

THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th, 1923.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 3d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, SURREY.



The Recast Tenor (30 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.
New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921.

**BELLS,
CARILLONS,
CLOCKS.**

'THE QUICKEST PEAL ON THE BELLS.'

Very few reports of peals appear in our columns without a footnote attached referring to some point, more or less of interest, concerning the performance. From time to time we read 'Quickest peal on the bells.' This statement has, of course, a certain amount of interest, but has it any real merit? When we set out to ring peals we do not measure our performance by the speed of our ringing, but by the number of changes rung, and we ought not to judge it by the rapidity of the striking, but by the quality of it. We are not reflecting in any way upon those who have put out claims to have rung the fastest peal in any tower, nor referring to any performance in particular, but merely discussing the question from a detached standpoint, prompted by the many recent claims which have been made for local speed records.

From first to last the striking should be the thing that matters, and everything else, pace included, should be subservient to this necessity. It should be borne in mind that, when peals are rung on church bells, the ringers have a large audience, many of whom, let us frankly admit, may not care for long continued spells of ringing, and if bells are driven at an excessive pace it appears to many of the uninitiated to be one long-drawn-out jangle, without beat or rhythm. It is true that when bells settle down to good striking they naturally quicken a little in pace, because the smooth running of the changes is not broken by wide blows or hesitancy which leads to or is caused by trips. But this is a totally different matter to racing the bells to knock a few minutes off the time of some previous peal in the same belfry.

The fact that peals are rung far more rapidly at one church than at another is, of course, outside the question, for not only does the difference in weight have to be taken into consideration, but more important still in its effect is the method of hanging, whether bells are 'hung out, or 'tucked up,' with a consequent difference in the size of the wheels. Then, too, the length of rope has its effect, for, generally speaking, it is not possible to drive bells as fast when there is a long draught, as when there is a short one. Moreover, some bells, with other things more or less equal, seem naturally more 'sluggish' than others, but with any given ring of bells there is generally a limit within which they can be rung with the best effect from the listener's standpoint, and it is this standpoint that ringers ought constantly to bear in mind. We do not for one moment say that there is any harm in endeavouring to ring the quickest peal on the bells—so long as the striking is good—but it would be a far better thing to be able to say that it is the *best* peal ever rung on the bells.

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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, Jan. 17, 1923, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in C sharp.

FRED HAYES... ..	Treble	FRANK BOREHAM	7
RALPH COLES	2	JOHN EVANS	8
EDWARD R. COLES	3	JOHN GRANBURY... ..	9
CECIL C. MAYNE... ..	4	CECIL E. SMITH	10
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL... ..	5	JOHN C. TRUSS	11
EDWARD MARKHAM	6	JAMES BLACKMORE	Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by FRED HAYES.
Quickest peal on the bells.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 20, 1923, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE... ..	Treble	WILLIAM HEWETT	7
CHARLES T. COLES	2	JAMES E. DAVIS	8
*ALBERT D. STONE	3	KEITH HART... ..	9
WILLIAM J. KEMP	4	HAROLD W. CLARK	10
ALFRED H. PULLING... ..	5	WILLIAM J. NUDDS	11
REUBEN SANDERS	6	WILLIAM PYE	Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.
* First peal on 12 bells. W. J. Nudds has now rung every bell in the above tower to a peal of Stedman Cinques.

TEN BELL PEAL.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 20, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

HARRY N. WAY	Treble	ERNEST J. DOBBIE	6
ALBERT E. GASSON	2	WILLIAM SPICE	7
ERNEST SPILLER	3	LEONARD MANNERING	8
THOMAS MANNERING	4	CLR.-SGT. J. BENNET, R.M.	9
ALFRED W. TAWNEY	5	*LEWIS NEWMAN	Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by T. MANNERING.
* First peal of Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 lb. in A flat.

REV. WILLIAM C. PEARSON Treble	*PERCY K. PARKER	5
ALBERT A. FLEMING... ..	GEORGE A. FLEMING	6
CHARLES W. PARKER	CHARLES WOODCOCK... ..	7
†JOHN CROOKS	†JAMES ROSE	Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER. Conducted by G. A. FLEMING.
For calling, see Ropesight, p. 103. * First peal. † First peal in this method.

ALFRED BOWELL, CHURCH BELL FOUNDER, IPSWICH.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 0 qr. 23 lb.

*JOHN S. MORTON Treble	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 5
MRS. F. I. HAIRS 2	*CLR.-SGT. J. BENNETT, R.M. 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	†ISAAC EMERY 7
FRANK BENNETT 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

First peal of Superlative on the bells. * First peal in the method.
† 50th peal of Superlative. The band wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S 'ODD AND EVEN.' Tenor 8½ cwt.

HUBERT EDEN Treble	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 5
ARTHUR W. DIX 2	WILLIAM SEELEY 6
*HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 3	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 7
CHARLES N. LEMAN 4	FRANCIS A. SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT.

* First peal of Triples.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH AND BURY ST. EDMUNDS AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, Jan. 8, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	CHARLES CUTTING 5
HERBERT PIERCY 2	THOMAS FORD 6
CLEMENT MORE 3	ERNEST WHITING 7
GEORGE ARCHER 4	JOHN SOUTER Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by F. BORRETT.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, Jan. 8, 1923, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY PRICE Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS 5
JOHN BASS 2	JOHN LLOYD 6
*JOHN KENDALL 3	CHARLES E. PERKINS ... 7
WILLIAM POTTER 4	ROBERT GORDON Tenor

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal of Stedman. This peal was rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Rev. W. Jones, who was formerly, for 30 years, curate at this church, and was interred here on the above date. Mr. H. Price has now rung each of these bells to a peal.

HEADCORN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, 1923, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

*WILLIAM BROWN Treble	JOHN HEAD 5
HARRY BAKER 2	FREDERICK S. MACEY ... 6
PHILIP HODGKIN 3	BENJAMIN BAKER 7
THOMAS E. SONE 4	*GEORGE GRANT Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK S. MACEY.

* First peal and first attempt. The ringer of the 3rd, who belongs to the local band, has now completed a peal on each of the bells in this tower. Ringers of the treble, 6th and tenor hail from Smarden, and the 2nd, 4th, 5th and 7th from Staplehurst.

