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FRIDAY, MARCH 15th, 1918.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 2d.

GILLET & 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, 6th 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. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

A TIME FOR ACTION.

A number of the associations, when war broke out, went temporarily into a state of suspended animation, but one by one they have emerged and are endeavouring now to continue their operations, on a limited scale perhaps, but, still, doing something. Only the Norwich Diocesan Association among the large organisations seems to have remained inactive. There may be special reasons for this, but when so many of the other important associations think it desirable to carry on, it is difficult to see why the Norwich Association still finds it is necessary to remain dormant. Even the Kent Association, which suspended its annual meetings for a time, while keeping in touch with its members through the district meetings, has decided to hold its annual gathering this year, and in every instance, so far as we know, where associations have continued their active work, results have justified the operations.

In the first shock of war all sorts of things happened to upset the course of our domestic arrangements, but we have now settled down, as it were, to the routine of war-time existence, with no false sentimentalism and with a due sense of our responsibilities. In that routine is a place for recreation, and for the maintenance, as far as practicable, of our social organisations. There seems every justification for carrying on the business of our ringing organisations, and with the limited opportunities at disposal, members are finding the meetings and united practices not only pleasant but helpful. A great deal of good work has been put in in several centres, where periodical gatherings for practice are organised, and wherever they have been initiated they have never failed to be repeated.

These united practices by members of neighbouring towers ought to be encouraged above all. District meetings can come only occasionally and can seldom be held at a place to suit everybody's convenience. If they are, then the individual opportunity for sharing in the ringing is all the smaller. But with the practice gatherings the meetings can be much more frequent, and the lesser numbers present give the individual a greater opportunity. They are the best encouragement that ringing can have, and it is a matter of surprise that the majority of the county and diocesan associations have not launched out on a bigger campaign on this sort. At any rate, they could take the matter in hand now, for the period of the year is before us when ringing can be carried on to a late hour and evening gatherings will be possible. With the expenditure of a little time and energy, every association could arrange a programme of these practices, which would spread a network over their whole area, and thus provide an effective means of keeping their members in touch with their organisation and each other.

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

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OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE FRAMLAND SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 9, 1918, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM G. THORPE ... Treble	MARK BEND 5
REV. C. J. STURTON ... 2	WALTER JAMES 6
HARRY THORPE 3	R. HENRY BARTRAM ... 7
CPL. ERNEST BARTRAM, M.M. 4	JOHN W. KIRTON Tenor

Conducted by R. HENRY BARTRAM.

Rung to welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. F. Walford, to Bottesford.

SIX BELL PEAL.

LEONARD STANLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
(STROUD AND DISTRICT BRANCH)
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 2, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE PACKER Treble	WILLIAM HALE 4
CHARLES EAST 2	ALBERT WRIGHT 5
HENRY NEWMAN 3	FRANK COLE Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

This is the first peal rung on the bells.

HANDBELL PEAL.

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

On Saturday, March 9, 1918, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT CITY CAFE, BELL RING,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*JOHN B. COLLETT ... 1-2	†MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 5-6
WILLIAM KENT 3-4	†THOMAS J. BRATTON ... 7-8

Conducted by THOMAS J. BRATTON.

* First peal on handbells. † First peal with inside pair of bells.
‡ First peal on handbells as conductor. Mr. Bratton had not rung a peal on handbells since 1894—an interval of 24 years.

FORMER VICAR WELCOMED AS BISHOP.

On Friday, March 8th last, a Confirmation service was held in the Parish Church of Thornbury, Gloucestershire, conducted by a former Vicar, who was incumbent from 1886 to 1897, and is now Lord Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich. In order to have the pleasure of welcoming their late Vicar in his new office, the parishioners assembled in large numbers, and the spacious and beautiful church was well filled. The following ringers from Bristol were invited to assist in the ringing, viz.: Messrs. H. T. Howell, W. Lansdown, A. Maggs, W. J. Wilkins, C. H. Tomkins, and A. Reeves, and they were joined by Messrs. J. W. Poole and F. K. Howell, of Thornbury.

