

No. 337. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31st, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 owt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
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. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES.

One natural consequence of the restriction which war has placed upon ringing has been that there have been few achievements of note in the last three years. Outstanding performances have not been entirely absent, however, and it is refreshing to read, as the Exercise did recently, of the accomplishment of Carter's Odd-Bob peal of Stedman Triples rung non-conducted on handbells, for the first time, by the College Youths. This performance, a really remarkable one, passed with little notice at the time, yet it was probably the finest achievement on record so far as double-handed Stedman Triples is concerned. It was a collective triumph for the four gentlemen concerned, and certainly adds lustre to the records of the Ancient Society.

Of a different character, but noteworthy also, is the individual performance just completed by Mr. James George, who has now reached his 600th peal, and thereby joined a select company of the ringing fraternity, for the number of those who have passed this particular record is barely a dozen. The names of few ringers are better known to the Exercise than that of James George, who, though now of Birmingham, will always be remembered as "of Rugby," for, apart from the publicity inseparable from a successful ringing career, he has visited the four corners of the kingdom—to say nothing of the middle and nearly every other spot worth visiting from a ringer's point of view. One has only to notice the long list of associations to which he belongs, to realise how far afield he has gone in pursuit of his favourite pastime, and, indeed, he is one of the most travelled members of the Exercise. Not a little of this may have been due to the circumstances of his business life, but enthusiasm, too, played no mean part, as it has done with all men who have been great ringers.

Of Mr. George's enthusiasm we may say, to copy a phrase often used by enterprising business folk, "no job is too large and none too small." Whether it is a short touch on a light bell or a long peal on a heavy one, he is just as keen and just as game. Even at the age of 64 he is looking forward to assisting in setting up new records in regard to length, and usually where there's a will there's a way. If Mr. George can only find sufficient men like-minded, the present longest length may go by the board as a record, whenever the conclusion of the war makes an attempt possible. If only a little of the energy and spirit which animates Mr. George's ringing could be spread more widely, the future of ringing would be indeed rosy. The writer of the sketch, which appears on another page, speaks of Mr. George as being "64 years young."

Continued on page 276.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

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

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

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

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.**

Chiming Machines.

**Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed**

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

WALL-MOUNTED IRON BRACKET:

BEST BELL ROPES.

**REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.**

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.**

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer.**

50, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 188, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

Continued from page 273.

and this aptly describes this "veteran," whose stout heart, sturdy arm and clear head would eclipse the efforts of many a man twenty years his junior. We have spoken only of his peal ringing, because it is a noteworthy performance in this direction, which is the occasion of this comment; but Mr. George's work in service ringing and the promotion of the art generally has been as consistent as his peal ringing, and his many friends hope he may long be spared to continue his enthusiastic efforts.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, August 18, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

At Bishop Ryder's Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

ALBERT T. SCRIVENS Treble	A. PADDON SMITH 5
MORRIS J. MORRIS 2	THOMAS MILLER 6
BENJAMIN GOUGH 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
WILLIAM FISHER 4	JOHN B. COLLETT Tenor

Conducted by JAMES GEORGE.

This was the 600th peal by the conductor, who was congratulated by the whole of the band.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, August 25, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinds,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

†SIDNEY ANSTEAD Treble	ISAAC EMERY 5
EDWIN BARNETT, Junr. 2	*ARTHUR E. MASON 6
ALBERT E. NEWICK 3	EDWIN BARNETT, Senr. 7
JOHN WHEADON 4	*JOHN SAUNDERS Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, Senr.

* First peal: † First peal away from the tenor.

SIX BELL PEAL.

EASTON-IN-GORDANO, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 6, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Comprising ten six-scores of Plain Bob and 32 of Grandsire.

S. SEALY Treble	W. WHITE 4
G. BENNETT 2	J. CAPLE 5
J. GOULD 3	H. PORTER Tenor

Conducted by J. CAPLE.

Rung as a token of respect to the memory of Pte. W. Caple, a member of the band, who fell in action in France on July 9th, 1917.

J. Caple's first peal as conductor. The ringer of the tenor is 73 years of age.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, August 21st, 1917, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 Size in D.