WALLINGFORD, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
(NORTH BERKS BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, Jan. 10, 1923, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

HARRY GREENOUGH Treble	ALFRED WEBB 5
JAMES BUTLER 2	BRUCE CORDEROY 6
FREDERICK JAMES 3	THOMAS BUSBY 7
CHARLES GREGORY 4	ROBERT ALDRIDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK JAMES.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY AND
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, Jan. 11, 1923, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

MRS. W. W. WOLSTENCROFT Treble	FRANK STONELEY 5
TOM WILDE 2	WILLIAM BRAMMER 6
MISS CISSY THORPE 3	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 7
BENJAMIN THORPE 4	THOMAS JACKSON Tenor

Conducted by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

Rung to celebrate the jubilee birthday of the treble ringer and the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wolstencroft.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, Jan. 11, 1923, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

LIEUT. J. BUTLER, 7th Royal Berkshire Regiment Treble	
SERG. W. V. WEBB, 1/4th Royal Berkshire Regiment 2	
PTB. W. J. NAPPER, Royal Army Ordnance Corps 3	
LIEUT. R. G. RICE, 108 Siege Battery, R.G.A. 4	
SERG. E. A. GREGORY, 28 Trench Mortar Battery, R.G.A. ... 5	
GUNNER F. H. ABBOTT, 135 Heavy Battery, R.G.A. 6	
F/LIEUT. J. S. NAPPER, D.C.M., No. 5, T.D. Squadron, R.A.F. 7	
CORPL. R. N. ALDRIDGE, 2nd Royal Berkshire Regiment ... Tenor	

Conducted by F/LIEUT. J. S. NAPPER.

First peal as conductor. All the above band served overseas during the great war, and were members of Royal regiments. This is believed to be the first peal ever rung under these conditions. The ringers are indebted to the Vicar (Capt. the Rev. H. A. Smith-Masters, R.A.C.D.) for the opportunity of making the attempt. Parishioners are generously erecting a commemorative tablet in the belfry.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, Jan. 12, 1923, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

EDWARD JENKINS Treble	ERNEST PALMER 5
WILLIAM BIBBY 2	JOHN E. BIBBY 6
HENRY C. COLLYER 3	FRANCIS BIBBY 7
GEORGE H. RANGLES 4	CECIL RADDON Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 102). Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal in the method on the bells, in the county, by all the band, and by the Guild with a resident band.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, Jan. 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY TOWER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

J. WILLIAM SMITH Treble	W. RICHARD DRAGE 5
JOHN SADDINGTON 2	JOSEPH BAILEY 6
HORACE F. STUBBS 3	EDWARD READER 7
JAMES S. HUTCHBY 4	A. CONINGSBY WRIGHT ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by A. C. WRIGHT.

Author's Peal No. 750, now rung for the first time. Arranged as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Bailey.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTS.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 11, 1923, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of St. John the Baptist,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt.

*HERBERT J. ELDRED... ..Treble	HARRY MILLER 5
GEORGE R. PYE... .. 2	Cecil V. EBBERSON 6
*HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 3	JOHN ARMSTRONG... .. 7
CHARLES LEMAN 4	REUBEN SANDERS... ..Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

* First peal in the method.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

J. HAIGHTreble	W. HAIGH 5
RICKS PAINE... .. 2	W. WALKER... .. 6
F. BELSEY 3	C. H. NORRIS 7
C. WINSOR 4	F. RICHARDSONTenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by F. RICHARDSON.

First peal in the method as conductor.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Mary and Lawrence,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

HERBERT E. ROBBINS... ..Treble	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 5
WILLIAM LAMBERT 2	CHARLES MASON... .. 6
J. E. L. COCKEY 3	JOHN T. BROTHWELL 7
EDWARD ROBBINS... .. 4	JOHN FLINTTenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

BURY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*JOHN HILLTreble	THOMAS WALLWORK 5
THOMAS COLLINGE 2	ROBERT WALLWORK 6
JAMES H. BANKS... .. 3	*WILLIAM MITCHELL 7
THOMAS ROLLERSON 4	*JOSHUA RAMSBOTTOMTenor

Composed by J. THORP.

Conducted by ROBERT WALLWORK.

* First peal in the method.

WIDNES, LANCASHIRE
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr.

BENJAMIN TREVITTTreble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 5
FREDERICK J. HANCOCK ... 2	JOHN ALLEN 6
*THOMAS C. LARKEY 3	EDWARD CAUNCE 7
THOMAS HAMMOND, JUN. ... 4	†JOHN WILKINSONTenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART, NO. II.

*PERCY DOICKTreble	WALTER CHARMAN 5
ALBERT FIEST 2	PETER CHARMAN... .. 6
*RAYMOND WOOD 3	WILLIAM STANFORD 7
*JAMES BURDFIELD 4	ALFRED CHARMANTenor

Conducted by WALTER CHARMAN.

* First peal in the method.

WHITTLESEA, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*VINCENT E. BUTLER... ..Treble	*WALTER G. CROSS 5
MISS PHYLLIS HARE 2	FRANK ROWLINSON 6
THOMAS R. VAUGHAN ... 3	FREDERICK T. COOKE 7
*SYDNEY E. WRIGHT 4	CHARLES T. P. BRICETenor

Composed by W. E. BASON.

Conducted by C. T. P. BRICE.

* First peal of Major on tower bells. The conductor, who hails from Pulham St. Mary's, was proposed a member of the Association before the peal.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, LEICESTER.)

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Four Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 7008 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

PERCY HARRISON... ..Treble	DET.-SGT. H. C. JENNEY ... 5
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 2	ERNEST MORRIS 6
ALFRED C. WRIGHT 3	HARRY BROUGHTON 7
JOHN OLDHAM 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTERTenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled on the anniversary of the dedication of the village war memorial.

RAWMARSH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb.

*ARCHIE MITCHELLTreble	*ELIJAH PAMMENTER 5
CLIFFORD WILSON 2	*GEORGE TUKE 6
SAM THOMAS 3	CHARLES R. WRIGHT 7
ALFRED G. STOCKS 4	T. COLIN RYDERTenor

Composed and Conducted by SAM THOMAS.

* First peal.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, S.E.,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

ARTHUR J. NEALETreble	†JEFFERY R. GAMMON 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	†JAMES BULLOCK... .. 6
*THOS. W. TAFFENDER, JUN. 3	GEORGE A. CARD 7
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 4	†ALBERT C. HARDYTenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by T. H. TAFFENDER.