Before and after the service, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob, were rung.

Mr. F. H. Burchell, the Vicar's warden, invited the ringers to his house to partake of a sumptuous tea, which was much appreciated by all, and Mr. H. T. Howell, in well-chosen words, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Burchell for their kindness.

When tea was over, the ringers were agreeably surprised by a visit from the Bishop, who shook hands all round, and thanked the ringers for the pleasure they had given him by hearing the bells of Thornbury so nicely rung again.

SWINDON, WILTS. — On February 10th, at Christ Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: O. W. Layng 1, A. Lawrence (conductor) 2, J. H. Shepherd 3, E. W. Hyner 4, C. J. Gardiner 5, Corpl. G. I. Cook 6, E. Bishop 7, S. Palmer 8. Corpl. Cook, who belongs to the 21st London Regiment, hails from Ashted.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

Eighty years old and still going strong; keen enough of sight and strong enough of arm to take your place regularly in ringing for Sunday service at St. Paul's Cathedral, and nimble enough still to tend the bells—Ted Horrex, the Exercise is proud of you! Metaphorically we would all grasp you by the hand; we do all offer our congratulations. You must be the "father" of the College Youths; if not the grandfather; and what changes you have seen in the "scrouffe"! Time seems to have dealt lightly with you, Ted (excuse the familiarity of a comparative youngster), and we hope he will continue to be as kind to you in the future. We don't expect to see you round at the "back end" now, as was your wont once upon a time—one of my earliest recollections of St. Paul's is seeing you at the tenor. Neither do we expect to find you again in such a length as 15,840 Treble Bob, as you were exactly fifty years ago. But I am sorry you could not ring an 80th birthday peal at St. Paul's. I am sure you would have done so had there not been a war on. It has disappointed us all that a broken rope should have spoiled your peal at Southwark. Never mind, Ted, there's a place waiting for you in the band that rings the Peace peal at the Cathedral, and that peal, I am sure, will be one of the happiest of your long life. Ted, I raise my glass to you!

It seems a long time to wait—32 years—to have the bubble of that tenor raising stunt at St. Paul's Cathedral publicly burst. I guess Trooper Jones knew all about it long ago, however. It was kind of those in the know at the time not to want to hurt his feelings, but I have no doubt somebody "broke it gently" to him. The wonder to me is that trying to pull up a bell of that weight didn't break his back at the time. I'm not fond of pulling up bells—it's too much like hard work, and work and I never did agree. By the way, I think I can tell Mr. Frank Dawe who pulled up Bow tenor. If I am not mistaken it was the present Master of the College Youths soon after the firm of Meers and Stainbank had rehung the bell. I don't think it took him long either. Certainly there was no one up on the frame to put a helping hand on the wheel. He need not be afraid that I shall be likely to try to emulate his example when I go to Bow. As a matter of fact I am spending my spare time inventing a machine for raising bells, so that by turning a switch all the lot will go up in peal. When I've done that, I propose to further improve the arrangements, so that John Carter's ringing machine can be attached, and, by pressing a button, the bells will go off into Stedman Cinques, and continue until the cows come home, or the machine busts.

Said Trooper Jones, "I'll make no bones of raising your big tenor; I'll get her up, before I sup, or die in the endeavour." So Trooper Jones, with all his bones, and brawn, and weight, and muscle

Pulled at that bell, with right good will, nor faltered in the tussle. But when he'd done, and thought he'd won the right to admiration And world-wide fame about his name was spread by publication: The story bold was then retold, and great the disappointment, For help above, with push and shove, a fly put in the ointment.

