



No. 419. Vol. XIV.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28th, 1919.

[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 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1919.
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. MOOK,

Architect, Diocese Surveyor

MODERN WORK

THE REVIVAL.

Gratifying signs continue to appear of the revival of ringing throughout the country. These are not to be found so much in the increasing number of peals that are being rung, but in the stray items that come to light, such as the first six-score of Doubles by a local band for many years, just rung at the little village of Rusper, in Sussex; the formation of a new company at Whitstable, Kent, where the bells have not been rung for 20 years; and the instruction of a new band, including churchwardens and sidesmen, at Rawmarsh—to mention just two or three. Such events are the most promising of all, especially if, as certainly is the case, they are multiplied throughout the country. Then, too, there is the evidence of increasing activity in the reports of growing numbers at various meetings.

The Norwich Association, we are glad to see by the abridged Report just issued, is setting about the problem of reconstruction, after the four years of war's disorganisation, with some vigour. Mr. Arthur Coleman, who has undertaken the secretaryship at a time when there is great work to be done, has addressed the members on the urgency of this subject, and invites the co-operation of the towers in getting into touch at once with ringers as they return, and seeking out new recruits for training so as to fill the numerous gaps unfortunately left in the belfries—a sacred duty, as he puts it, which is owed to those who have laid down their lives. He adds, that as a first step to revive interest and enthusiasm, the members should meet together more frequently in their respective districts, as, in the past, the importance of district meetings does not seem to have been sufficiently recognised.

This suggestion, we are sure, will commend itself most heartily to the members of the Norwich Association, who have been among the foremost exponents of the art, and as keen as skilful. This one word of encouragement ought to start off the Association on a series of district gatherings which should implant a spirit of enthusiasm and interest among the members equal to anything to be found elsewhere in the country. The secret of maintaining a high standard is the bringing along of young bands, and as the Norwich Association can claim as many members as any society in the country, there ought to be no fear for the future if the material is handled aright. At any rate, the districts have been given a lead which they ought not to be slow to follow. And what applies to the Norwich Association applies also to some others. It is up to the officers to carry the revival into the towers, to reintroduce the enthusiasm which more than four years of war has quenched. It is of no use to sit down and wait; the immediate necessity is to be up and doing.

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SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM.**

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, March 11, 1919, in Three Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

ALBERT WALKER Treble	WILLIAM KENT 7
EDWIN HORREX 2	WALTER C. HUNT 8
CHARLES E. BORRETT 3	JAMES GEORGE 9
GEORGE F. SWANN 4	JOHN NEAL 10
A. PADDON SMITH 5	JAMES E. GROVES 11
THOMAS H. REEVES 6	FRANCIS E. DAWK Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung half-muffled to the memory of the ringers of the British Empire who have made the supreme sacrifice in the Great War.

TEN BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 15, 1919, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTON, STEPNEY, E.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5830 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt. 3 qrs.

FREDERICK G. SYMONDS ... Treble	EDWIN F. PYKE 6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	REUBEN SANDERS 7
LOUIS ATTWATER 3	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 8
GEORGE R. FARDON 4	EMANUEL HALL 9
JAMES SCHOLES 5	GEORGE BARRELL Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(CHESTER BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 12, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE DOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	JAMES V. WRIGHT 3
HENRY W. WILDE 2	JAMES SWINDLEY 6
GEORGE JONES 3	ERNEST CHANNELL 7
ARTHUR WATKIN 4	JAMES MORGAN Tenor

Composed by HENRY W. WILDE.

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

HAMMERSMITH, MIDDLESEX.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, March 6, 1919, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE DOB MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM H. WOOD Treble	RALPH MACKRILL 5
HARRY BARRETT 2	CHARLES F. W. HUNT 6
ERNEST H. COOK 3	FRANK SKEVINGTON 7
HAROLD P. BURTON 4	HARRY MANCE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by FRANK SKEVINGTON.