* First peal. † First peal of Surprise on an 'inside' bell. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

FLIXTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE POWNALLTreble	TOM WILDE 5
EDWARD JENKINS... .. 2	JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW ... 6
MISS EMMA TONGE 3	ALLEN F. BAILEY 7
ALFRED BARNES 4	RICHARD F. DEALTenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal in the method on the bells. This was Miss Tonge's first peal of Double Norwich, and great credit is due to her for the splendid way she rang throughout.

GRESFORD, DENBIGHSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN HAYES... .. Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY... .. 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	ARTHUR WATKIN... .. 7
GEORGE R. JONES 4	JAMES H. RIDING... .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

The band wish to thank Mr. Williams for making arrangements, and the churchwarden for his kindness.

IDLE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr.

ERNEST H. SIMPSON... .. Treble	*RALPH UMPLEBY 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2	JOHN MCKELL 6
*FRED DAVISON 3	*WILLIAM FEATHER 7
PERCY J. JOHNSON 4	*HARRY FOSTER Tenor

Composed by REV. H. EARLE BOLWER. Conducted by P. J. JOHNSON.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

ECCLLES, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, Jan. 15, 1923, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOSEPH LOWE Treble	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 5
JOHN POTTER 2	ALLAN F. BAILEY 6
SAMUEL WOOD 3	HARRY CHAPMAN... .. 7
ERNEST CUTSFORTH 4	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. Oldfield, wife of Mr. Malcolm Oldfield, the chief ringer at the above church.

DEANE, BOLTON, LANCs.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, Jan. 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

TITUS BARLOW, JUN. Treble	FRED ABBOTT 5
LEONARD BARLOW 2	RICHARD P. HEALD 6
TITUS BARLOW, SEN. 3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY... .. 7
HAROLD ODDY 4	JOSEPH GREGORY Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by THOS. B. WORSLEY.

Rung by an entirely local company.

DISS, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, Jan. 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr.

FRANCIS S. WILSON Treble	ARTHUR LEEDER 5
*ALBERT G. HARRISON 2	WILLIAM IRELAND 6
JACK MOWLE 3	CLEMENT J. MORE 7
GEORGE ARCHER 4	JOHN SOUTER... .. Tenor

Composed by W. E. BASON. Conducted by C. J. MORE.

* First peal and first attempt. The above was specially rung on the 20th anniversary of Mr. F. S. Wilson's wedding day.

SIX BELL PEALS.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sunday, Dec. 31, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores in different callings. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*HENRY MALE Treble	*WILLIAM EVANS 4
*TREVOR JONES 2	EDGAR R. JONES 5
JAMES P. HYETT 3	JOSEPH T. MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by E. R. JONES.

* First attempt for a peal. Rung as a compliment to the conductor upon his birthday.

HOLT, DENBIGHSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Single Court, Double Court, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob.

WALTER THOMAS... .. Treble	ALBERT E. RICHARDS... .. 4
HENRY W. WILDE 2	WILLIAM CLARKE... .. 5
GEORGE JONES 3	JAMES MORGAN Tenor

Conducted by JAMES MORGAN.

Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to Mr. A. E. Richards.

LAXFIELD, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, Jan. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford and Plain Bob, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

*THOMAS REEVE Treble	ALFRED H. WATSON 4
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 2	JOHN HALL 5
JOHN GARRETT 3	HARRY HALL... .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY HALL.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods on the bells, which have been recently rehung and the tenor recast by Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd, who entertained the band to supper at the conclusion of the peal.

EAST BRIDGFORD, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Single Court, two of Oxford Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*HENRY CLOXTON Treble	*ARTHUR W. WARD 4
†R. CECIL BLAKEY 2	*HARRY BARNES 5
REV. C. J. STURTON 3	ARTHUR MACKEARS Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR MACKEARS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in three methods. H. Barnes was elected a member of the M.C.A. previous to starting for the peal.

MONKS RISBORO', BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores in 10 different callings.

FREDERICK NICHOLLS ... Treble	*GORDON STRATHELEE ... 4
AUBREY SEYMOUR 2	GEORGE SEYMOUR 5
*ARTHUR POULTON 3	*JACK POULTON Tenor

Conducted by G. SEYMOUR.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. First peal as conductor. Ringers of treble and 5th hail from Bledlow. The 2nd from Nyme St. George, Devon; the rest are local.

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GREAT REDUCTIONS.

Kindly write for Prices. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Estab. 1780.

DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham.

STANDON, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS Treble	SIDNEY CARTER 4
NATHAN PATMORE 2	ERNEST A. OVERALL 5
HENRY WALLACE 3	WILLIAM H. LAURENCE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LAURENCE.

EVERSHOLT, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr.

*GEORGE W. HELEY Treble	EDMUND J. HOBBS 4
*AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 2	*ARTHUR E. SHARMAN 5
*ALBERT FLEET 3	HORACE H. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by H. H. SMITH.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal on the bells since 1902.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Jan. 6, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and 360 each of Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Grandsire and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN BAYLIS Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 4
WILLIAM NIBLETT 2	SIDNEY T. HOLT 5
ERNEST GIBBS 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by C. CAMM.

First peal in 10 methods by all except ringer of the 4th. First in 10 methods on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

TYDD ST. GILES, LINCOLNSHIRE.
On Wednesday, Jan. 10, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*LEONARD MASON Treble	ARTHUR WIGMORE 4
JOHN FOSTER 2	BERT GOGLE 5
*JAMES PHILLIPS 3	FRED WIGMORE Tenor

Conducted by FRED WIGMORE.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

FREISTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 15½ cwt.

*ARNOLD BURCHNALL Treble	*WILLIAM BRADLEY 4
JOHN PHILLIPS 2	*FREDERICK LEGGOTT 5
ALEX. SHARP 3	ARTHUR H. PALMER Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR H. PALMER.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Treble Bob. This peal was arranged in honour of the marriage of Miss G. M. Deal and Mr. S. F. Stafforth, which took place at St. Nicholas' Church, Skirbeck, on that day. Mr. Stafforth is the Secretary for the Eastern Branch of the above Guild.

A HALF-PEAL.