We all delight to honour great men, or their memories, and doubtless Birmingham ringers will not fail to "do their bit" in that direction to-morrow, when the Henry Johnson Commemoration takes place. Until the war interfered, the College Youths always celebrated the founding of their society by gathering round the festive board, but this annual feast is hardly likely to be renewed until peace once more prevails. There is, however, one event which I should like to see them honour, war or no war, and that is the one-hundredth anniversary of Henry Haley's birth, which will fall upon February 19th next year. Henry Haley was one of the really great men of the Exercise, as those who knew him best will be most ready to testify, and the centenary which will occur next year ought not to be passed over without some recognition. Now, you College Youths I've given you nearly twelve months' notice, so there's time to see about it. It may be that we shall be on very small rations by that time but even if we have to bring our own we ought to "foregather," do as much "ample justicing" as the Food Controller will allow, and talk about that wonderful man who holds a very cherished place in the memory of a rapidly diminishing band.

Old Ben's problem in my last notes, seems to have created interest and set many of my readers scratching their heads. The problem was a perfectly solvable one, and many, no doubt, worked out the answer. There were 72 stairs: 32 in one flight and 40 in the other. Another little problem that the old steepkeeper puzzled his ringing friends with was this: Said he: "I measured one of our bells the other day, and I found that the stay from the top of the stock was 18 inches less than the height of the bell and the stock together. If the stay had been two inches shorter it would have been half the

height of the stock and the bell, but if the bell had been two inches deeper it would have been the same depth as the stock and the stay together." Can my readers figure out the respective heights of the bell, the stock and the stay?

MILITARY MEDAL.

Corpl. E. Bartram, of Melton Mowbray, has been awarded the Military Medal for bravery and devotion to duty in France. He has just been home on leave, and was warmly welcomed by his colleagues of St. Mary's belfry, whose congratulations he received. On Sunday, March 3rd, ringing was arranged as a welcome to Corpl. Bartram, and for morning service, 360 Bob Minor with 6-8 covering was rung by W. Jaggard 1, T. H. Gillett 2, Corpl. Ernest Bartram, M.M., 3, C. Dalby 4, W. James 5, W. Chandler 6, R. H. Bartram 7, R. Freeman 8. For evening service, 518 Grandsire Triples on the back nine, with two bells covering: W. Jaggard 1, T. H. Gillett 2, R. Mount (Waltham) 3, Corpl. Ernest Bartram, M.M., 4, C. Dalby 5, W. James 6, J. Gilson 7, R. H. Bartram (conductor) 8, W. Chandler 9.

OXFORD GUILD.

MEETING AT HILLINGDON.

Of the various touches rung at a united practice, at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday last, nearly everyone was brought home. A first-rate start was made with a 287 Grandsire Caters, by: Miss Gladys Bateman 1, Miss Edith Jones 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, W. Lawrence 4, W. Shepherd (conductor) 5, W. Henley 6, E. F. Pike 7, A. Mason 8, H. H. Chandler 9, Pte. J. H. Cropley 10. In a second touch, Miss Winifred Cooper rang; and the Misses Feltham, Fuller, Gudgeon and Williams took part in Grandsire Triples. Two good touches of Stedman Caters followed, Mrs. F. Hairs taking a rope, and one of the "Bills" conducting. Miss Bateman rang her first touch of Kent Treble Bob Major like clockwork, and, together with Miss Jones helped to tap off some Stedman Caters in fine form. Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise were the next methods, the last named certainly deserving special mention. It was a good performance, with clean striking, and the tenor was rung excellently. The band was: G. H. Horton 1, G. M. Kilby 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, C. Dean (of Croydon) 4, E. F. Pike 5, A. Mason 6, W. Hewett 7, Wm. Henley 8.

When seven o'clock arrived, the good hostess of the "Red Lion Hotel" had (by previous arrangement) provided quite a "drawing-room" tea in a well-appointed and recently decorated apartment, with drapery hangings of a dainty and delicate hue, consequently as a special favour she asked that the "fragrant weed" might not be used in the room. The very best thanks is due to Mrs. F. Hairs for presiding at the tea, and to Mr. H. H. Chandler for his jovial reception. It is quite needless to add that the latter wore his usual beaming "Sussex" smile. Owing to an engagement, Mr. J. J. Pratt came as the "eleventh hour," but he was in time to have a pull.

