to view the frame there. The timber was bought at Beaumanor. £10 is charged in part payment thereof to Mr. John Hericke and 3s. was expended for work at "beamanor."
- "1630-1.—Paid for Ringinge of the Bells when newse was brought the Queene was brought to bed. ijs. vjd."
- "1634-5.—Pd. to the ringers being viij for the time that his Maiestie stayed in Leic. xvs."

In the year 1657 it was agreed "that the ring of bells be made into six tuneable bells, the treble and tenor to be cast into three bells tuneable under the other three, and the fourth bell that now is, to be made a tuneable tenor without casting." This was undertaken by Thos. Norris, of Stamford, but he failing to please, an agreement was made with G. Oldfield, of Nottingham, to recast the whole six for £50. On July 1st, 1689, it was agreed to have all the bells rehung, and in 1700 the 5th bell was recast by Wm. Noone, of Nottingham, for which he was to receive 20s. per cwt. In 1702 the tenor, being cracked, was sawn at a cost of 24s., and in 1704 Mr. Noone was engaged to recast it. It was found to weigh 19 cwts. 1 qr. 16 lbs., and the casting cost £26 8s.

- "1754.—Oct. 16. Agreed to take down the Ringing loft and make a new Ringing loft with a ceiling under at a cost not exceeding £20 and the old Materials."
- "1765.—Jan. 24. Agreed that the churchwardens be fully empowered to take down the second bell which is become crakt and unfit for use, and that they cause the same to be recast and replaced at ye expense of ye parish, and do therein what further repairs shall appear necessary." [This bell was recast by Eayre of St. Noels.]

In 1871 Ed. Arnold, of Leicester, recast the whole ring, and although the accounts for this year are lost, it is fair to presume that Arnold cast these into eight, to which two more were added in 1787, thus making a light peal of ten. This is corroborated by the following note of the weight of St. Martin's bells, taken about this time by Thos. Hedderley, a Nottingham founder:—

	tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1.		7	2	12
2.		8	0	3
3.		7	3	24
4.		9	1	23
5.		10	0	11
6.		11	3	6
7.		14	2	3
8.		21	3	6
Total	4	10	3	20

(It will be noticed the total is not added correctly.)

The two trebles cast in 1787 were inscribed:—

1. "Edwd. Arnold Leicester Feat."
2. "T. Lockwood, E. Webb, J. Mallett, churchwardens 1787 E. Arnold Feat."

In 1854 the four lightest bells were recast by J. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, and upon them were found the following inscriptions:—

- 1 and 2 as above.
3. "Omnia Fiant Ad Gloriam Dei. Edwd Arnold Feat."
4. "Praise Him upon the Well Tuned Cymbals  
Praise Him upon the Loud Cymbals."

In this way the present ring of ten were completed, and are now inscribed:

*Treble, Second and Fourth.*

"John Taylor and Son Founders Oxford and Loughborough 1854."

*Third.*

"John Taylor and Son, Bellfounders, Loughborough, late of Oxford, Buckland Brewer, Devon, and St. Noets, Hunts, successors to the old and celebrated founders Newcombe, Watts, Eayre and Arnold of Leicester, Names of High repute dating as early as 1560."

*Fifth.*

"Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord."

*Sixth.*

"Praise Him upon the well-tuned Cymbals; Praise Him upon the loud Cymbals."

*Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Tenor.*

"H. Watchome Esquire Mayor. J. Nichols and W. Capp churchwardens. Edward Arnold Fecit 1781."

On November 12th, 1781, at the opening of the first peal of eight bells, a 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung, and again in 1784 and 1785 peals of 5040 of the same method, but no particulars can be found as to the performers. In 1782, on Thursday in Whitsun week, a peal of 5040 Bob Major was rung in 3 hours 1 minute, and in 1786 a 5088 Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hours 31 minutes, both conducted by John Martin. On Sept. 6th, 1787, at the opening of the ten bells, a peal of 5130 Grandsire Caters in the tittums was rung in 3 hours 37 minutes, conducted by Joseph Smith. On May 26th, 1795, a peal of 6160 Bob Major was rung in four hours and fourteen minutes, and conducted by John Denton. At the opening of the four new trebles, cast by J. Taylor & Son, on April 9th, 1855, a 701 Grandsire Caters was rung, conducted by Edward Biggs, and the cause of them not attempting a 5000 was that the bells went too badly.

In 1860 the old spire of St. Martin's was taken down and rebuilt, being completed in 1867. On August 9th, 1902, a peal of 5021 Grandsire Caters was rung in 3 hours 28 minutes, in honour of the Coronation of King Edward VII, conducted by G. Cleal, and it is interesting to note that this was the first peal on the present ring of ten and in the tower, the last peal being one of Grandsire Triples on March 27th, 1837, on the old peal, and in the old tower. Very few peal attempts are allowed at St. Martin's on account of its being in the centre of the town, and only six peals have been rung since the 1837 peal. On Oct. 21st, 1905, Mr. G. Cleal conducted the first of Stedman Caters, 5010 changes, in 3 hours 27 minutes. On June 22nd, 1907, Mr. F. H. Dexter composed and called 5111 Grandsire Caters, and on June 22nd, 1911, he conducted 5000 Stedman Caters in honour of King George V's Coronation. The next peal was one of 5141 Stedman Caters, which was rung at midnight on Dec. 31st, 1912, and the last on Easter Tuesday this year, both of these having been composed and conducted by Mr. F. H. Dexter.