* First peal in the method, and first peal in the method as conductor.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 8, 1919, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM PYE Treble	ERNEST J. BUTLER 5
ARTHUR MASON 2	GEORGE R. PYE 6
ISAAC G. SHADE 3	JOHN DALE 7
LEONARD A. PYE 4	DANIEL PHILLIPS Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 8, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDK. G. BIGGS... .. Treble	ARTHUR G. JAMES 5
JOHN GRANESEBURY... .. 2	RALPH H. BIGGS... .. 6
GEO. WHITE... .. 3	FRANK BOREHAM... .. 7
EDWARD MARKHAM 4	JOSEPH EVANS Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BOREHAM.

BRACONSFIELD, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 8, 1919, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 22 cwt. in E.

PERCY E. JONES... .. Treble	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 5
GEORGE MARTIN 2	JAMES BLACKMORE 6
*GLADYS BATEMAN 3	RICHARD BUCKLAND 7
JOHN EVANS 4	WILLIAM HENLEY Tenor

Composed by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK
Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

* First peal of Major.

The tenor man cycled 16 miles, dinnerless, to complete the band.
The Vicar kindly postponed Evensong for this peal.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

BERNARD ALLSOP... .. Treble	EDWIN BLACKWELL 5
ALFRED C. WRIGHT 2	JOHN SIDDALL, SEN. 6
HENRY GREGORY... .. 3	WILLIAM TAYLOR... .. 7
THOMAS WHITE 4	JOHN W. DERBYSHIRE... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN HOLT.
Conducted by ALFRED C. WRIGHT.

First peal in the method by all the band and by the Association.

Rung for the wedding of Lieut. James L. Wright, Seaforth High-landers, and Sister Ball, Royal Infirmary, Wigan.

OXHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1919, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5050 CHANCES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lbs.

WILLIAM HODGETTS Treble	WILLIAM FYE 5
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW... .. 6
ARTHUR W. DIX 3	ARTHUR MASON 7
CHARLES N. LEMAN 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW.
Conducted by WILLIAM FYE.

RAWMARSH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 15, 1919, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5182 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lbs.

SAN THOMAS Treble	GEORGE M. THORPE 5
JOHN HOLMAN 2	REV. W. P. WRIGHT 6
*COLLIN HARRISON 3	FRED WATKINSON 7
ROBERT HARRISON 4	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.
Conducted by SAM THOMAS.

* First peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LAMBERHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 4, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently.

*FREDERICK PAIGE Treble	F. J. LAMBERT, JUN. 4
†HARRY PRICE 2	JAMES WAGHORN... .. 5
GEO. FULLER 3	F. J. LAMBERT, SEN. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN.

Rung with bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Edwin J. Lambert, of Horsmonden, news having been recently received that he died a prisoner of war in Germany on October 22nd, 1918.

* First peal. † 100th peal.

CHURCH KIRK, LANCs.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 13, 1919, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

the 720's being called differently.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES HOULDSWORTH... .. Treble	JACK BARNES 4
JAMES SHAW 2	*LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS 5
PTE. THOMAS HOWORTH 3	JAMES TOMLINSON Tenor

Conducted by J. HOULDSWORTH.

* First peal.

Second peal on the bells.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and in memory of the beloved wife of the Rector, Mrs. Newman.

L. Williams belongs to Church, the rest hail from Oswaldtwistle.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT EARLSHEATON.

The annual meeting of the Western District was held at Earlsheaton, on Saturday week, and despite unfavourable weather, over 80 members and friends attended, 24 towers being represented. The bells, a beautiful peal of eight, with tenor 14 cwt., were rung to the tune of Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, all the visitors expressing their pleasure with the splendid 'go' of them. A substantial meat tea was partaken of in the schools, followed by the usual business meeting, at which letters of apology for absence were read from the Rev. C. C. Marshall (President), Mr. G. B. Bolland (vice-president), and Mr. H. Williams (general secretary). Mr. P. J. Johnson was voted in the chair.