W. L.

SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT BLETCHLEY.

A ringing meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Bletchley on Saturday week in place of the usual quarterly meeting, which it had been proposed to hold at Old Bradwell, but which, owing to unforeseen circumstances, had to be abandoned. A ringing meeting was, therefore, arranged in its place, permission for the use of the bells at Bletchley being kindly given by the Vicar (Rev. F. W. Bennett). About 20 members attended, representing the following towers: Stony Stratford, Linslade, Newton Longville, Fenny Stratford, and the local ringers. Several members of the Bedfordshire Association from Woburn put in an appearance. Their presence was greatly welcomed, and they assisted towards making the meeting a success. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major, were rung, the bells being kept going from 3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., when, owing to "ringing restrictions," the meeting had to be brought to a close, much to the regret of all present. It is hoped, however, that another such gathering will be soon arranged, as undoubtedly it would revive the ringing spirit, and would assist considerably towards keeping the branch together while so many of its members are away serving their country.

RINGING AT ANSTON.

On the occasion of the dedication, on February 23rd, of a brass tablet to the memory of Major John Watson Richardson, who was killed in action, the bells of Anston, Notts, were rung muffled, the local men being assisted by Signaller Frank Stenton, and 1st Air Mechanic Edgar F. Stenton, who were home on leave. On the following day, for morning service, 720 of College Pleasure was rung by: H. Turner 1, W. Platts 2, F. Stenton 3, R. Smith 4, S. Smith 5, C. Fowler 6; and for evening service, 720 of the same method, with Stuart Smith treble, H. Turner 4th. The latter was rung as a farewell touch for Frank and Edgar F. Stenton, who were returning to the army on the following day, with the best wishes of their colleagues for a "good luck" and a safe return.

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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 bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

RAISING HEAVY BELLS.

Mr. L. Longley, of Worcester, writes that Worcester Cathedral tenor, weighing 50 cwt., was once raised single-handed by Mr. E. Davies. That was about 24 years ago, when the bell hung on a wooden stock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, the Manchester Branch held the usual monthly meeting, a good muster of ringers turning up. The Rochdale and Bolton branches were largely represented, and ringing was indulged in in various methods from early in the afternoon till 7.30, when the business meeting took place.—Mr. James Shaw presided, and welcomed the visitors, who had turned up in such good numbers, and expressed hope that ere long they would again meet at Radcliffe under happier circumstances.

Reddish was chosen as the place for the next meeting, which is to be held on April 13th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and also to the local company for having things ready.

FAMOUS PEALS.

INTERESTING RECORDS FROM THE PAST.

Some interesting anniversaries fall in this week. The 12th of March was the 160th anniversary of the first peal of Treble Bob Maximus. It was rung in the year 1758, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, by the College Youths. It is described on the tablet as "the greatest peal ever done before on twelve bells." The tenor was rung by Joseph Monk, and the peal was called by George Meakins.

The 13th of March is the anniversary of what was probably the first peal rung by the Eastern Scholars, for their peal-book in the British Museum records the following: "No 1.—Wednesday, the 13th March, 1733, was rung at the Parish Church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, a peal of 5040 Grandsire Tribbles. The performers, Daniel Legg, tribble; Seymour Hussey, 2; Stephen Wilmsheurst, 3; Phileas Mainwaring (called the bobs), 4; Jacob Hall, 5; James Potter, 6; Samuel Vaughan, 7; John Long, tenor. The time, 3 hours, 10 minutes."