The early morning bell is still rung during the summer at 6 o'clock and in the winter at 7 o'clock, and the curfew (9th bell) is rung every evening at 9 o'clock.

### CARILLONS.

Mr. John Lane is publishing on April 21st a book on the "Carillons of Belgium and Holland," by W. Gorham Rice, illustrated with 32 photographs. This book should be of particular interest at the present time when many of these fine peals have been destroyed with the magnificent towers that contained them. (6s. net.)

### SURREY ASSOCIATION.

#### EASTER MEETING AT BANSTEAD.

Upon the uplands of breezy, bracing Banstead, 521 feet above sea-level and amongst the highest plough lands in Surrey, the Central District of the County Association held its Easter meeting on Monday in Easter week. Thirty-five members and visitors attended, the following towers being represented: Beddington, Burstow, Cheam, Chislehurst, Croydon St. Peter's, Epsom St. Martin's, and Christ Church, Ewell; Hersham, Isleworth, Mitcham St. Peter's, and Christ Church, Leatherhead, Reigate, Waltham Abbey, and St. Paul's Cathedral. In the absence of the hon. secretary, Lieut. Cyril Johnston, His Majesty's forces were represented by Pte. F. G. Woodiss, some time of Hersham, but now of the Guards Depot at Caterham.

Ringling commenced at 3.30 and continued, with interval for tea, until 8.30. This eight bell ring is on the whole of good tone and weight, and has the distinction of including a "Lester and Pack" bell. The going might be easier, as those who handled the 7th could testify, and the long draft (ringing from the nave floor level) makes the handling a little awkward until one gets used to it. All ringers know the difficulty of bringing on a call change band into method ringing, but it seems a pity, with such a ring of bells at hand, that greater advantage is not taken locally, and the Association is poorer by not numbering Banstead amongst its affiliated towers. The Church dedicated to All Saint's is a delightful specimen of the village church. It has a squat shingle spire, and some remarkably good details of the Early English work.

The Association received a very hearty welcome from the Vicar, whose engagements prevented the holding of the customary service for common worship, but he was present at the meeting in the Church Institute, which he had kindly lent for the purpose, and upon the motion of the Master, Mr. J. D. Drewett, he was elected to the chair.