Miss A. Hillary and Miss E. Moorby, of Skipton; Messrs. Scholey and North, of Batley; and Sherwood, of Burley, were elected members of the Association. No nominations being received for the posts of Ringing Master and three committee-men, the retiring officers were re-elected for the next three years, namely, Mr. P. J. Johnson, Ringing Master, and Messrs. Dixon, Broadbent and Hardcastle, committee.—Mr. Dixon was chosen to serve on the Central Committee.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar and wardens for use of the bells, on the proposition of Mr. Moorhouse, seconded by Mr. Elliott.—The Rev. R. S. Davies, in replying, said that he always felt like a fish out of water at a ringers' meeting, but he admired bells immensely. He was pleased to see ladies ringing their bells that day. He also made mention of the good and regular services rendered by his own ringers. Earlsheaton tower was such a small one, otherwise he would not rest until they got ten bells. The Vicar concluded by saying it was always a pleasure to him for companies of ringers from other districts to come and ring Earlsheaton bells.

Kildwick was chosen for the June meeting.

A vote of thanks to the local ringers for making the necessary arrangements that day was proposed by Mr. Moorhouse, and seconded by Mr. North, and acknowledged by Mr. G. Hardy.—The Chairman remarked he was pleased to see the Rev. R. Evers, Vicar of Liversedge (a hon. member) amongst them that afternoon, and the reverend gentleman, in replying, said he thought the clergy should attend the meeting of ringers as far as they could. It gave him great pleasure to be there to show brotherhood between them.—This concluded the business, and the tower was again visited. Handbell ringing was indulged in, and terminated a very successful gathering.

FENNY STRATFORD RINGER'S DEATH.

St. Martin's band, Fenny Stratford, has lost a valued member by the death, from pneumonia, of Mr. William J. Manning. On Feb. 25th a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung, with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to his memory, by: W. Cranwell 1, G. T. Underwood 2, G. Groves 3, J. Searey 4, C. W. Smith (conductor) 5, J. Washbrook 6.

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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 Kopes, &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.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

BIG GATHERING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday week in ideal weather. The bells enlivened the town by their joyful sounds during the afternoon, and at 4.30 the Guild service was said in church by the Vicar of Dudley (the Rev. A. H. Phelps, M.A.), who also gave an eloquent address from the words 'Let us praise famous men.' He mentioned such famous men in the ringing world as the late Rev. F. E. Robinson and others, and coming to their own church, he referred to the name of Samuel Spittle, and spoke of what they had accomplished for ringing.—Mr. T. W. North presided at the organ in his masterly style, and provided the music which greatly added to the brightness of the service.

A sumptuous tea was afterwards served in the Schoolroom, and over 100 members were present from Bilston, Blakenhall, Bradley, Brierley Hill, Birmingham, Clent, Coseley, Darlaston, Dudley, Handsworth, Netherton, Old Hill, Oldbury, Sedgley, Smethwick, Oldswinford, Stourbridge, West Bromwich, Wood Green, Wednesbury, Wolverhampton, Willenhall, etc.

At the business meeting, which followed, Mr. J. McDougal Tait (people's warden), in the absence of the Vicar's warden (Mr. F. R. McDowell), who was unable to stay, briefly introduced the new Vicar of Dudley to the members, and the Vicar, who took the chair, met with an enthusiastic reception.—The Secretary announced that apologies had been received from the Ringing Master (Mr. Harry Mason), who was unable to be present owing to the serious illness of his wife; also from Mr. William Rock Small, who was ill, and who owing to his ill-health and advancing years, wished to resign the treasurership of the Guild, which office he had held since the formation of the Guild 20 years ago.—The resignation was received with regret and a vote of thanks passed to Mr. Small for his long and valuable services.—A vote of sympathy was accorded to him and Mr. Mason for the causes which prevented them being present at the meeting.—A vote of sympathy and condolence was also passed with Mr. John Smith (Tipton) in the great loss he has sustained by the recent death of his beloved wife, and also with Mrs. Phelps (wife of the Vicar) in her bereavement by the death of her sister. These votes of condolence were carried in silence by the members standing.