On March 14th, 1727, the Society of London Scholars rang the first peal on the bells of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 6006 Grandsire Cinques, and on the following day this record, the longest peal of Grandsire Cinques rung up to that time, was beaten by the College Youths on the same bells, by a peal of 6314. Two famous names appear in that College Youths' hand: Benjamin Annable, who rang the 11th, and called the bobs; and Robert Catlin, the famous bell founder.

March 16th is the anniversary of a peal of Bob Major, rung in 1750 at St. Bride's, Fleet, Street and in which John Holt took part.

On the same date, in 1778, the then longest length of Treble Bob Maximus (6240 changes) was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, by Norwich members of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

PEAL BOARD AT PORTISHEAD.

LADIES' PEAL COMMEMORATED.

A meeting was held in St. Peter's Belfry, Portishead, on Saturday last, for the purpose of unveiling a peal tablet which has been presented to the belfry to record the peal of Grandsire Triples rung by a band of ladies on January 5th. The tablet, which is of oak, reads as follows:—

The Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers, St. Peter's.

A peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), Thurstan's Five-Part was rung on these bells on January 5th, 1918, in 3 hrs. 10 mins.:

*Mrs. J. E. Staley	Treble	Mrs. H. S. Briggs	5
Miss D. Sage	2	Miss N. Gillingham	6
Miss A. Stokes	3	Miss E. M. Hole	7
†Miss M. C. N. Jukes	4	Miss E. K. Parker	Tenor

Conducted by Miss N. Gillingham.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Miss Maud Pigott of Smethwick, a highly esteemed member of the Ladies' Guild. All the ladies, with the exception of Miss Parker, are members of the Portishead band. Rev. H. W. Jukes, Rector; Rev. E. Robertson, Curate, Clergy.

Mr. R. J. Hudleston and Mr. R. Corp, Churchwardens. The Rev. H. W. Jukes unveiled the peal tablet, and said that it gave him great pleasure to perform the little ceremony. There had only been two peals rung by the Ladies' Guild, and both had taken place at Portishead. He thanked the ladies for their services in the belfry Sunday after Sunday. But for them the bells would not be rung for every Sunday service.

Miss Parker of Edmonton (the premier lady ringer of the world), and Mrs. Wilkins, of Bristol, were present, and to them the Rector extended a cordial welcome.

Mr. Corp spoke of the pleasure it was to listen to the bells ringing for the services on Sundays.

Mr. Gillingham (captain of the ringers) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector, and hoped that the next peal rung by ladies would not be for such a sad occasion as the two previous ones had been, viz., for the deaths of two highly esteemed members of the Guild.

The bells were rung to Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, eight ladies taking part in a course of Stedman Triples.

EARLY LONDON BELL-FOUNDERS.

"POTTERS" OF THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

Among the old city records occur the names of various men "potters" of high standing in their craft, who probably carried on the work of bell founding after those whose names were mentioned in the article last week. There was one, Henry in the Lane, who hailed from Aldgate Ward and who may or may not have carried on bell founding as part of his business. But he was held in considerable repute in his trade, for in 1316, with Robert de Raughtone and others, he was appointed to report as to the fair quantity of alloy to be put into brass goods, complaints having arisen that "many persons who busy themselves both with buying and sellings pots of brass, and more especially one Aleyn de Sopere, buy in divers places pots of bad metal, and then put them on the fire so as to resemble pots that have been used, and are of old brass, and then they expose them for sale in West-chepe on Sunday, and other festival days, to the deception of all those who buy such pots; for the moment that they are put upon the fire and become exposed to great heat they come to nothing and melt. By which roguery and falsehood, the people are deceived, and the trade aforesaid is badly put in slander."

If Henry in the Lane was not a bell-founder, Peter de Weston, his kinsman, and the guardian of his son William, certainly was one. There was a bell (the third) at Fairstead, in Essex, bearing the inscription:—

VOCOR : IOHANNES
PETRVS DE WESTON : ME : FECIT.

This lettering passed into the hands of one William Revel. And in the adjoining parish of Great Waltham, the 8th bell was inscribed, with the same cross and lettering.