At St. Thomas' Church, Lymington, on January 4th, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hour 32 mins.: E. Kerley 1, E. C. Elliott (conductor) 2, G. Tiller 3, R. Tiller 4, S. Clarke 5, R. Martin 6, J. W. Wells 7, J. Figgures 8. Longest touch by ringers of 3, 4 and 6.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.
THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

MISS K. MOORE Treble	DAVID J. NICHOLS 4
ROBERT G. BLACK 2	ARCHIE HENMAN 5
CHARLES W. BIRD 3	FREDERICK W. SAWFOOT ... Tenor

Conducted by DAVID J. NICHOLS.

First peal of Surprise Minor rung by the Association. Rung on the 21st birthday of Mr. A. Warren, one of the Weekley ringers.

HANDBELL PEALS.

GREAT HAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, Jan. 5, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

*MISS NELLY JOHNSON ... 1—2	†JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... 5—6
*GEOFFREY J. HEMMING ... 3—4	†JAMES HEMMING ... 7—8
*FREDRICK J. JOHNSON ... 9—10	

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. D. JOHNSON.

Umpire: JOHN HALL.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Treble Bob Royal. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor. First peal of treble ten 'in hand' by the Association, and rung at the fourth attempt. The composition (No. 304) is now rung for the first time.

LONG STANTON, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Jan. 9, 1923, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE VICARAGE.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

CHRISTOPHER WOOLLEY ... 1—2	WILFRID HOOTON ... 5—6
JOHN WOOLLEY ... 3—4	CHARLES COOK ... 7—8

Composed by JOHN HOLT. Conducted by JOHN WOOLLEY.

LONG STANTON, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, Jan. 11, 1923, in One Hour and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE VICARAGE.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Single Court, Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court & Double Oxford.

Tenor size 15 in C.

WILFRID HOOTON ... 1—2	JOHN WOOLLEY ... 3—4
CHRISTOPHER WOOLLEY ... 5—6	

Conducted by JOHN WOOLLEY.

Fastest peal by all.

LONDON.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, Jan. 13, 1923, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT 63A, OLD TOWN, CLAPHAM.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5082 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... 1—2	FRANK I. HAIRS ... 7—8
JOHN THOMAS ... 3—4	WILLIAM H. HEWITT ... 9—10
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 5—6	*GEORGE W. STEERE ... 11—12

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

Umpire: C. H. DOBBIE. Witnesses: MRS. PULLING & MRS. DOBBIE.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Hairs on the 7th anniversary of their wedding. First peal of Grandsire Cinques by the above Guild. * First peal of Cinques.

CAERPHILLY.—Llandaff and Monmouth Association.—On Wednesday evening, Dec. 13th, for Confirmation service, at St Martin's Church, 1,008 Stedman Triples, in 40 mins.: P. Jones 1, E. Dare 2, H. Broughton 3, A. E. Slater 4, F. Boucher 5, W. Pike 6, A. Addicott (conductor) 7, T. Love 8. Longest length by all except the 4th.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**NEW PRESIDENT ELECTED.**

A successful meeting was held at Christ Church, West Bromwich, on January 13th, when more than 50 members attended, representing towers of Bilston, Birmingham, Bradley, Brewood, Cannock, Erdington, Oldbury, Pelsall, Sedgley, Selly Oak, Smithwick, Swindon, Tipton, Walsall, Wellington, Willenhall, Wolverhampton, Wood Green, and the local towers. A short service was held in church, and a helpful address given by the Rev. F. Jones, who took for his text Ps. xvi. 8, 'I have set the Lord always before me; because He is at my right hand.'

A bountiful tea was prepared by local ringers' wives and friends in the Parish Hall.

The Archdeacon of Stafford (the Rev. Hugh Bright) made his acquaintance with the members, and in response to a request to become president of the society he readily acquiesced.

The Rev. C. H. Barker proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. J. Goodacre) for the use of the bells; to the Rev. F. Jones for his address; to the organist for his kindly help, and to the ladies for preparing and serving tea. This was received with acclamation.

The next meeting is provisionally arranged to take place at Cannock on April 14th.

LADIES' GUILD.**SOUTHERN DISTRICT.**

A quarterly meeting of the Southern district was held on Saturday, January 13th at St. Nicholas, Guildford. The Rector (the Rev. G. M. Wheeler) conducted the Guild service, and gave an extremely interesting address. Mr. Raddon kindly acted as organist. Twenty-six sat down to a tea at 'Pitcher's,' which was thoroughly enjoyed.

The business meeting was brief. Bramley was chosen for the next meeting, if possible, on April 16th. Miss E. K. Parker, who had telegraphed good wishes, was unable to attend through indisposition.

Ringling was enjoyed on the bells of St. Nicholas' Church.

LANCASHIRE RINGER'S DEATH.

At Holy Trinity Church, Ossett, on January 15th, after the funeral of the late Mr. Wilson Illingworth, two touches of 704 Kent Treble Bob Major, with the bells deeply muffled, were rung by his old comrades from Earlsheaton, Horbury, and others, who had known and esteemed him. A course of Plain Bob was rung on handbells at the graveside by the local company. The deceased passed away on Saturday, January 13th, after a long and painful illness.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.**JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER TO BE HELD
FEBRUARY 24th.**

The annual meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at St. Martin's Hotel, City, on January 9th, the Presiding Ringing Master, Mr. Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L., being in the chair.

The Secretary (Mr. A. Paddon Smith) announced that he had just learned that the chairman attained his 68th birthday on the previous day, and all present joined in wishing him 'Many happy returns.'

Congratulatory letters upon the Peal of Stedman Sextuples were read from Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent, and Mr. James George, the latter gentleman regretting he could not be present, as he left that day for Blackpool for a week's holiday.

All the Guild's officers were re-elected as follows:—President, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese; vice-presidents, Rev. Canon E. Grose Hodge, M.A., Rector of Birmingham; Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L., Messrs. W. H. Godden, John Carter, J. H. Shepherd, Wm. Kent and Thos. Russam; Presiding Ringing Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L.; Deputy Ringing Master, Mr. Albert Walker; trustees, Messrs. T. Russam and C. Dickens; auditors, Messrs. J. L. Wells and T. H. Reeves; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. Paddon Smith.

The balance sheet for the year 1922 was duly approved, Mr. Mansell reporting that he had audited the books, etc., with Mr. T. H. Reeves.