THE LATE MR. S. SPITTLE'S HANDBELLS.

At this stage, Mr. Arthur Spittle presented, on behalf of the family, the peal of 56 handbells, the property of his late father, Mr. Samuel Spittle, who was instrumental in forming this Guild, and was its ringing master until his death.—The Vicar, on behalf of himself and churchwardens, and the Dudley parish ringers, accepted the gift promising that the bells should be taken care of. The inscription on the tenor is as follows: 'In memory of Samuel Spittle, the last of the St. Thomas's Youths, this peal of 56 bells is presented to St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, for the permanent use of the ringers, Easter, 1917.'

The Vicar of Dudley, the Rev. A. H. Phelps, was unanimously elected President of the Guild in succession to Canon Gray Maitland, who had left Dudley. The vice-presidents were elected, viz., Col. Sir A. G. Bosawen, M.P., Rev. S. J. Marriott (Vicar of Netherton), Rev. J. A. Price (Vicar of Coseley), Mr. Harry Mason, Old Hill; Mr. Arthur Spittle, Smethwick; and Councillor Herbert Wilkes, Dudley. Mr. Harry Mason was unanimously re-elected Ringing Master; Mr. Herbert Sheppard, hon. secretary; Mr. B. Gough, hon. treasurer; and Mr. A. E. Law and Mr. John Smith, auditors.—The Secretary presented his annual report, and Mr. Smith presented the balance sheet, both of which were passed and ordered to be printed.

At the close of the meeting hearty votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for presiding at the meeting, for conducting the service in church, for the use of the schoolroom, tower and bells; to Mr. North (organist) for his kindness in providing the musical portion of the service; to the donors of the tea; to Messrs. Phelps, Tilley, McDowell, Tait and Wilkes for presiding at the tables; to the ladies for preparing and serving the tea; and to all who had in any way assisted in making the meeting a great success.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Netherton at the end of May, and to hold a combined Guild practice monthly at Dudley, commencing on Monday, April 7th, at 7.30.

The bells were kept merrily going in various methods during the evening, and were greatly appreciated by the townspeople who have heard so little of them during the past four and a half years.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. James Aggett, of Messrs. Aggett and Sons, bell hangers, of Chagford, Devon, has died at the age of 45. The business has been in existence nearly a century.

At Whitstable, Kent, where there is a light peal of six, which have not previously been rung for 20 years, a new band has been formed, and is being instructed by Mr. H. A. Hopkins, an old member of the Cumberlands, who joined that society nearly 50 years ago.

We understand Eye, Suffolk, is to have a peal of ten. To the present ring of eight two new trebles have been generously promised by Mr. E. E. Poppy, of the local company, as a thankoffering for his restoration to health after a serious illness, and as a memorial to the Eye men who have fallen in the war. There is a very promising band at Eye, of which much will doubtless be heard in the future.

THE PEAL AT RAWMARSH. A RINGING REVIVAL.

This peal was arranged for the Rev. W. P. Wright, at the invitation of the Rector (the Rev. F. G. Scovell) for the edification of the budding ringers at Rawmarsh, to whom Mr. Wright delivered the first lecture on change ringing. It was the first peal on the bells since they were recast and relung in the most modern manner by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough.

After the peal the visitors were entertained to tea in the Church-room by the Rector, wardens and ringers, the company, to the number of 24, sitting down to an excellent repast. Owing to a domestic bereavement the Rector had to go south, but the curate (the Rev. A. Baker) made an excellent deputy. He thanked the visiting ringers for the excellent peal during the afternoon.