HOC : SIGNVM : SERVA : XPE : MARIA :
THOMA.

At Whitwell, in the Isle of Wight, is a bell inscribed:—

MIKAELIS CAMPANA FUGIANT
PULSANTE PROPHANA. P.W.

While at Appledram, Sussex, were the two bells inscribed in the same (fourteenth-century Lombardic) letterings:—

1. SANCTA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS. P.W.
2. BENEDICTA SIT SANCTA TRINITAS.
P.W.

There is a bell with similar initials and lettering at Stowting, in Kent.

At one time these two bells were assigned to Peter de Weston; but the cross and lettering are not only different from that on his Essex bell, but of so very different a character that it is now doubtful. On the other hand, these bells are connected, by crosses and lettering, with other bells at Washington, Beeding and Yapton, Sussex; and Chale, Isle of Wight, which bear a founder's initial "R" on them; and Peter de Weston was, as we shall see, connected with more than one founder whose name began with that letter. He may, like Richard Wymbish, have had more than one alphabet.

The earliest mention found of him is in 1336. He must have been a citizen of good position. In the list of the members returned to the Common Council elected by the Wards, in the year 1347, his name stands at the head of the list for Portsoken Ward. His will is dated in August, and enrolled in October, 1347.

This document calls for but little remark. It is at least possible that the Richard of Essex therein named is Richard de Wymbish. But it establishes the date of another bell-founder, William Schep, evidently a tenant of Peter's. He was the son of Gilbert Schep, potter, and Susanna his wife, of the parish of St. Katherine Cree who is mentioned in deeds enrolled in 1314 and 1318.

William's tenancy had expired in March, 1348, as shown by the will of Matilda, Peter de Weston's widow, which bears that date. She bequeaths to her son Thomas all that tenement, "quod quondam fuit Willelmo Schep." The only bell cast by William that survived to modern times was the 2nd at Garboldisham, Norfolk, which was re-cast in January, 1884. The inscription on it was as follows:—

AD LAUDEM SANCTI : ANTONII
VVILLELMVS : SCHEP : ME : FECIT.

The medallion and lettering were those used by Richard Wymbish on the bell at Burnham, Kent, and Slapton, Northants. The lettering passed subsequently into the hands of William Revel. Wymbish's shop has three, Schep's only two "dots."

Thomas de Weston succeeded, it would seem, to his father's business, but for a very brief period, both he and his mother dying in 1349, the year of the awful "Black Death." No bell now existing can, however, be traced to his hands. His will and that of his mother, enrolled in the same year, present no point of interest, except that mentioned above.

The next link in the chain is one of Peter de Weston's executors, John de Romeneye, and, like him, one of the representatives of Portsoken in the Common Council of 1347, his name standing second on the list. One, John de Romeneye, a "blader" or corn merchant, is mentioned in the Issue rolls of the 1st Edward II. (1308). He would probably be father to the individual now under notice, whose

earliest mention on the Hastings rolls is 1331. If the hypothesis as to the group of Sussex bells mentioned above be correct, those bearing the letter "R" at Beeding, Washington, and Yapton, may be ascribed either to him or to William de Raughtone. John de Romeneye also died in 1349. He had a son Osbert, who would appear to have predeceased him, as there is no mention of him in the will.

His widow did not long survive him, her will being enrolled at Guildhall later on in the same year. The chantry which he founded and endowed at St. Botolph's, Aldgate, continued until the earlier years of Edward VI.'s reign, when, with others, it was suppressed and its revenues confiscated. In the Guildhall "Letter Book E," under date 1365, there is a note of the appointment of a chaplain to the chantry under the provisions of the founder's will by Adam de Bury, the then Mayor.

No bells are in existence bearing his name, and, therefore, he can only be put down hypothetically as a bell-founder. There are many fourteenth-century bells whose makers are as yet unidentified; and until every county has been systematically examined, and the results made known, it will be impossible to reach any finality of identification.