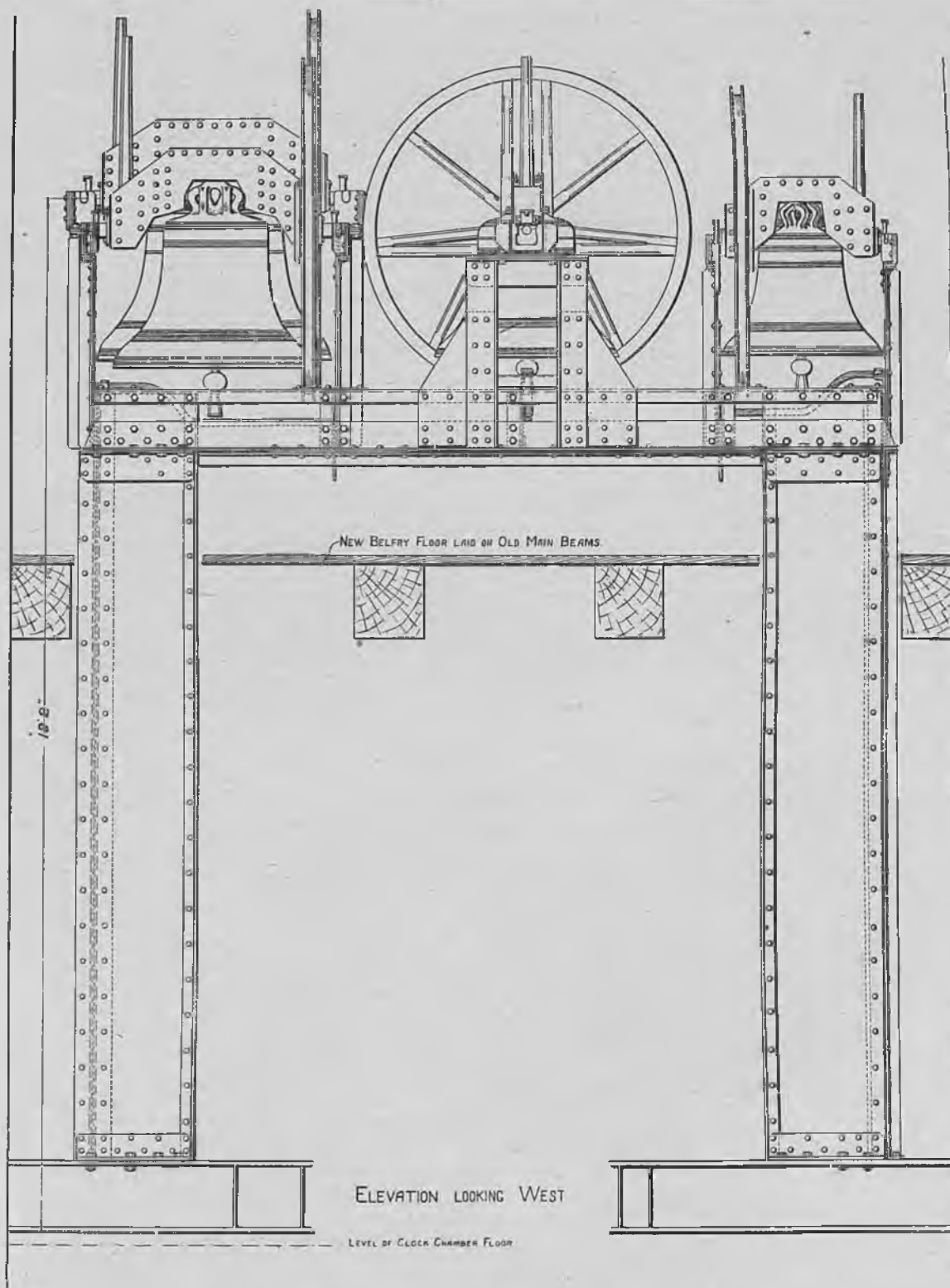
It was reported that sanction had been obtained for the exhibition of the case containing the illuminated MS. records of the Association peals in the Parish Church of Croydon, that owing to pressure of work and duties on the district hon. secretaries, arising from the present military crisis, it had not been possible to print and publish the yearly accounts in time for this meeting, but that they would shortly be issued together with a short report, leaving the publication of peals for 1914 and other matters, for more peaceful and prosperous times; that the only peal rung in the district since the last meeting in January was obtained at Beddington that morning; that the July and October meetings of the Central District had been provisionally fixed for Dorking and Carshalton respectively, with the annual general meeting at Leatherhead in January next.

The audited accounts of the Central District, showing a balance in hand on December 31st last of £24 odd, were read and received; two members were elected, and a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Banstead and to the local steeple-keeper, brought the meeting to a close.

### AN EASTER OUTING IN THE FENS.

A few members belonging to the Heckington and Great Hale companies of ringers had a little tour to one or two towers in their neighbourhood on Easter Monday. Several districts had been suggested, and it was almost decided to visit Sutterton, Kirton and Gosberton, but hearing that Mr. Arthur Andrews, of Daventry (formerly captain of the Billingham company), would in all probability be home for Easter it was at once decided to visit towers in that district. A start was made about 10 a.m., and, after cycling some 12 miles, the small village of Newton was reached. The bells, a light ring of five, by Taylor, hang in a slender western tower, and on account of their weight they require a little careful handling, the tenor being about 7 cwt. The ringing included a well-struck 720 Grandsire Doubles, and gave delight to the villagers who are badly off for ringers. After a little refreshment, the cycles were mounted again for Folkington. The tiny village of Walcot was passed through on the way. The church, with its fine crocketed spire, although from outside appearance apparently in good repair, is in sore need of the attention of builders, it having suffered on two or three occasions from the ravages of lightning. The belfry was inspected, and things were found to be worse in that quarter. Of the bells, four in number of "Tobie" Norris, the fourth was minus a clapper, the third cracked; and the frame and fittings in a terribly decayed and dilapidated condition. On reaching Folkington, the local ringers were found busy ringing for a wedding, and the visitors were asked to have a "peal," which included a 720 Grandsire Doubles, after which all were invited to drink the bride's health.

Billingham was reached just after five o'clock, and after partaking of tea, the fine musical ring of six were soon set going, and a well-struck 720 of Kent Treble Bob was tapped off, in 28 minutes: J. T. Holmes 1, A. Andrews 2, C. Ward 3, J. H. Clark 4, W. H. Wood 5, W. Dickinson (conductor) 6. Touches of Stedman and Plain Bob followed, in which J. Rogers and M. Clark took part, the ringing concluding with 720 Plain Bob, in which W. E. Allen, of the local company, scored his first 720 at first attempt: W. E. Allen 1, J. T. Holmes 2, C. Ward 3, J. H. Clark 4, A. Andrews (conductor) 5, W. Dickinson 6. Through the medium of this paper, Mr. Andrews wishes to thank the ringers (who knowing he has gone to reside in a poor ringing district) for altering their plans, thus giving him opportunity of some good ringing with them.



Vertical Cantilever Bell Frame for St. Michael's Church, Bray-on-Thames.

(Patent No. 14140).

(Tenor 26 cwt., Note D.)