After tea it was the turn of the Rawmarsh Youths, who had their first open practice, advantage being taken of a good opportunity. An entirely local band rang the bells for the first time for over 20 years, amongst the ringers being the two churchwardens (Mr. T. Lancashire and Mr. Kirke White), and several of the sidesmen.

The Rev. W. P. Wright and Mr. S. Thomas voiced the thanks of the peal band for the excellent tea provided, and the arrangements for their comfort, as well as the hearty welcome to come again.

DEATH OF MR. G. A. RANSOM.

A WELL-KNOWN KENT AND MIDDLESEX RINGER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. George A. Ransom, which took place at his residence, Twickenham Road, Isleworth, on Sunday Mar. 16th, at the age of 63 years. He was born at Sittingbourne, in which district he learned to ring. He became a prominent member of the Kent County Association, and was one of their instructors, ringing and conducting a number of peals for them.

He took up his residence in Isleworth in 1895, and joined the local band, who found him of great assistance. He was a member of the Middlesex and London County Associations, for which he rang and conducted several peals.

He was laid to rest at Isleworth Cemetery on Monday, March 17th, the mourners being his widow, four sons and four daughters. His eldest son, being on service in Turkey, was not able to get home. All the sons have been on service. The remains were taken into the Parish Church, the bells being rung muffled as the cortege entered, and also when leaving. Many ringing friends were at the graveside.

In the evening several old friends met in Isleworth tower, and rang muffled touches as a last token of respect for the deceased.

BARNESLEY SOCIETY'S LOSSES.

St. Mary's Society, Barnsley, have lost a member by the death of Mr. George Sykes Tras. He joined the society in 1875, and was always enthusiastic in all matters concerning ringers and ringing. His last desire was to attend the memorial service for fallen ringers in the war at Sheffield, but evidently life's ever slender thread was weakening for he was not well enough to be present, and died suddenly two days later, at the age of 62 years. The number of his peals has not been kept, but he rang probably fifteen, most of them in the seventies, in the company of revivalists, such as Messrs. T. and C. H. Hattersley, Whinaker, Broarley, and others. He had one of nature's severe handicaps, an impediment of speech, but yet his personality was such with ringers, that once known he was always welcomed. His remains were interred at Barnsley Cemetery, the first portion of the burial service being taken by the Rector (the Rev. Canon Hervey) in St. Mary's Parish Church. Many local and other ringers were present, and a course of Grandsire Triples, by members of Sheffield and Old East Derbyshire Association was rung at the graveside. The tower bells were afterwards rung fully muffled. The deceased leaves a widow and family of eight, mostly grown up, to mourn their loss.

Only three months before, the Barnsley company lost a much-respected member by the death of Mr. Arthur Lister who passed away at the age of 35 years. He was a member of St. Mary's Society for 15 years, and was most regular in his attendance for Sunday ringing. On the occasion of the funeral, the ringers sent a wreath, and the tower bells were rung muffled.

WELCOME HOME.

At Fulmer, Bucks, on Sunday evening, to celebrate the safe return of Mr. J. Walden, R.E.A. (a member of the Fulmer band, who was very severely wounded in the fighting on the Palestine front, near Jaffa), 720 Oxford Bob Minor was rung by: E. Harding 1, F. Clarke 2, Miss E. A. Fuller 3, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 4, J. Jolley 5, J. Clarke 6.

Gunner Walden tells how whilst crossing from Salonika to Alexandria on board the s.s. 'Maniton' in June, 1917, he and his brother (who is still serving in Egypt) each sketched a rough diagram of a course of London Surprise Minor, on paper, to let each other see that they had not forgotten it. The Fulmer ringers sincerely hope that he may soon be quite restored to health again, and that he will be spared for many years yet to help them. To call the folks to church in time.

WORKSOP'S V.C. RINGER.

WELCOME TO SERGT. W. H. JOHNSON.