William de Raughton, son of Robert, who was mentioned above, was a stepson of Peter de Weston, whose will throws some light on his family surroundings, showing a distinct connection between the last five "potters." There are no bells bearing his name as far as is known. He died in 1357.

In connection with Roger de Kyrkeby, potter, one of the witnesses to the wills both of Peter de Weston and William de Raughton, it is interesting to note that at Gainford, near Darlington, there was a bell inscribed:—

HELP MARI QUOD ROGER OF KIRKEBY
having reference, however, not to the London "potter," but to a worthy clerical namesake, Vicar of Gainford from 1401 to 1412.

The mention, in rather a curious way, of William Ryvel or Revel, in this will establishes the date of that bell-founder. It is the only trace of him that can be found at Guildhall, but he is well known by his bells in the lettering of which he used three different alphabets. Firstly, the same letters as Peter de Weston had. In this lettering, the 3rd bell at St. Laurence, Norwich, is inscribed:—

VOCOR : IOHANNES
WELELMVS : REVEL : ME : FECIT.

Two other bells in the same lettering, one at a church in Kent, with the inscription:—

TEMPORA : FVLGVRA : DVM :
FVLSO : CESSO : MARIA :

and one at Heckfield, Hants, inscribed:—

NOW : GOD : HELP : AND : HAVE : AL

may be either by Peter de Weston or William Revel.

(To be continued.)

HERTS ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the Western Division of the Hertfordshire Association was held on Saturday, March 2nd, at King's Langley, by kind permission of the Rev. J. P. Haythornwaite, Vicar. Members attended from Tring, Oxhey, Watford, Aldenham and Bushey, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Bob Major, were rung during the afternoon.—The Vicar visited the tower, and welcomed the visitors, remarking also how well the bells sounded. Twenty-four members sat down to a ration tea in the Church Room, kindly provided by Mr. Fuller.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. He said he hoped when next the Association came there there would be a band of ringers to meet them.

Three new members from Watford, two from Aldenham and three from Bushey were elected. Rickmansworth was chosen for the next meeting, the date to be left with secretaries to arrange.

Mr. E. Jones, of Watford, proposed a most hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and coming amongst the ringers.—Mr. Edwards also spoke of the kindness of the Vicar. He hoped those present would do their bit and try and attend the meetings and assist in the Sunday ringing. He hoped the young ones present would persevere and do nothing to bring dishonour on the noble Association which they were joining. Their old friend, Rifleman B. Prewitt, was home from France last week, and although he was unable to attend that meeting, he had told them he would pay for tea, so that Mr. Prewitt's thoughts were with them, and they thanked him very much for paying the expenses of the tea, and hoped for his speedy return home (applause).

Mr. Smith proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Fuller for catering, and a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding was proposed by Mr. F. Brinklow, of Oxhey.—The Vicar said it gave him great pleasure to attend and meet such an enthusiastic band of ringers, and he hoped they would soon come there again.

BURY, LANCS.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evensong, 360 Bells Minor: Joe Bromley 1, W. Andrews 2, A. White 3, S. Greenhalgh 4, J. Ramshottom 5, Joe E. Sykes (conductor) 6.

NOTICES.

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

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—The annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon Willink, Rector of Birmingham. The bells of the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5. Dinner tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 3/- each. Owing to the food difficulties it is advisable for all visitors intending to be present to apply for tickets *not later than Tuesday, March 12th*. Remittance should be enclosed with application.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Holbeck, Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 7 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at Writtle. Bells available 4 till 6. Business meeting in the tower after ringing.—F. W. Edwards, Hon. Secretary, Writtle.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horfield and Filton on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available at Filton at 3 p.m., service at 4.30 p.m. Ringing at Horfield at 6 p.m., followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heywood Parish Church on Saturday, March 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern and Eastern Districts.—A joint meeting will be held at Knebworth on Saturday, March 16th. The tower will be open during afternoon and until 7 o'clock. "War" tea will be provided at the "Lytton Arms," 5.30, no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—F. R. Bacon, W. H. Lawrence, District Secretaries.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Wood Green on Saturday, March 16th. Ringing from 2.30 to 6 p.m., followed by short business meeting. All ringing friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Meetings for combined practice will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at St. Mary's, Farnham Royal. Bells ready 4 o'clock until seven. A motor bus leaving Slough Station about 2.50 for Beaconsfield passes close by the Church. Saturday, March 23rd.—Slough Parish