JOHN WARNER & SONS, LTD., THE SPITALFIELDS BELL  
FOUNDRY, LONDON, E.

## WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING.

At the commencement of the war, the question naturally arose in the minds of the officers of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, as also in those of others, as to the advisability of holding the meetings as usual, and it was felt that, while ringing, except for services and practice, must be much curtailed, there was no reason why the business should not be continued on the usual lines, as a service is always held on these occasions, and to discontinue them in a time of trouble and anxiety, as at the present, would not be right. The annual meeting, therefore, was arranged to be held at Worcester, as is customary, on Easter Monday, and the attendance, although not quite so good as last year, was better than might have been expected, considering that travelling was more expensive than usual at holiday times.

The business meeting was held in the Chapter House, the chair being taken, in the absence of the President, by the Rev. Canon Southwell, vice-president.

Arising out of the minutes, the question of "Inter-Affiliation" was reported upon by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. R. Newman), who stated that apparently nothing could be done. The Central Council had refused to help in any way, and, although at the request of the committee he had advertised and tried to get into communication with those associations who were in favour of it, and who supported the proposal brought before the Central Council, he had received no replies at all.

A few new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Worcester again. Mr. S. Grove was selected as conductor of the annual peal to be attempted on the bells of All Saints', Worcester, and a proposal from the committee that the subscriptions of those members who were serving in His Majesty's Forces should be remitted while the war lasts was agreed to unanimously.

A considerable discussion arose in regard to a proposal that "No handbell performance be considered a peal, unless a competent umpire be present." On being put to the meeting, the proposition was not carried.

It was decided to erect, with the consent of the Dean and Chapter, in the Cathedral tower, a peal board to commemorate the peal of Stedman Cinques rung there on Whit-Tuesday, June 2nd, 1914, it being the first peal of Cinques on the bells.

### THE OFFICERS.

The President, the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean, was re-elected, as also were the vice-presidents, Mr. W. Rock Small being elected in the place of Mr. J. Naylor (deceased). The Master (Mr. A. E. Parsons), the clerical and lay secretaries (the Rev. J. F. Hastings and Mr. J. R. Newman), and treasurer (Mr. W. H. Johnson) were re-elected. The re-election of the Central Council representatives, Messrs. T. J. Salter and J. E. Newman, was agreed to, but as, owing to business, Mr. J. R. Newman wished to resign, Mr. W. Short was elected in his place, Mr. A. E. Parsons being elected as an hon. representative. The election of Messrs. W. C. Jones and E. E. Barber as auditors, was agreed to, and the usual votes of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

The service was held in the Cathedral at 4.15, when those present had the pleasure of listening to an address by the Rev. Canon Claughton. The Bishop of the Diocese (Patron of the Association) had been asked to preach, but could not, unfortunately, attend. Tea was afterwards served in the College Hall, kindly lent by the Governors of Worcester Cathedral King's School, more than 100 sitting down.

The ringing facilities throughout the day were not as good as usual, the bells at St. Helen's and St. Nicholas' not being available owing to illness. Those at the Cathedral were open from 1 to 2 p.m., and those who tried them were of the opinion that the band who had succeeded in ringing the peal of Stedman Cinques on them were indeed much to be congratulated. The bells at All Saint's, a fine peal of ten by Rudhall, have for some years been silent, owing to the need of rehauling and the restoration of the tower. Thanks to the energy of the Rector, the Rev. J. E. MacRae, this has now been done, and permission, which was much appreciated, was given to ring there, when it was found that Messrs. Barwell had done the work excellently, touches of both Royal and Caters being brought round. The other bells available were Hallow, St. John's and St. Swithin's.

### THE REPORT.

In the secretaries' report it was stated that the work of the Association had not been so disturbed by the war as one might have expected. The meetings had been held as usual, for it was felt that there was, if anything, more call for everyone in this time of trouble to meet together and attend the services always held in connection with these meetings. It was when they turned to the peals rung during the year that they saw one of the effects most plainly, for when war was declared, and our soldiers and sailors were losing their lives in the defence of their country, it was felt that peal ringing should be suspended; except muffled peals in memory of those who had been killed, and the Association was proud to think that it was ringers themselves who decided this without being asked to do so. In order to keep in practice for the great day, when peace should be declared, peals were being rung instead on handbells, and in most towers meetings for practice and ringing for Sunday services were, most rightly, being carried on as usual. The fact that ringers had, all over the country, responded so readily and in such large numbers to the appeal for a large army, made

them all feel proud, and especially in the case of those who were members of that Association, and they prayed that God in His mercy would protect them while doing their duty honourably and well, and that He would bring them safe through the dangers of the war. The balance sheet of the general fund, although satisfactory, was not quite so good as last year. There was a decrease in the number of both honorary and performing members who had paid subscriptions, partly due, no doubt, to the war. The belfry repairs fund had, however, increased, there being over £17 standing to its credit, no application for a grant having been received. With the exception of the peal of Stedman Cinques at Worcester Cathedral, there were no peals which called for special mention. Until the end of July, the year 1914 again promised to be a record, but owing to the war, the total number was not as great as, no doubt, it would have been. There were, in all, 48 peals rung, seven being on handbells.