On Tuesday evening, March 11th, Worksop had the opportunity of according a public welcome to Sergt. Wm. Henry Johnson, V.C., 1/5th Battalion Nottingham and Derby Regt. (T.F.), on his return home from hospital, where he has been recovering from the wounds sustained in action when he won the coveted distinction. Sergt. Johnson travelled from Birmingham, where he had been an inmate of the Military Hospital, and was met at Sheffield by his wife. He arrived at Worksop by the 5.7 p.m. train, and awaiting him on the platform was a large group of friends, acquaintances, and the general public. Outside the station an immense crowd had gathered, and the streets had been decorated in his honour, despite the fact that very short notice of his arrival had been given. The streamer bearing the words, 'Welcome Home,' which crossed Bridge Street from the Cattle Market Hotel well expressed the popular sentiment. On the station platform were Councillor Raines, J.P., who was accompanied by Councillors G. H. Hall, F. G. Foster and J. H. Saxton. The Priory bell ringers, of which Sergt. Johnson is a member, were represented by H. Haigh, captain; Mr. A. Johnson, the V.C.'s uncle; and Cadet Arnold Beck; the Sweeps' Association by Mr. R. Tingle; and the Discharged Sailors and Sailors' Association, who formed a guard of honour outside the station, by G. Fairclough and W. Marshall. The sergeant's little children were also on the platform in the care of friendly neighbours. On Sergt. and Mrs. Johnson alighting from the train they were welcomed by an outburst of cheering, and the V.C. was enthusiastically greeted while people crowded round him, and some women in their enthusiasm embraced him.

Escorted by Mr. Raines, Sergt. Johnson was led across the bridge and through the station booking hall, where an open landau, drawn by two horses, and appropriately decorated, were in waiting; the way was lined with discharged soldiers, and a passage was kept by the untiring efforts of Police-Sergts. Roberts and Mitchell, and other officers. Sergt. Johnson, with his wife and children, took their seats. And Mr. Raines, J.P., standing up in the landau, addressed the V.C. remarking that on behalf of the inhabitants of Worksop he wished to accord him a hearty welcome on his return from the battlefield, where he had attained such a proud distinction (cheers). When the news reached Worksop that a Worksop man had won the V.C. his heart knew no bounds. He was delighted to think this honour had come to Worksop, and he was sure the inhabitants were equally as proud and pleased, and that he was only giving expression to their wishes when he said to Sergt. Johnson, 'Welcome Home; may you be spared for many years to come, and have a speedy recovery from all your wounds' (cheers). Sergt. Johnson made no reply, beyond bowing his acknowledgments and saluting the crowd.

Had it been possible a band would have been in attendance, but unfortunately the notice was so short that this could not be arranged, and the demonstration was, therefore, shorn of its effects. However, the streets were lined with spectators, and as the carriage proceeded up Bridge Street the sergeant was greeted with cheer after cheer. It was an experience which he told the writer of these lines, he would never forget. The route taken was along Potter Street, down Prior Well Road to Shelley Street, where Sergeant Johnson lives. Just before Shelley Street was reached, Sergt. Johnson stood up in the landau and expressed his delight at being in Worksop once more, and thanked the inhabitants all for the hearty welcome they had given him. He noticed in the crowd a number of discharged sailors and wounded soldiers, and he would like to say this: that there was not one among those men who would not have done what he had done if they had been placed in a similar position on the battlefield; they would all, like British soldiers, have done their duty. Once more he thanked them for the magnificent reception given him.

The Priory ringers rang merry touches of Grandsire and Union Triples and Bob Major, and fired the bells at intervals in volleys. Sergt. Johnson was present in the belfry during some portion of the ringing, and thanked the ringers for the high honour bestowed upon him, and expressed the wish to take part in a short touch on the following Sunday. The following took part in the ringing: H. Haigh (captain), Cadet A. Beck, Sergt. T. Anderson, Sapper T. Bartholomew, R.E., H. H. Cartwright, A. Johnson, W. Roberts, E. Clark, S. Eastland, G. Hardwick, R. Wright and H. Simpson.