ALF. PADDON SMITH 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES 7-8
THOMAS RUSSAM 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN 9-10
ALBERT WALKER 5-6	JOHN NEAL 11-12

*Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.*

Referee: MR. W. KENT.

A. P. Smith's first attempt for a peal of Cinques "double-handed" and also his first peal on handbells.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, August 22, 1917, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. A. B. PECK, 41, GLAMORGAN STREET, WESTMINSTER.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

HERBERT LANGDON ...	1—2	HARRY R. PASMORE ...	5—6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ...	3—4	ALFRED B. PECK ...	7—8

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire: HENRY R. NEWTON.

MILTON'S ANCIENT FANE.

RINGERS' VISIT TO FAMOUS DORSET ABBEY.

On Saturday last, at the kind invitation of the Rev. C. Carew Cox (the Vicar of Milton Abbey), a party of ringers, representing Bournemouth, Bradpole, Dorchester, Fordington, Puddletown, Reading, Wyke Regis, and Worksop (Notts), paid a visit to the model and beautiful village of Milton Abbas, which is situated in the centre of Dorset, in a deep valley, with well wooded hills around and sylvan scenery of a very beautiful type abounding. The nearest railway station (Blandford) is seven miles distant. Milton possesses three churches, the Abbey, St. Catherine's Chapel, and St. James' Church. The first named was the centre of attraction, and it contains a light peal of eight bells.

The original minster was built by King Athelstan, the religious and warlike grandson of Alfred the Great, who founded the Monastery and Collegiate Church of Milton for Secular Canons, about the year 938, as a thankoffering to God for a remarkable revelation which he received on Milton Hill, and which told him that he would conquer his many enemies and become King of all England. In the year 964 King Edgar and Archbishop Dunstan of Canterbury converted the Monastery into an Abbey, with forty Benedictine Monks.

This was a noble building at its time (only a solitary carved stone fragment of it now remains, and lies in the north transept), and was very rich in shrines and relics. The King gave a piece of the Saviour's Cross, a great cross of gold and silver, with precious stones, which were placed in five gilt shrines. His mother was also brought to the church for burial. The building was restored from time to time, but most of the beautiful work was destroyed by fire in 1309, when the church was struck by lightning. Thirteen years later, however, the present Abbey Church was commenced on the same site, but on a much larger and grander scale, and building operations went on from time to time up to within a few years of the Dissolution, in 1539.

In 1789 it underwent another restoration, and Sir Gilbert Scott, in 1865, restored the church at the expense of the late Baron Hambro. This was a valuable work, which left the Abbey in its present beautiful condition; and, as far as possible, in its original state. Such is a very brief history of Milton Abbey, and Dorset can boast of being the only county in England which contains three great Minsters—Sherborne, Wimborne and Milton—of "non-Cathedral rank." The writer thinks that Iwerne Minster might well be added to this number.

The bells, a light peal of eight, were got in readiness by the local band, and the visitors were met by the genial Vicar, who is well known throughout the country as one of the leading ringing clergy, the Rev. C. Carew Cox.

Touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire were brought round until 5 p.m. when the visitors and the local band (23 in number) were entertained at the Vicarage by Mr. and Mrs. Cox to a sumptuous repast, a hearty vote of thanks being passed to the reverend gentleman and his good lady for their great kindness during the afternoon. The handbells were brought out on the lawn, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung, and tunes were played, until the time of departure, which came all too soon. The visitors desire, through "The Ringing World," to thank the Rev. C. Carew and Mrs. Cox for the kind hospitality shown them during their visit.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Brigg, on Saturday last. Fifteen visitors put in an appearance from Gainsborough, Kirton Lindsey, Grimsby (St. Andrew's), and Bigby, in addition to Mr. F. W. Atkinson, junr., of the local company. A telegram and post card expressing regret, and an apology for inability to attend, were received from Messrs. T. H. Parkin (Scunthorpe) and H. Haigh (Worksop) respectively.

The bells, a ring of six, were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going to the standard methods. Tea was provided by Miss Spencer, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. H. T. Parry (Rector of Bigby) presided. This was only of short duration, being brought to a close by usual votes of thanks, after which the tower was again visited, and further ringing indulged in. In spite of the limited time, owing to the late arrival of some of the visitors, the meeting proved a very successful and enjoyable gathering. It was also a real pleasure to once again have the opportunity of meeting old friends, especially Mr. J. W. Scamer, the Rev. H. T. Parry, and his ringers.

ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.

PRESENTATION TO THE HON. SECRETARY.

St. Stephen's Guild, Bristol, had their annual outing on Bank Holiday, and visited the beautiful little village of Limpley Stoke, on the Avon, just above Bath. Arriving at Limpley Stoke at 11 o'clock, the party, which included the Rev. E. Bankes James and Mr. F. Wilson (Tewkesbury), divided, some to stroll about and enjoy the picturesque scenery, others to indulge in handbell ringing, the peaceful surroundings adding to the charm of the music of Stedman Caters. Returning to Bath in time for dinner, the party afterwards made for St. Saviour's Church, where touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Cambridge Major were rung. A move was then made to Twerton-on-Avon, and the bells there were soon set going to Stedman Triples and Cambridge and London Major, with a course of Stedman Cinques on the handbells, rung in the churchyard. An adjournment was then made for refreshments, and the handbells were again brought into play with tunes and change ringing, much to the delight of the inhabitants. The return to Bristol was made, after a very enjoyable day, the weather having fortunately remained fine.

The company wish to thank, through the medium of the "Ringing World," the Vicars of St. Saviour's, Bath, and Twerton for the use of their bells; Mr. Prescott for kindly making arrangements; and also the Bath ringers who joined in making the outing a most successful one.

The occasion of the outing was thought by the members to be a very suitable opportunity of presenting their hon. secretary (Mr. W. Knight) with a token of their appreciation for the work he has done since being elected secretary of the Guild on April 18th, 1899. The gift took the form of a mahogany clock, suitably engraved.

Mr. Knight joined the Guild on its formation, in November, 1894, as a probationer, and rang his first peal (the second by the Guild), Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1897. He also rang peals of Stedman Caters and Treble Ten the same year; Double Norwich and Stedman Triples in 1898; Superlative and Stedman Cinques (first by the Gloucester and Bristol Association) in 1899.

He has seen a good many changes at St. Stephen's during his term of office, and the band, which was inaugurated under the conductorship of the late Mr. J. Hinton, starting at Grandsire Triples, accomplished peals in the following methods: Grandsire, Plain Bob (including Maximus), Stedman, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge Major, Royal, and Maximus, London and Bristol Surprise. Mr. Knight has taken part in all these peals, his total now being 116.

Mr. C. H. Tomkins, the oldest member of the Guild, made the presentation to Mr. Knight, who was taken completely by surprise, and thanked the company for the very useful present. He said it was always a very great pleasure to do anything for the welfare of St. Stephen's.

The manner in which the members value the services of Mr. Knight is shown by the fact that they have re-elected him year after year as hon. secretary. Long may he continue to hold the office is the wish of all the members.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HERTFORD.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting of the Eastern District was held at Hertford on Bank Holiday, when the ten bells at All Saints' and the eight at St. Andrew's were fully utilised, the Vicar of All Saints' and the Rector of St. Andrew's gladly giving permission for ringing, and both remarking upon the cheering effect of the sound of the bells during these dark times. Some very good ringing was accomplished in various methods, and members and friends attended from places as far apart as London and Cambridge. Messrs. E. Barnett, senior and junior, cycled from Crayford, and altogether between 30 and 40 members and friends availed themselves of the opportunity of ringing.—Mr. G. W. Carlisle, general secretary of the Association, and Mr. W. H. Lawrence, district secretary, were present. Mr. H. Lewis of St. Albans, presided at the business meeting, at which Mr. Hebbins of Cambridge, was elected a member.

A hearty vote of thanks to the clergy for their kind welcome was proposed, and a similar compliment was passed to Mr. Lewis for presiding.—The Chairman responded in his usual cheery manner, and said how pleased he was to have been able to hear the ten at All Saints' for the first time.