## RESTORATION AT ST. JOHN'S, DARLINGTON. BELLS RETUNED AND REHUNG.

In consequence of the very unsatisfactory condition of the bells at St. John's Church, Darlington, and the difficulty of ringing, it was decided during the early part of last summer to call in expert advice. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, the well-known bell founders of Croydon, made an inspection, and reported that the fittings required a thorough overhaul with entirely new bearings, steel gudgeons, etc. The timber frame in which the bells were hung was also found much too weak to withstand the thrust of the bells when in full swing, the component timbers being much too light in section, and chiefly to this can be attributed the unsatisfactory "go" of the bells for some time past. As no amount of patching or strengthening was considered to guarantee permanent results, it was decided to clear away the whole of the timber bell frame, and to erect in its place an entirely new frame of the all-steel girder type. This frame designed upon up-to-date engineering principles with its foundation girders firmly built into the walls ensures exceptional rigidity combined with great strength. Upon close examination at the foundry it was found that the timber headstocks were in a state of decay, besides being much cut away in places; these have been replaced by new headstocks of well-seasoned elm.

From the historical and archaeological point of view, and in comparison with some campanological veterans, the peal cannot claim special notice, the five middle bells being erected in 1848, whilst the two trebles and tenor bear the date of 1893. Probably owing to the fact that the bells were cast at different periods they have never been in good tune, especially in the light of modern musical knowledge and requirements. Advantage has, therefore, been taken of the rehanging to send the whole peal to the Croydon Foundry, where they have been accurately tuned to each other as single notes and the "harmonics" or overtones corrected as far as possible without recasting. The result has been a considerable improvement both in the tune and quality of tone.

The whole of the work has been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, who, among other bells in the district, have restored the peals at Bishop Auckland, Robin Hood's Bay, Barton-on-Umber, Kirkby Malzeard, Aysgarth, Keighley, etc.

The tenor of the peal at Darlington is 10 cwt. 0 qrs. 10 lbs. in G, and, with the treble and 2nd, is inscribed: "LAUS DEO. Revd. Alfred Boot, M.A., Vicar. Jno. T. Teasdale, William Sewell, Churchwardens, 1893."

The third bears the inscription: "Presented to this Church by Nathaniel Plews, Esq., and Messrs. R. and W. Thompson. Incumbent the Revd. W. H. G. Stephens, B.A. Churchwardens, Robert Thompson, Richard Child Skinner, 1848."

The four other bells are dated 1848.

The bells were re-dedicated by the Archdeacon of Auckland (the Ven. P. A. Derry), who, in the course of an eloquent sermon, referred to the use of bells in connection with religion from earliest times, and said they once did duty for clocks to the people, by notifying to them the hours of prayer at morning, noon and night. He added that he hoped that one of the earliest functions of the bells now restored would be to ring for the glad news of victory and an abiding peace.

At the ringing which followed the ceremony ringers were present from North Ormesby, Stockton, Skelton, Sheldon, and St. Cuthbert's and Holy Trinity, Darlington, as well as the members of the local band. All expressed themselves delighted with the "go" and the marked effect of the retuning.

## OXFORD GUILD MASTER.

### REV. C. W. O. JENKYN GOES ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

Among the latest clergy to offer their services as chaplains of H.M. Forces is the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn). Other ringing clergy who are similarly serving include the Master of the Winchester Guild (the Rev. C. E. Matthews), and the hon. secretary of the Llandaff Association (the Rev. Connop L. Price).

As, in his new capacity, the Rev. Cyril Jenkyn will be away indefinitely, he will be unable, until further notice, to make any engagements or visit in the Diocese. All communications on Guild matters that would otherwise go to him should be sent to the secretary, Mr. Albert E. Reeves, 5, Fatherson Road, Reading.



## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

## SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD AND RINGING IN WAR TIME.

The 33rd annual general meeting of the Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers was held in St. Andrew's Schoolroom, Derby, on Easter Monday afternoon. As might naturally be expected the war had an adverse effect upon the attendance, many members having responded to the call of patriotism, and there were but 23 present at the opening of the proceedings, which were purely of a business character, it being deemed expedient to dispense with the usual ringing, and in anticipation of the small number likely to be present no satisfactory previous arrangements for tea could be made, as the caterers would not entertain the task without a guarantee of 60 being present. Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart. (President of the Association) occupied the chair, and was supported by the Vice-President (Mr. John W. Taylor).

The Hon. Treasurer's report and balance sheet were adopted, on the motion of Mr. C. Draper, seconded by Mr. J. Beustead.—A vote of thanks to the auditors for their services was moved by Mr. Sudgen, seconded by Mr. C. E. Hart.