It was arranged to hold the next quarterly meeting at Aston, in April, and the 'Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner' at the Imperial Hotel, on Saturday, February 24th, at 6 o'clock. Arrangements for the latter will be advertised in the usual column in due course.

Several new members were elected and, routine business having been disposed of, the company was entertained by a course of 'Treble Fourteen' on the handbells by the ringers of the aforementioned peal of Stedman Sextuples.

A vote of thanks to the officers for their services during the past year, and to Mr. Alderman Pritchett for presiding at the meeting, brought the proceedings to a close.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Saturday, Nov. 25th, on the occasion of the laying of the foundation stone of the new Church Hall by the Duke of Northumberland, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: F. G. Goddard 1, A. Harding 2, T. Beadle 3, E. F. Cole 4, W. Lidbetter 5, A. Beckensale 6, G. Spencer (conductor) 7, H. Brooks 8.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The coming week marks the anniversary of the death of several ringers who played a noted part in ringing in their day and generation.

On January 29th, 1886, Henry Haley died at Bethnal Green, at the age of 66 years. Much could be written of Henry Haley's performances, but only one or two points from his ringing career can be given here. He rang altogether 182 peals, of which he conducted 155 and composed 105.

In his early days, with a band of youths, he 'lapped' a number of peals, 16 of which he conducted, including Stedman Cinques and Double Norwich Maximus.

When he took up tower bell ringing with the Cumberlands he composed and conducted his first peal, 5,079 Stedman Caters at Fulham, at the age of 23. He went to America in 1850 on a tune ringing engagement, and at Philadelphia, with his four companions and three other ringers, rang the first peal on the American continent.

In 1854 he joined the College Youths, and among his subsequent peals were 8,580 Stedman Cinques at Cornhill, 15,840 Treble Bob Major at Bethnal Green, 8,448 Treble Bob at Christ Church, Spitalfields (where the tenor is 33 cwt.), and a 'silent' peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) at St. Giles-in-the-Fields. He rang in the first peal in Ireland, and the first recorded peal in Scotland.

When it is remembered that he passed out of ringing nearly 40 years ago, it must be admitted that his record was a wonderful one, just as his ability as a ringer was far above the average.

One of the greatest of pioneers of ringing, Benjamin Annable, died on February 1st, 1756. It was recorded of Annable in Hearne's Diary, 1734, that he 'is judged to understand ringing as well as, if not better than, any man in the world.'

Henry Burstow, of Horsham, Sussex, who was famed for his knowledge of folklore songs as well as, in Sussex, for his ringing, died on January 30th, 1916, at the advanced age of 89. When well past his 80th year he could sing from memory over 400 songs. As a boy he knew the pinch of poverty, and despite a lifetime of hard work, he died as he had lived a poor but honest and honourable man.

On January 26th, 1865, that marvellous performer of 'tapping,' Elijah Roberts, committed suicide at Liverpool. Roberts never had an equal at his particular forte until Mr. Morris, of Harwich, came on the scene in recent years, and tapped peals in a number of methods.

A new record in juvenile performances has been made, we feel sure, by Wilfred Taffender, son of the Master of the London County Association. On Saturday week he scored his first peal, at the age of 15 years, by ringing a working bell to a peal of London Surprise Major! Peals in this method usually come to ringers only after years of patient work, and those who have made it their first peal are extremely few. To do this at the age of 15 is a performance upon which this young London ringer is heartily to be congratulated.

The reward of perseverance has certainly come none too soon to Mr. John Smith, of the York Town band, Surrey. He rang his first peal of Grandsire Triples last week at the 37th attempt! There was, doubtless, feeling in his comment, when the bells came round, 'At last!'

Following closely upon the 720 of Bob Minor rung by Messrs. W. Hooton and J. and C. Woolley in less than eleven minutes, comes the report of a peal, comprising seven 720's rung by the same band, in the remarkable time of 63½ minutes. This is at the rate of 79.37 changes per minute. One thing seems pretty certain there could not have been any trips.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the Council will be held on May 22nd (Whit Tuesday) next, at Salisbury. Full particulars of the meeting will be published later. Notice of any proposed motion should be sent before April 21st.

Secretaries please note that the annual subscription is now due, and should be sent to the hon. secretary, Mr. E. Alexr. Young, 155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

NEW PEAL FOR COLLATON, DEVON.

Orders have been given to the famous West of England firm, Messrs. W. Aggett and Sons, Church Bell Works Chagford, for the erection of a peal of bells at St. Mary's Church, Collaton, Devon. The bells are to be fixed on the most modern principles, and hung on the firm's patent adjustable bearings.

The bells will be inscribed with the names of the men of the parish who fell in the great war. The work, it is hoped, will be completed by Lady Day.

Messrs. Aggett and Sons also hope to commence the peal of bells, at Ulsington, during the next fortnight.

BALL BEARINGS FOR BELLS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I was interested in your two articles dealing with the conference between the Central Council and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, and while, I think, most ringers will consider the result satisfactory, many would like to know how the conference arrived at one or two of its decisions. I have in mind the paragraph (which you rightly call 'significant'), stating that 'with regard to bearings, it is doubtful if any advantage is gained by the use of ball bearings.'

Is this conclusion the result of experiment, or of observations made by men well versed in the mechanics of bell hanging? Or is it a casual dismissal (one hardly likes to suggest it) by a body chiefly composed of architects and archaeologists, of a subject with which they are not very familiar?

I have no prejudice in favour of ball bearings, knowing that bearings of the old type have so often proved efficient. But at the present time, when ball bearings are widely used, for almost every class of machine, and frequently for heavy duties, the decision of the conference provides food for thought.

The advantages of ball bearings are obvious—the chief being easiness of running, and freedom from lubrication troubles. I have certain ideas as to possible disadvantages. One, I think, would show itself in unequal wear upon the balls and races, due to the fact that under normal conditions, a bell only turns little more than one complete revolution for each stroke. Consequently, as the balls can never travel completely around the bearing, some must continually sustain more weight than others, and will not bear equally upon all parts of the inner and outer races. For this reason, ball bearings might not stand the test of time so well as some plain bearings, or those in which the 'brasses' are easily renewed.