A public subscription, which is not closed, has already realised £100; fellow workmen at Manton and Newcastle Main Company have subscribed £100; the Wigan Coal and Iron Company, a gold watch; and the Priory Church and the Druids' Friendly Society have also testimonials in hand.

STEDMAN BY AN 'ISLAND' BAND.

The first quarter-peal of Stedman ever rung by an 'Island' band has been scored at Newport, Isle of Wight, by the local company as follows: W. Johnson 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Upton 3, W. Scott 4, A. Callaway 5, H. Phillips 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Simmonds 8. They have also rung 560 Bob Major: J. Simmonds 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Johnson 3, W. Scott 4, A. Callaway 5, H. Phillips 6, W. Upton 7, H. Jennings (conductor) 8; and for services on Sunday, March 16th, 714 and 630 Grandsire Triples: J. Simmonds 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Johnson 3, W. Scott 4, A. Callaway 5, H. Phillips 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Leal 8.

NOTICES.

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

'The Ringing World' can be obtained by placing an order with a Newsagent, or it will be sent direct from the Editorial Office post free for 2/6 per quarter, 10/- per year.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Late the St. James' Society, Established 1824.—A meeting for practice will take place at All Saints' Church, Fulham, on Saturday, March 29th, at 4 p.m. A tea at moderate price will be provided in the adjoining kiosk, for which please notify the Hon. Sec., T. Walker, 50, Cannon Street, E.C.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church, Chester Square, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, March 29th. Bells available from 3.30. Meeting at 7, at which a peal board will be unveiled by Canon Elsee, M.A., President. — W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—A monthly ringing meeting will be held at Radcliffe-on-Trent Parish Church on Saturday, March 29th. Bells available from 3 to 7.30 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Co-operative Hall at 5 o'clock. Tickets 1/6 each.—Thos. H. Kirkby, District Secretary.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The first quarterly meeting for 1919 will be held at Anston. (Kurtou Park Station), on Saturday, March 29th. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. Haigh and A. Beck, Joint Secretaries.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on April 1st and 29th; at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on the 3rd; *at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 8th; and *St. Paul's Cathedral, on the 22nd, all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards at Head-quarters.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, April 5th. Tower open 3.30. Tea at Nags Head, to those who notify me by Wednesday, 2nd April.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION (Bristol Branch).—The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bedminster, on Saturday, April 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 5.30 p.m.—W. Stafford, Branch Hon. Sec., 16, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol, E.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Kids Grove on Saturday, April 5th. Please notify Miss Nixon, Fir Tree House, Ravenscliff Road, Kids Grove, of how many intend to be present from your tower not later than the 3rd inst.—J. Johnson, Hon. Sec., 51, Dunrobin Street, Longton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Half-yearly meeting will be held at St. George's Gravesend, on Saturday, April 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea in the Church House, for which 1/6 each will be charged. Will those who wish to take tea let me know not later than Wednesday, April 2nd? Half rail fares allowed at this meeting. Subscriptions are due and should be paid at or before the