The President, in his review of the past year's work, said: "I shall not trespass upon your time this afternoon in attempting a comparison between this year's work and that of previous years. Owing to the outbreak of the war there has been practically no ringing since August, except for special purposes, and as a matter of fact the number of peals rung in 1914 was 107 only. As the Vice-President remarked at the last quarterly meeting, but for the present unfortunate state of affairs on the continent the number of peals would have been equal to, if not in excess of any previous years. No good purpose will, therefore, be served by my attempting the comparison I usually make. On the whole, the ringing has been of a high-class character, and there have been quite a large number of ringers taking part in it. I want first of all to explain regarding the change of plans. When I heard that it was proposed to have ringing at the various churches in Derby, I wrote to the hon. secretary stating I was very sorry, but I had taken up a very strict attitude both in speaking in public, and also through the public press. I was of opinion that during the war there ought to be no ringing of bells for pleasure. The ringing of peals at unexpected times might jar harshly upon the ears of those people—and there are many in every district—who have lost their sons, brothers, or husbands in the present terrific struggle. Of course, I do not ask anyone to share my views on this point, but if you will study the records of the last six months, I think you will find that ringers generally are of this opinion. No objection can be raised to the usual regular ringing for practice, to muffled peals, when required, or wedding bells, and I hope presently, please God, we shall be ringing for a real victory. Apart from that, our instruments of music are such that the general public cannot help but hear them. We are entrusted with the working and management of these instruments, and we must be very careful in these days, when people are sore at heart, that we do not take undue advantage of the limited influence and power we have. It is a time when the ringers might do themselves an inestimable amount of harm for the future. You know that during the past two or three years a very strong set has been made against bell ringing, owing to the great amount which has been done, but I have strongly held that so long as ringing is done in a proper way and at reasonable times there is nothing to complain of. I feel that a period has come now when we must restrict ourselves sternly to duty. With these views I wrote to the secretary, and said that having taken up this definite position, it would be impossible for me to attend a meeting conducted on the usual lines. By the kindness of our Derby friends, the arrangements were altered to come into line with my sentiments. I give this explanation to show how it came about that the arrangements were altered.

## SIR ARTHUR AND THE PRESIDENCY.

I have been talking privately with the committee, stating that now I have been President for 30 years, and owing to extreme pressure of affairs, I really have not the time to give the necessary thought to the management of this great Association. I do not wish to upset any existing arrangements during the war, as I feel none of us ought to throw up our responsibilities if it can be avoided. After the war, of course, it will be another matter. At the present time if you are good enough to re-elect me as your President, I will do what I can to fulfil the duties, but I cannot promise to devote the same amount of time as I have done in the past. It is a great disappointment to me that I have been unable to get to the meetings, and meet the new members, and I feel that a younger man ought to be at the head of affairs, but, as I have already said, it is our business to try and "carry on" until we get out of this fog, and I trust that the Midland Counties Association will be none the worse for holding itself in for a time. I think your officers have managed very well; the expenditure has been reduced, and, financially, we are in a better position; if we can come out of the war financially sound, I am quite certain that the impetus that will be given to ringing will be such that this Association will be as strong as ever before (applause).

The meeting then proceeded with the election of new members—11 ordinary and one honorary member were unanimously admitted.—A vote of thanks to the retiring officers was passed and suitably responded to. The whole of the officers were re-elected, there being no other nominations received.

The voting for four representatives on the Central Council resulted in the election of Mr. John W. Taylor, Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart.,

Mr. William E. White, Mr. Joseph Griffin. The two other candidates nominated were Mr. Edward C. Gobey and Mr. Albert Coppock.

Owing to existing circumstances, it was decided, on the proposition of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. White, not to proceed with the fixing of centres for the quarterly meetings during the war, but to leave this to the President, Vice-President and secretary. The President stated that the permission of the clergy had been obtained for use of the bells, but he thought it would be desirable to intimate to them that we considered it best not to take advantage of that permission.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the Derby committee, Sir Arthur Heywood mentioned the kind manner in which they had taken his "interference," and once more asserted his grounds for the cessation of the usual ringing during the war.—The Vice-President ably seconded this proposition, which was carried.

The business proceedings terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, moved by Mr. C. Draper, and seconded by Mr. C. Sanders.

Mr. White thanked the Mickleover handbell ringers for their kindness in coming and entertaining the company with some excellent tune ringing after the close of the business meeting, and the majority of those present then took tea together at Ramsden's Cafe, and afterwards attended the weekly ringing practice at St. Alkmund's and St. Peter's.

## NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the North Wales Association was held at Barmouth on Easter Monday. The attendance was very good considering that all present had, on an average, a journey of 50 miles in order to attend. The following were the towers represented: Barmouth (2 members), Bangor (7), Llangollen (7), Wrexham (6), Gresford (1), Dolgelly (1). A short service was held in the church at 2 p.m., the curate (the Rev. — Ward) giving a short and appropriate address.