In the case of a tower where there is much oscillation, ordinary ball bearings would work under conditions for which they are not designed, as there would be 'end thrust' to deal with. I am not sure whether it is customary to use 'thrust bearings' in such cases—these would overcome any difficulty, probably at an increased cost.

When dealing with heavy bells, centrifugal force would no doubt have to be considered, except when 'tucking up' to an abnormal extent is resorted to, as in many Continental and American bells.

I believe many would like to read the opinions of some ringers who have considered the subject from a purely mechanical point of view. Possibly Mr. E. H. Lewis or Mr. Hesse could enlighten us, thereby earning the thanks of myself and other seekers after knowledge.—Yours faithfully,

RICHARD F. DEAL.

Manchester.

SIMPSON TUNING.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I was very pleased to read in 'The Ringing World' of January 19th both Mr. E. Barnett's remarks on the 'howling' of bells tuned on the 'Simpson principle,' and also the advice of the Central Council and Protection of Ancient Buildings Conference as to ball bearings and other modern fads in bell hanging.

With regard to the former matter, all the ringers I have met, who have rung on, or heard, bells tuned on the Simpson principle have complained of this dismal howling. But what I most deplore is, that to produce bells tuned thus, so many mediæval bells—and good modern bells, too—have been sacrificed. Not only this, but an enormous amount of money has been unnecessarily spent on such fads, and at a time when money is so urgently needed for other church purposes of more importance.

As to ball bearings and other modern fads in bell hanging, as I have often remarked before, many of these may be an apparent success when first installed; but what will they be a few years hence, if not properly looked after and renewed from time to time? People seem to forget that a bell is not like an engine or a motor-car, which is constantly overhauled. When a bell is once properly hung she is supposed to go for an indefinite time, with a little oil when required, and an occasional screwing up of bolts and nuts in a very dry season. Besides this, any bell up to, say, two tons, can be hung on the old plan to go perfectly well for all ordinary purposes.—Yours, etc.,

J. R. JERRAM.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**CHANGE OF OFFICERS IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT.**

The Southern District's annual meeting was held at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, on Saturday last. Ringing took place from shortly after 4 p.m. until 8 o'clock. The methods rung included Bob Minor, Stedman Triples and Caters, Grandshire Caters, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Cambridge Major and Royal, some twenty members attended during the evening.

At the business meeting which followed the ringing, three new members were elected. The Master, Mr. W. Pickett, and secretary, Mr. F. A. Smith, both resigned, and Mr. H. Mance and Mr. F. W. Goodfellow were respectively elected to these offices. Thanks were accorded to the resigning officers, to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. W. Driver for having the bells in readiness, and for his kindness extended to the association during 1922.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS' DINNER.**A HAPPY GATHERING.**

As briefly recorded in our last issue, the second annual dinner of the Bristol United Guilds was held on January 13th, at the Grand Hotel. The Master (Mr. G. Gould, of Henbury) presided, and the guest of the evening was the Archdeacon of Bristol. The company numbered about 120, and among those present were the Rev. M. E. Thorold (Vicar of St. Philip's, vice-chairman), Mr. E. Guise (hon. secretary, St. James'), and Mr. P. C. Williams (hon. treasurer, St. Philip's), Messrs. J. Carter, S. Roper (London), J. W. Jones (hon. sec., Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association), A. Walker, A. Withers, J. R. Smallwood, E. F. Allaway (Birmingham), E. E. Burgess, W. Cording (Taunton), W. T. Pates (Cheltenham), P. W. Cave (Southampton), J. Prescott (Bath), J. Higginbotham (Devizes), T. King (Bath), J. T. Dyke (Midsomer Norton) and H. Babb (Chew Magna).

After the loyal toast had been honoured, the Master gave a hearty welcome to the Archdeacon of Bristol, and said their gathering that evening spoke of the fellowship existing between ringers, in contrast to the spirit which prevailed forty or more years ago, when there was a coldness, estrangement, and sometimes hostility among ringers.

Mr. Henry T. Howell, proposing 'The Church,' claimed to be a Churchman of some 50 years' standing. He first learned change ringing at Thornbury, and on removing to Bristol was at once called upon to continue. Fifty years ago there were many abuses in the belfry, but when the position was put to the ringer as to whether he would take bottles and cups into the chancel or vestry things quietly changed, and there were no abuses to-day. Continuing, he said the Church seemed to be passing through a crisis. There was an undercurrent working against them, and it behoved the clergy, laymen and ringers to pull together.

The Archdeacon of Bristol (who was heartily received), replying, addressed the company as fellow ringers. He said he spoke on behalf of everyone present, for they were all the Church. He began bell ringing at Cricklade in one of the tallest towers in England, where the bell ropes stretched a foot before one got the bell (laughter). In these days ringers were very important people, and their association showed that they intended to maintain that position. He suggested that it was not bell ringing, but its purpose they should remember. He wished they would make people understand what bell ringing stood for. They should ring not for the sake of ringing, but to make it a voice of the Church calling people to church and join in their joys; and, by muffled peals, show their sympathy with those who were bereaved; to make the people feel that ringers were leaders, that ringing was a science and used for the glory of God. He wished every success to the association (applause).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL LACKING IN BELLS.