meeting.—E. A. G. Allen, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle, on Saturday, April 12th, 1919. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Sible Hedingham, on April 12th, being the anniversary of the ring of eight. See notice next week.—B. Redgwell, District Sec., Rayne.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A Memorial Service for those Ringers in these Dioceses who have sacrificed their lives for King and Country, 1914—1918, will be held at St. John's Church, Grainger Street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Saturday, April 12th, at 3.30 p.m. (Address by the Rev. A. E. Cormbin, Vicar of St. John's). A peal of Stedman Triples will be attempted on the bells, muffled, before service. All ringers, with their relations and their friends, are invited to attend and pay this humble tribute of respect and gratitude to our fallen heroes. The bells of the Cathedral and All Saints' will also be muffled for ringing after the service.—G. T. Potter, Hon. Sec., 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Easter Monday (April 20th) for election of officers of Division, etc. Tower open 11-1 and 2-4; short Service 4; tea 4.30, in Church Hall, meeting to follow. Half railway fare. Tea 1/- each to those who notify me not later than Wednesday, April 16th.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Gloucester on Easter Monday, April 21st. Will members please watch this column for further particulars?—E. Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Meetings for practice at St. Martin's first Monday in the month at 7.30 p.m.; second Saturday, St. Bride's, 5 p.m.; third Monday, Shoreditch, 7.30 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Horbury Branch.—There will be a practice every Thursday at 8 p.m., also on the third Saturday in each month at 3.30 p.m., when all ringers will be cordially welcomed. All standard methods rung.—J. Smith, Hon. Sec.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—I beg to remind members that the subscription for 1919 is now due.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 40, Rockmount Road, Upper Norwood, S.E.19.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Non-resident members and others are reminded that subscriptions should be paid at once to the respective District Secretaries, or to G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nominations for the election of general officers to be held at Easter should reach me by March 30th, in accordance with rules. Hon. Treas. is perforce retiring.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

REPORTS WANTED.—Will give 10/- each for Norwich Association Report for years 1879, 1881 and 1883.—E. F. Poppy, Moorhall, Eye, Suffolk.

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.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FOREMAN, MOTOR REPAIRS—13 years' experience; married; requires situation garage or repair shop, 50 miles radius of London; change ringer.—'Motor,' 'Ringing World' Office, Woking.

YOUNG MAN seeks situation, any capacity with good prospects. Age 26; tall. Ex-N.C.O. of Artillery. Change ringer on 6, 8 or ten bells.—'Demob,' 'Ringing World' Office, Woking.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Cam on Saturday week, members attending from Berkeley, Coaley, Cam, Darsley, Slimbridge, Stinchcombe, Stone and Thornbury. Visitors were also present from Newport (Mon.), Lydney, and SS. Philip and Jacob's, Bristol.

The Vicar (the Rev. W. Seaver) conducted a short service in the church, and afterwards invited the ringers to tea in the Parish Room. The Master, the Rev. M. E. Thorold, presided at the business meeting which followed.

Mr. J. W. Jones referred to the testimonial to Mr. Goldsmiths, and asked those present who were not already doing so to support the 'Ringing World' in future.—The Chairman also spoke very highly of the 'Ringing World,' saying that since he had been Master of the Association he had found it a most interesting and useful paper.

Thornbury was proposed as the place for the next meeting, on April 12th, but as Canon Cornwall cannot entertain the ringers on that date, the next meeting will not be held until after Easter.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, for the service, and for the tea. During the afternoon and evening Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor were practised.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Nottingham district, held at Bulwell, proved to be a great success. A large gathering of ringers was present from Bottesford, Cotgrave, Daybrooke, Lenton, Nottingham, Nottall, Radcliffe-on-Trent, and Selston, in addition to the local band. Touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Duke of York, Double Court, and Plain Bob were rung during the afternoon and evening. Mr. W. E. White presided at the business meeting, at which it was decided by a large majority to hold the next meeting at Radcliffe-on-Trent.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for the way in which they always made the Association welcome.

A SUSSEX VILLAGE WAKING UP.

At Ruspur, Sussex, on March 22nd, five six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by: J. Jupp 1, F. T. Hoad (conductor) 2, E. Farley 3, F. Corke 4, W. Farley 5, T. Miles 6; and two six-scores by: W. Corke 1, W. Hogsflesh 2, E. Farley 3, F. Corke 4, W. Farley 5, F. T. Hoad (conductor) 6. These were the first six-scores by all the band except the conductor, and the first by a local band for many years.

ADDRESS WANTED.

Will Mr. Jabez Preece kindly communicate his address, which he omitted from his letter?

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