The business meeting was held in the Church Hall. The Rev. T. Lewis Jones presided, supported by Mr. A. Peglar, Ringing Master; Mr. Ed. Rowland, treasurer; and Mr. H. Moore, junr., secretary.

The Chairman referred to the sad death of Mr. J. W. Davies, of Llangollen, one of the founders of the Association. Mr. Davies had been connected with Llangollen Church since boyhood as a ringer, and was also in the choir, and had served as a churchwarden.—A vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of the deceased by the members standing.—The balance sheet, which was considered very satisfactory, was adopted.

Mr. A. J. Hughes, of Bangor, said he would like to see the names of all members who had joined the colours printed in next year's report, and that their subscription be excused until the war is over.—This was unanimously agreed to, and the tower secretaries were instructed to send the names of their soldier ringers to the secretary at Wrexham.

The half-yearly meeting was fixed for Llandudno, in September, and the next annual meeting at Ruthen, on Easter Monday.

All the officers were re-elected, and the chairman (the Rev. T. Lewis Jones) kindly consented to represent the Association on the Central Council.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Tea was kindly provided, after the meeting, by the Vicar, who was thanked most heartily by the Rev. T. Lewis Jones on behalf of those present.

The beautiful bells of Barmouth were then rung to touches of Treble Bob and Grandsire. The bells and the church were much admired, both being quite new, and the gifts to the town by Mrs. Perrin, who resides in the district. The day came to a close all too soon, all having to leave shortly after 6 p.m. upon their long journeys.

## YOUNG RINGERS' GOOD START.

Several young ringers are being brought on at Pudsey, Yorks, and last Friday four of them rang their first 720 of Bob Minor. The first was rung by: T. Kitchen (age 12 years) 1, Wm. Barton (conductor) 2, S. Helliwell 3, A. Ellis (age 14 years) 4, R. Hyland (age 14 years) 5, E. Mann 6. This was the first 720 of the ringers of the treble, 4th and 5th. The second 720 was rung by: T. Kitchen 1, Wm. E. Lumby (age 14 years), first 720, 2, E. Mann (conductor) 3, Wm. Barton 4, S. Helliwell 5, S. Ward 6.

## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The last of the monthly meetings of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society, arranged for 1914-15, was held at Worksop on Saturday, and in spite of the discontinuance of cheap railway fares, proved a success, ringers being present from Anston, Barlboro', Bolsover, Eastwood, Mansfield, and Sheffield Cathedral, also a lady ringer, in the person of Miss Dorothy Steel, of Bedford. From 4 o'clock to 6 and from 7 to 9 the bells were kept almost continually going with touches and courses of Grandsire and Stedman Triples. Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major. A very pleasing feature of this meeting was the splendid attendance of the members of the local company, who obtained some good practice in various methods. A very brief business meeting was held in the tower. Mr. H. Haigh presided, and the usual formal business was quickly disposed of.

## THE CLERGY AND RINGERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Apropos of your leader in last week's issue, I am of opinion that the clergy, many of them, like the middle classes, fail to recognise the dignity of labour even for the glory of Christ and His Church. In that case, the least they might do would be to support the ringers' associations. We know there are many of the clergy unable to contribute to all the pressing needs of a parish from an ever-dwindling income.

My condemnation of the upper classes is their supineness to an art so full of intricacies and enjoyment, on account of the labour attached to it. It seems that the most severe sentence passed on mankind through Adam was the penalty of hard labour, which every pupil of the higher schools avoids.

I never yet found a good ringer a lazy man, without he was, like myself, fond of work when the days are not too long, or had no clothes to wear. Another objection to the belfry comes from the bump of self-esteem. Many there are who will join the choir in order to be arrayed in fine linen and seen by the congregation, but when it comes to a matter of muscular exercise in a chamber isolated from the public or the church, they cover at the very thought of soiling their collars and cuffs, or being seen in their shirt-sleeves, or suffering by the sweat of the brow.

Our late revered rector was an exception to the rule. He accepted a living where there was no tower or bells, and the best of his life's efforts were devoted to the attainment of them. The tower was built, and the bells eventually arrived. But there were no ringers in the parish. He had five sons, none of whom evinced any desire to be taught, though football engaged their leisure. The good old gentleman had to appeal to the working men to get his bells rung. Neither the churchwardens nor any of the upper classes came forward to take up the labour involved, and it is the most surprising event to find one of them enter the belfry.

It is fortunate where a churchwarden or clergyman shows an interest in the bells. By their influence the company is refused. We shall never find many like the Rev. F. E. Robinson, who affirmed that the exercise of change ringing was a physical and mental benefit. And, lastly, there is little remuneration for ringers. I sometimes have a suspicion that the clergy rely upon the ringers' infatuation of their art, instead of eagerly giving them every support and encouragement.

Chigwell Row.

G. F. MARGETSON.

## PRESENTATION TO THE VICAR OF HEMINGBROUGH.

The Rev. W. P. Wright, Vicar of Hemingbrough, and President of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association of Ringers, has recently accepted the parish of St. Silas, Sheffield, a living once held by his father, the late Canon Sisum Wright, and he is removing there this month.