Further ringing was afterwards indulged in until 8.30.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

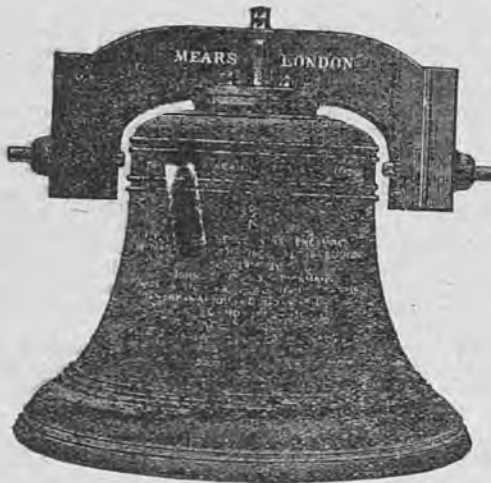
On Saturday last a very successful and well attended meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Prosdwich, members being present from Ashton-under-Lyne, Birch, Barlow Moor, Hyde, Pendlebury, Pendleton, Miles Platting, Oldham, Doane, Worsley, etc. Ringing was indulged in in the standard methods, and the business meeting was presided over by Mr. Joe Ridyard, who gave a welcome to the visitors.—Barlow Moor was chosen for the next ringing meeting, on Sept. 22nd.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and wardens for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having things ready.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to hands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

JAMES GEORGE.

"A beard? nay, he hath but little beard."
— Shakespeare.

The gentleman named above, and illustrated below, is so well known to every ringer worth the name in every corner of the British Isles, that nothing fresh, or that has not been said before, can be said—except that he has now completed the huge number of 600 peals, and he has shaved his beard!

It is well to call attention to this alteration in his facial appearance, unimportant though it may seem; otherwise those who knew J.G. as a bearded man might think the editor had used the wrong block, or that (more unfortunate still!) another James George had come to light.

No, it is "the old firm," it is Himself, Ho of Rugby. By-the-by, did you ever know why he was called "Jimmy George of Rugby"? No? Well, Alderman J. S. Pritchett explained it clearly on the occasion of Mr. George's 60th birthday, in a speech he made at the celebration in Birmingham. Mr. Pritchett reminded his listeners, that it was customary, when a man had rendered conspicuous service to his country, or had subscribed liberally to the party funds "or some-



thing," to reward him by giving him a title. And frequently the name of the place with which the man's good work was associated was included in the title, as, for instance, Earl Kitchener of Khartoum. The ringing fraternity long ago bestowed the title of "James George, of Rugby," on the subject of our sketch, and such he is likely to remain till the end of the chapter. But, you may object, he is now "of Birmingham." No, gentle reader, it makes not the slightest difference, he, like other titled people, can reside where he likes without altering his style. The Earl of Plymouth resides near Birmingham, and the Duke of Devonshire anywhere but in Devon.

James George first saw the light at Pinner, Middlesex, on November 27th, 1853, so that he is now 64 years young, and has been in the "lime-light" more or less ever since. His father was a ringer for many years, but, strange to say, it was not until he was 36 years of age that J. G., junr., rang his first peal. That was in 1889, and now he has rung 600! Gee-whizz! some hustle, what? And the quality of the peals, too! Look at the list!

Mr. George is a man of rather spare build, and has probably never weighed 12 stone in his life, but he is all wire and whip-cord, and is frightened at nothing in the way of weight, or a bad-going bell. In fact, he is rather attracted by it, and if there is a notorious "chest-

cracker" in any tower where J. G. finds himself, he does not wait for it to be left to him, but smells it out for himself.

He is a good striker, and has put up some really big stunts at various times, but his greatest feat was undoubtedly the ringing of the tenor at Ashton-under-Lyne to the longest peal ever yet accomplished on twelve bells, the 12,240 Treble Twelve rung in 8 hrs. and 39 mins., on April 17th, 1911. This was indeed a splendid performance, a job which many a younger man would refuse to attempt at any price, especially as this bell had not got the best of reputations. Among other odd jobs, he has turned in the tenor at Chester Cathedral (33 cwt.) to Treble Eight, the 43 cwt. tenor of St. Peter Mancroft to Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, ditto, St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich. Another tough job was the 11th, at Bow, to Stedman Cinques; as one man remarked, "this takes a drop of doing." He has also rung Cornhill tenor (41 cwt.), St. Martin's, Birmingham tenor (36 cwt.), and the 11th and tenor at Cripplegate to peals of Stedman Cinques. Incidentally, too, it may be mentioned that he has rung three peals of Stedman Cinques in less than 24 hours.