Church, ringing from 4 o'clock until 6.45. Ringing friends' help kindly solicited.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 21st for handbell practice, and on the 26th for general business, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting of this district will be held at SS. Peter and Paul, Swanscombe, on Saturday, March 23rd, 1918. Half rail fares up to 2/- allowed. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid on or before this meeting.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided.—S. J. Shepherd, Asst. Hon. Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, March 23rd. Ringing from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome. 1918 subscriptions now due.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Selby on March 23rd, 1918. Bells (10) all day. As the secretaryship of this district is about to change hands it is hoped a good number of the members will turn up. Tea at 5 o'clock, tickets (if applied for) 1/- each.—Thos. Smith, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Woodchurch on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote (Warwick) on Easter Monday. Bells available, Leamington (8) 11 a.m. till 12.30, Emscote (8) all day, St. Mary's, Warwick (10), 6 p.m. till 7.30 p.m. Committee meeting at Emscote at 2.30; service at All Saints', Emscote, 3 o'clock, followed by business meeting in Emscote Schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday. Ringing, 2.30. Service at 5, preacher, the Bishop of Bucks. Tea, on rations, at 6 p.m., only for those who notify the Secretary. Business to follow, the Rev. Canon Drummond in the chair. Subscriptions for 1918 became due on 1st January last. High Wycombe tower open 11 to 1 o'clock for 12-bell practice.—W. H. Oram, Farnham Avenue, near Slough.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary notice.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. The four towers will be open throughout the day. Early ringing can be had at the six-bell towers by writing to me a few days previously. Service at Cathedral 5 p.m., with address

by the Rev. Montague Hall, Rector of Bushey. Tea in the Abbey Institute 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. *To facilitate tea arrangements kindly notify to me if attending.*—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 1st, 1918. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Sidbury, at 5.15 p.m., for all those who notify me before Wednesday, March 27th, 1918 (sugar cannot be provided). Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helen's (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6); these bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Easter Monday, April 1st. The bells at St. Modwen's and St. Paul's will be available for ringing from 11 a.m. Tea (1/6 each) in St. Margaret's Schools (time to be announced later). Will those who intend to be present for tea notify Mr. J. H. Benstead, 69, Scalpcliffe Road, Burton-on-Trent, by the previous Thursday morning?—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at Earlsheaton on Monday, April 1st, 1918. The ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 11 a.m. Ringing to commence at 11.30 prompt. Tea will be provided for ringers at 1/- each who send in their names by Monday, March 25th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Witham on Easter Monday, April 1st. Service, with address by the Rev. Canon Galpin, at 4 o'clock. Tea will be provided at the Church Room at 5 p.m. at 9d. each. Members must notify me not later than March 28th of their intention to be present for tea.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., The Street, Rayne.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—General meeting at Tonbridge on Easter Monday, April 1st. Committee meeting in vestry 11.30 a.m. Service (with address by the Vicar, Rev. Stuart H. Clark) at 12 noon. Business meeting in Parish Room 2 p.m. Nomination of candidates to represent the Association on the Central Council (to be signed by two members) should be sent to the Secretary before March 25th.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

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.

BIRTH.

GROOMBRIDGE.—On March 6th, 1918, at 127, Crayford Way, Crayford, Kent, to Mr. and Mrs. T. Groombridge, junr., a son.

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