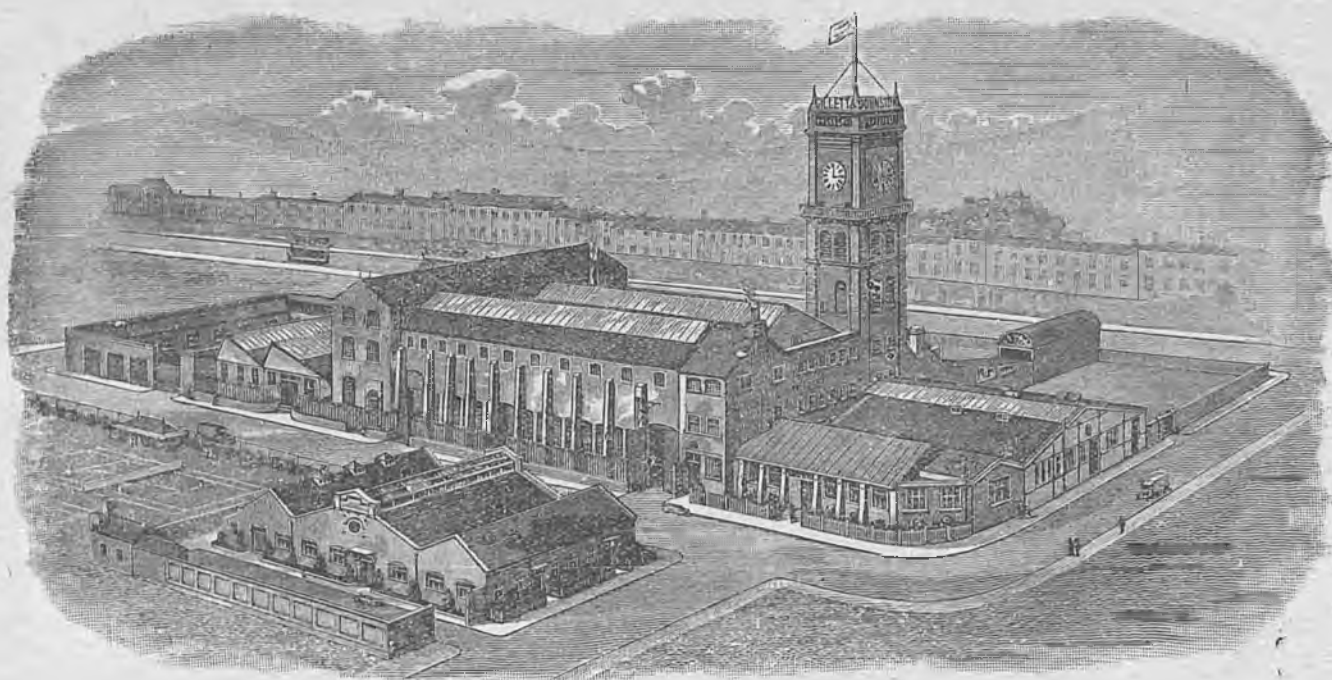
Mr. Albert Walker submitted 'The Gloucester and Bristol Association.' He said the association held first rank among kindred societies in this ringing isle. Forty-five years ago the association was formed, and was a pioneer organisation in improving change ringing and reforming the ringing chambers. The speaker mentioned the names of several outstanding pioneers and members past and present. Among them were the Rev. E. Banks James, the composer of the 'Bristol Surprise.' Any who could ring that could ring anything (hear, hear). The speaker mentioned the names of several present, and referred to their skill and work. There was plenty of scope for the younger men, who had many splendid examples to follow (hear, hear). They should endeavour to maintain the high traditions of the association. Over 300 ringers from the association went to the war, and 60 never returned. Memorial bells had been erected at Berkeley. Members had assisted to ring several famous peals, including peals on the bells of Hereford, Wells, and Exeter Cathedrals. Bristol was a city of churches, bells and ringers. The ambition of all was to have 12 bells and 12 bell practices (hear, hear). He suggested that the bells of St. Nicholas should be brought up to 12, as at Redcliff Church. It was curious that Bristol Cathedral had not a ring of bells—a thing nearly unique among cathedrals. It was a black mark to the city. Modern methods of hanging almost enabled brick walls to carry bells, hence a ring could be placed in the central tower; if not there, one of the western towers. He hoped such a ring would be provided (hear, hear).

Mr. E. Guise (hon. secretary) responding, said he was proud to be hon. secretary of the Bristol United Guilds because the members were a most loyal lot of fellows. Members were always ready to respond to anything which was taking place. For the Berkeley memorial bells the money was readily raised. The association was moving forward with rapid strides. It ought to have support from the vestries, especially as ringers came from every class—including the clergy and churchwardens—and recognise them as an important part of the Church. There were 200 towers with bells in the dioceses of Bristol and Gloucester. He thought the association might take credit for the reformation that had been wrought in belfries. They had had great support from the local press. He thought the Central Council should embody the idea of a Royal Society of Campanologists, which would encourage the study and practice of change ringing.

The Rev. M. E. Thorold gave 'Kindred Guilds and Associations.' The words, he said, had a pleasant ring about them. It reminded

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

ESTABLISHED 1844.



ROYAL EXCHANGE, 1921.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921.

THE CROYDON BELL FOUNDRY

CARISBROOKE, 1921.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921

him of the old saying that unity is strength. They must have unity among ringers or failure would result (hear, hear). He had been a ringer for 41 years. It did not follow that they must be active ringers to belong to an association. To join brought them hosts of friends (hear, hear). Guilds sometimes made things lively, and friendly rivalry did so. Therefore he wished health and prosperity to all guilds and associations, and might they never be short of a man at the end of a rope when he was wanted.

Mr. J. W. Jones (Newport) and Mr. J. Prescott (Bath) responded. The other toasts were 'The Press,' proposed by the Rev. E. J. Phillips, and 'The Artistes,' given by Mr. W. A. Cave.

The banquet was followed by a social and concert, the artistes being Mrs. F. Howell, Mrs. W. Sowden, Miss Edith Hill, Miss Read, Messrs. P. W. Cave, Lloyd Williams, Charlie Thomas, J. Houe, D. Llewellyn, W. J. Southwood, Herbert V. Spiller, W. S. Emery, and F. Rawlings. C. Read and the St. Thomas' Guild contributed handbell selections. The evening concluded with 'Auld Lang Syne.'

During Saturday and on Sunday members and visitors rang touches on the bells of the churches of Redcliff, St. James, St. Nicholas, St. John and St. Philip's.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION. NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT.

A very successful quarterly meeting was held at Kingsthorpe on Saturday last, over 40 members attending from Northampton, Moulton Milton, Hardingstone, Harlestone, Weston Favell, Collingtree, Pitsford, Flore, Gulsborough, etc., and the local ringers. The bells, a heavy peal of six, were rung to the methods of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

Evensong was read by the Vicar (the Rev. J. P. de Patron), assisted by the vice-president (the Rev. J. White, Pitsford).—The Vicar, addressing those present, gave the ringers a very warm welcome to Kingsthorpe, taking his text from Psalm xix. 3, 'There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.' Very forceful and interesting were the Vicar's words, showing the ringers what an important office they filled in the church. He asked them not to take too much notice of what was appearing in the local Press regarding church bell ringing, and added that he was very pleased to see so many young men taking an interest in change ringing.

A collection for the Belfry Repairs Fund amounted to 10s. Mr. Shaw, a Kingsthorpe ringer, very ably presided at the organ.