These performances are sufficient to tell what manner of man we are dealing with, but if he could have his wishes gratified, the above would be no more than practices. He has frequently expressed a wish to start for 20,000 of Treble Ten; he would ring the tenor, no matter where it could be fixed up, but the difficulty he is up against is in finding the other nine men.

He has also been known to say that if he could get the men, and the necessary permission, he would put "Grandison," Exeter Cathedral tenor (72 cwt.), into a peal of Treble Ten, or die in the attempt. And there is no doubt he would carry out his threat if he had the opportunity.

A few years ago he retired from the service of the L. and N.W. Railway Company, in whose employ he had been for over 40 years, and dedicated the remainder of his life to bell ringing. Casting about for a centre in which to reside, he eventually fixed on Birmingham, and certainly it cannot be gainsaid that Birmingham's gain was Rugby's loss. Shortly after coming to Birmingham he was appointed ringing master at Bishop Ryder's, a tower where ringing had fallen to rather a low ebb. Here he finds plenty of scope for his energy and enthusiasm, and already things are looking up. At his suggestion a new entrance has recently been made to this belfry, and those who have ever negotiated the old upright ladder, flat against the wall, which was previously the only way of entering the ringing room, will appreciate the improvement. Latterly he has also taken a keen interest in handbell ringing, and has rung the tenors to several excellent peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques.

Mr. George is a member of almost every society in the country, is Ringing Master of the Warwickshire Guild, one of the youngest organisations, and an enthusiastic supporter of the St. Martin's Guild, which is one of the oldest.

"Who is it that says most? Which can say more
Than this rich praise, that you alone are you?"

—Sonnet lxxxiv.

The Associations and Guilds to which Mr. George belongs are as follow:

Essex.	St. Margaret's, Westminster.
Midland Counties.	Bedfordshire.
Middlesex.	United Counties.
Winchester.	Ashton-under-Lyne.
Salisbury.	Gloucester and Bristol.
Sussex.	St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester.
Hertford.	St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.
Oxford.	Norwich Diocesan.
Archdeaconry of Stafford.	St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.
Worcestershire.	Nuneaton.
Hereford.	St. Andrew's, Rugby.
Lancashire.	Surrey.
Kent.	Warwickshire.
College Youths.	Cheltenham and District.
London County.	Llandaff.
Waterloo.	Irish.
All Saints, Fulham.	Lincolnshire.
St. Martin's, Birmingham.	Yorkshire.
Durham and Newcastle.	Salop.
Raunds, Wellingborough and District.	Dudley and District Guild.

Appended is the list of his 600 peals, which have been rung in 241 different towers, and 40 different counties, in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

	Tower Bells	Hand bells
	Rung. Conducted.	Rung.
Bob Minor	1	
Grandsire Triples	53	14
Stedman Triples	93	3
Union Triples		1
Bob Triples	1	
Darleston Bob Triples	2	
Grandsire Major	2	
Bob Major	23 (A)	1

Oxford Treble Bob Major	1	
Kent Treble Bob Major	34 (B)	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	24 (C)	
Canterbury Pleasure Major	1	
Superlative Surprise Major	68	
Cambridge Surprise Major	9	
Bristol Surprise Major	4	
London Surprise Major	5	
Grandsire Caters	29 (D)	1
Stedman Caters	103	10
Grandsire Royal	1	
Aston Royal	1	
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal	27 (E)	
Bob Royal	6	
Little Bob Royal	1	
Forward Royal	1	
Grandsire Cinques	3	
Stedman Cinques	66	11
Grandsire Maximus	1	
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	9 (F)	
Forward Maximus	1	
	571	18
		29

(A) including 8000; Both rung (D) including 6011 and 8009

(B) including 6336 in one day. (E) including 6080 and 7280

(C) including 6720 (F) including 6000 and 12,240 Record.

LEYTONSTONE STEDMAN CATERS.

A CRITICISM BY MR. GEORGE BAKER.