On Monday, March 29th, Mr. Wright was the recipient of a very handsome present from his band of ringers at Hemingbrough in remembrance of the happy hours they have spent together in the belfry. The presentation was made in feeling terms by Mr. M. T. Tune. It takes the form of a magnificent framed enlargement of the beautiful church, with the inscription: "Presented to our Vicar as a token of esteem by the Hemingbrough Ringers. March, 1915."

Mr. Wright, in gratefully acknowledging the gift, expressed the great sorrow he felt at his impending departure from the parish and his official severance from his loyal and willing ringers, hoping they might have many opportunities of meeting again.

A farewell peal to the Vicar was rung on Wednesday of last week.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Sunday, March 28th, at the Cathedral, 639 Stedman Cinques, for morning service: E. Ferry 1, A. Dalton 2, Lieut. Sayer 3, W. H. Barber (conductor) 4, W. Sinclair 5, J. McKeay 6, J. Foreman 7, B. C. Dixon 8, A. F. Hillier 9, J. E. Keen 10, R. Richards 11, J. Youll 12. For evening service, 1191 Stedman Cinques: W. H. Barber (conductor) 1, A. Dalton 2, W. Story 3, J. E. Keen 4, W. Sinclair 5, J. McKeay 6, Lieut. Sayer 7, B. Horton 8, A. Hillier 9, B. Dixon 10, R. Richards 11, J. Youll 12. These touches were rung to celebrate the birthdays of Messrs. C. L. Routledge and R. Richards, to whom the band tendered congratulations.

ROTHERHAM.—At All Saints' Church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Albert Nash (a Wath ringer) to Miss Twigg, of Rotherham, on March 25th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor by the ringers of Wath-on-Deane: Wm. Bramham 1, T. Nicholls 2, J. Panther 3, A. Nicholls 4, A. Panther (conductor) 5, E. G. Nicholls 6. Other short touches were rung, in which J. Champion and L. Garrison took part.

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## NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Ringing for Divine service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields the first Sunday in the month, and at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, both at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every third Monday at 8 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on April 22nd, and for business on the 27th; all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, for practice on Saturdays, at 7.30.—W. T. Cockerell, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting will be held at Aylesford on Saturday, April 17th, 1915. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Short service at 5.30. Tea at 6 o'clock at George Inn. Business to follow. Association ringers are invited.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION (Bolton Branch).—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, April 17th. Bells available from 5 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

PRACTICE AT CROYDON.—A meeting for practice will be held at St. Peter's, Croydon (10), on Saturday, April 17th, at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Charles Dean.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Trevethin, Pontypool, on Saturday, April 17th, at 4.30. Tea will be provided and the bells (8) available for ringing.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A. and John W. Jones, Piercefield, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secretaries.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Willenhall on Saturday, April 17th. Bells available at 3. Service in Church at 5.15. Tea (9d.) in the Institute at 6. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 13th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mathew's, Stretford, on Saturday, April 17th. Bells at 4.30; meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Deritend, on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided free for those members who advise me not later than the 20th inst. of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Wandsworth, Birmingham.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ringstead on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea in the schools at 5 o'clock.—F. Stubbs, District Secretary, Grove Street, Raunds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, April 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting 6.30.—Joseph Ogden, Secretary.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch will be held at Midsomer Norton on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available at 2 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea (members 6d. each) and business meeting at 5 p.m. — I. B. Holmyard, Honorary Secretary, Midsomer Norton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, April 24th. Bells ready at 4.—Walter Hughes, Honorary Secretary.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch. — A meeting for practice will take place at Evesham on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available: Hampton (6) 3 p.m. till 4, Bengeworth (6) 4 till 5, Evesham (10) 5.30 till 9.—J. Hemming, Branch Secretary.

**THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY** will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, April 24th. Bells at the Parish Church of St. Michael available from 4 o'clock. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m.—Chas. Bower, Honorary Secretary.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Colne on Saturday, April 24th, 1915. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting for the transaction of the business of the above society will be held at Ranmoor (Sheffield) on Saturday, May 1st, 1915, the following being the arrangements for the afternoon: The bells will be available from 3 to 5.30 p.m., service in the church at 5.30, tea will be served in the Parish Room at 6 o'clock, followed by the business meeting, after which the bells will be available until 9 o'clock. A good attendance is desired. Tea will be provided gratis to all who notify Mr. R. W. Collier, 88, Cruise Road, Ranmoor, not later than Tuesday, April 27th.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, pro. tem., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Deptford, S.E., on Saturday, May 1st, Eltham not being available. Full particulars next week. — T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESSES.**—Mr. W. C. Hunt has removed to 20a, Villa Street, Beeston, Nottingham. — The address of Mr. C. R. Lilley (Ringing Master of St. Chad's Society, Shrewsbury) is now Ferndale, Canon Street, Shrewsbury.

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

#### HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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