I have pointed out in these columns previously that all Methods, Principles, and Systems, are produced by Bobs, or by Bobs and Extremes, from the Quick or Slow primary principles separately, or in combination, and yet, in last week's "Ringing World," the author of Leytonstone Stedman Caters writes as follows: "But he (Mr. Baker) has yet to learn that Stedman differs essentially from every other method."

I am also accused of "tampering with Stedman"! a statement which makes me feel inclined to smile.

It is quite true that I gave a false peal in a fresh round block of Stedman, but that round block is as perfect in construction as the old round block, a fact which can be easily demonstrated by any who will make themselves acquainted with Reciprocal Proof.

It is quite evident that Reciprocal Proof is not one of the things that your correspondent has profited by from my writings, otherwise he would not have given Leytonstone Stedman Caters in the form that he has, and he would have known that in addition to the four natural false course-ends which follow—

315246

534126

452316

241536

there are six additional false course-ends to every plain course, as below:—

316254

462513

241653

536142

634152

462351

When Reciprocal Proof is generally understood, there will be no questions raised as to the legitimacy of Methods, Principles, or Systems, and everyone will know that there can never be more than two round blocks, starting from the fundamental row, of any Method, Principle, or System, which are perfect in construction, and have a simple transposition row at the lead or division-end.

Following are the two round blocks of Leytonstone Stedman Caters that are perfect in construction. Each round block starts from the fundamental row, and the division-end, i.e., the tenth row in each instance, is a simple transposition row.

There can be no question about which of the two round blocks should be adopted, from the musical point of view, but a skeleton diagram of the plain course of each will prove them to be one and the same principle.

No. 1

No. 2

123456789	123456789
214357698	132547698
241536789	315246789
425317698	351427698
452316789	534126789
543217698	351462879
534128789	534168297
351427698	543612879
315246789	456318297
132547698	465132879
315274968	641538297

I hope no one will think that I advocate the production or ringing of Methods or Principles that have not coursing order; my sole object has been to prove that Coursing Order is an arbitrary definition and not a Natural Law.

GEORGE BAKER.

NOTICES.

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

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of above branch will be held at Padbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Service, 3.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea to follow. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m.—W. Sear, Hon. Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on September 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Ringers' service 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 p.m., to be followed by short business meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. P. C. West), at Sunbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Idle on Saturday, Sept. 1st, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the Parochial Hall at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley, Leeds.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Salehurst (Robertsbridge Station) on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3 to 8 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Half railway fares will be paid for this meeting. Will secretaries of bands and members generally please note that this meeting is a very important one, as by a new rule passed at the annual meeting, the Divisional Secretary, Divisional Committee and Committee of Advice, are to be elected at the business meeting which follows the tea?—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Sec., Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The Western Branch will hold a meeting at Aldenham, on Saturday, Sept. 1st, when all members and ringing friends will be welcomed. Bells available from 3 to 8 o'clock.—F. A. Smith, F. Edwards, Hon. Secs., 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxhey, Watford.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, Sept. 1st, by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. G. Brocklehurst). Bells will be available at 2 o'clock, a short service at 5 o'clock, and tea, kindly provided by the Rector, at 5.30. Ringers in khaki will be specially welcomed.—C. Tribe, Dist. Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, September 1st. Tower open 3.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45. Followed by business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2/- each will be paid to members attending.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The last meeting of this summer series will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Rd., Sheffield.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Steyning on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Members please note that the election of officers for the Western Division will take place at this meeting.—A. W. Groves, Hon. Divisional Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on September 6th and 20th, and for general business on the 11th and 25th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society). Established 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Ann, Swain's Lane, Highgate, on Saturday, September 8th. Ringing from 4 to 8.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers heartily invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wentworth (near Rotherham), on Saturday, Sept. 8th. Bells (6) available 3.30 p.m. till dusk. Tea will be provided at the George and Dragon Hotel at 1/9 per head for those who notify me by Monday, Sept. 3rd. Nearest station, Elsecar and Hoyland (M.R.), for Barnsley district visitors, and Wentworth and Hoyland Common for Sheffield district visitors; also Thorpe bus from Rotherham (1½ miles).—Leonard Brightman, District Secretary *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Edgware on Saturday, September 15th. Ringing will commence at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30, 6d. to members who advise me by September 10th. Short service at 6.30, followed by the business meeting. All ringers welcome. I should be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions for 1917.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Blackburn on Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1917, instead of Sept. 29th. Particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The annual meeting will be held at Rochester on Saturday, Sept. 15th. All those who wish to attend kindly let me know not later than Wednesday, 12th September.—E. A. G. Allen, 77, Bull Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

"BELL NEWS" WANTED.—Wanted to complete series for the Hattersley Library, Vols. 16 to 25 inclusive, bound or unbound. Price and particulars to Sam Thomas, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

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.

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MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The monthly meeting of the Crewe Branch was held on Saturday week, at Wrenbury. The attendance was not very large, owing to the unfavourable weather conditions, but the following towers were represented: Acton, Bunbury, Crewe, Nantwich, and Market Drayton. The annual visit was paid to the branch by the General Secretary, the Rev. A. T. Beeston.

The handy and nice-toned peal of six, the tenor of which is 12½ cwt. in F, was kept going in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following: Rev. A. T. Beeston (conductor) 1, H. Overton 2, E. Weatherby 3, G. Crawley 4, A. Crawley 5, R. T. Holding 6. It was the first 720 of Minor in the method by Messrs. Weatherby and Overton.

The Vicar, the Rev. J. Webster, conducted the service, Mrs. Webster being at the harmonium, and a very helpful address was given by the Rev. A. T. Beeston.

After service the tower was again visited, and some useful spade work was done among the beginners by helping them through a few six scores of Grandsire Doubles.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A most successful meeting of the North-Western Division was held at Wenden, on Saturday week, ringers being present from Saffron Walden, Wenden, Stansted, Leytonstone, London, Royston, Sawston, and Lincoln. The bells of the Parish Church were available during the afternoon and evening, when, among other touches, the following were rung: 720 Kent Treble Bob: T. J. Watts 1, W. Watts (conductor) 2, A. Prior 3, W. A. Alps 4, F. Hurry 5, W. Ayre 6. 720 Oxford Treble Bob: J. F. Penning 1, W. Watts 2, F. Hurry 3, A. Prior 4, T. J. Watts 5, F. Dench (conductor) 6. 720 Cambridge Surprise: F. Pitstow 1, W. Watts (conductor) 2, F. Dench 3, A. Prior 4, T. J. Watts 5, G. R. King 6; and touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles, with the Vicar (the Rev. F. Berry) taking part.

The business meeting was held in the Parish Room, and the Master (Mr. F. Pitstow) presided, supported by the hon. secretary and the Vicar.—One new member (Mr. A. Day, of Roydon) was elected.—It was decided that the annual meeting be held at Bishop's Stortford, on Boxing Day.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and parish room.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Surrey Association was established in 1880, and five of its founders were present at the Bank Holiday meeting, held at Mitcham, at which about 50 ringers, including several ladies were present from Streatham, Croydon, Beddington, Leatherhead, Epsom, Wimbledon, Horley, Fulham, Hersham, Guildford, London, Chislehurst, etc.

The towers of Christ Church and SS. Peter and Paul's Church were open, and numerous touches on both peals of bells were enjoyed.

The Rev. Canon Wilson, an honorary member of the Association, intended to be present at the 5 p.m. service at the Parish Church, but was prevented by illness. The Rev. W. Perry officiated, and gave a most interesting and helpful address. Mrs. Gurfuth and daughter assisted with the music.

The tea and business meeting was held at the Queen's Head, Lower Green. Councillor J. D. Drewett, C.C., Master of the Association, presided, supported by the Rev. Donald McDonald, Mrs. Gurfuth, and Lieut. C. F. Johnston (hon. secretary).

The Master spoke of the splendid way in which ringers generally had responded to the call of duty, referring to those who had fallen in action, and to the bereavements suffered by some, since the annual meeting in January. He urged those left at home to use their best efforts in upholding the standard of change ringing in the present difficult circumstances.

The Rev. Donald McDonald and Lieut. Johnston also addressed words of encouragement to the members, and assured them of their sincere support.

Mr. S. Greenwood, of Streatham, one of the oldest bell ringers in the country, was unable to attend. He has been a ringer since 1845.

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