Tea was served in the Parish Rooms, very nicely prepared by the ringers' wives.

The meeting followed, the vice-president being in the chair.—Two new members were elected, viz., Mr. F. H. Bowers, Northampton, and Mr. Shurley, Burton, Leicester.

A discussion on the advisability of altering the date of the annual general meeting from Whit Monday did not meet with the approval of the members present.

Cogenhoe was chosen for the next quarterly meeting, on April 14th, and Harlestone for a special meeting on March 3rd.

Mr. Law proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, and to all those who made the meeting so successful.—Mr. B. O. Soden seconded, and this was carried unanimously.—Mr. Dunkley replied for the ringers.

Further ringing was indulged in, and everyone present thought it was one of the best meetings in the district's history.

PONTEFRACT RINGERS' SOCIAL.

On Friday, January 5th, the ringers of the Parish and All Saints' Churches held their annual dinner and social. They are very fortunate on these occasions to combine with a concert party, locally known as 'the Pomfritters,' and this very largely helps to make the socials the great success they prove to be. Ringers, singers and friends, to the number of 52, enjoyed an excellent repast at the Red Lion Hotel. At the social the chair was occupied by Mr. J. Watkinson, an old All Saints' ringer, supported by the Mayor (Ald. Hubbard), the Rev. J. W. Capron (Vicar of the Parish Church), and the Revs. A. G. Shipley and D. T. Berry (Vicar and curate, respectively, of All Saints' Church), Mr. R. Wordsworth (churchwarden), Ald. Holmes, Councillor Hutchinson, and also Mr. C. D. Polter, of Barnsley, an ever-welcome visitor. Several toasts were cordially honoured. 'The Clergy' was proposed by the chairman, and responded to by the Vicars.

As the Vicar of the Parish Church is leaving Pontefract very shortly to take up duty as Vicar of St. Mary's, Scarborough, the occasion was thought by the ringers to be a suitable opportunity to present him with some little acknowledgment of the very hearty support he gave them when the question of the recasting and rehanging of the bells came before the parishioners some four years ago, and also for the many expression of goodwill shown towards them during his five years' vicariate at Pontefract. The gift took the form of a gold-mounted meerscham pipe in case, with a silver bell-shaped inscription. The presentation was made by Mr. W. Pearson, on behalf of the ringers, and the gift was feelingly acknowledged by the Vicar.

Music and recitations were then freely indulged in, interspersed with courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters upon the handbells, until time brought to its close another happy evening.

THIRTY METHODS IN SEVEN EXTENTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—We would offer heartiest congratulations to the Norbury band upon their feat in ringing seven true extents, containing thirty methods, and we would ask if the method used in splicing is a 'state secret,' as we feel that six-bell ringers generally would be interested to see figures.

Whilst touching upon Minor methods, may we suggest there be published, serially or otherwise, the names of all those in the Central Council's 'Collection,' now that they are all named, or perhaps the committee will print a slip for sale, which might well embody the bob and single leads of each, i.e., the lead end shown as a call? Our experience is, that a beginner, endeavouring to scale out a method from a lead, finds great difficulty in determining how a call should be made, more especially if the construction differs from those methods to which he is used. We commend this to the notice of those responsible, when the publication of the Major methods is under consideration.

We have noticed, months back, peals of Surprise Minor published in your paper, which contain 'Superlative,' presumably No. 42 on page 41, which (according to preface, page 10) will not produce the extent of the changes.—Yours faithfully,

G. DAWSON,

Hon. Secretary, St. John the Baptist's Association,
Leytonstone.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Gainsborough district was held at Gainsborough on Saturday last, a good number of ringers being present from Stow, Messingham, Corringham, Bigby, Seunthorpe, Lincoln, Workop and Ordsall, in addition to the local company. The bells of the Parish Church were available, and kept going to the methods of Grandsire, Stedman and St. Clement's Triples, Flain Bob, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Little Bob and Forward Major. Evensong was said at 4 p.m., at which the Rev. E. V. Clapton officiated. An excellent tea was provided at No. 6, Spital Terrace, and was followed by the business meeting.

The Rev. C. A. Greensmith, in the unavoidable absence of the vice-president (Canon Standen) presided, and was supported by Mr. F. F. Linley (president of the Northern Branch), and the Rev. E. V. Clapton. The Rev. J. Barber, Rector of Stow, was also amongst the number present during the afternoon.

The Chairman, on behalf of the Vicar and churchwardens, gave the Guild a very hearty welcome to Gainsborough. Mr. Arthur Bell, of Stow, was elected a member.

The whole of the officers were re-appointed with the exception of Mr. J. T. Ladd, who wished to resign as a member of the Northern Branch Committee. Mr. H. Morgan was elected as his successor.

The following places, subject to the consent of the incumbents, were chosen for district meetings during the ensuing year: Lea, April 14th; Stow, May 12th; Messingham, June 8th; Willingham, July 14th; Corringham, August 11th; Brigg, September, and Kirton-Lindsey, October, the dates for the last two meetings being left open to the discretion of the district secretary, and others, subject to slight alterations.

A hearty welcome was accorded to the members from outside the district, and acknowledged by Mr. H. Haigh, of Workop.—Votes of thanks to the church authorities for the use of the bells, and the Revs. E. V. Clapton and C. A. Greensmith for taking the service and presiding at the meeting, respectively; also Mr. and Mrs. T. Whelpston and the members of their family for the very efficient way in which they attended to the wants of those present at tea, were unanimously passed. Afterwards the members returned to the tower for further ringing. The best thanks of the members are also due to Mr. W. E. Mawditt for his very kind assistance on this and previous occasions.

FIRST 720's.

The band at St. Leonard's, Aldington, Sussex, are still adding fresh Surprise methods to their repertoire. In addition to those already published they rang on Tuesday, January 16th, 720 Bristol Surprise Minor: R. S. Cherryman 1, G. Steele 2, F. Trusler 3, A. Cherryman 4, A. White (conductor) 5, R. Stredwick 6. This was the first in the method by all the band, and on the bells, as was also 720 Norfolk Surprise Minor, which was recently rung by R. S. Cherryman 1, R. Stredwick 2, F. Trusler 3, A. Cherryman 4, A. White 5, W. White (conductor) 6.

A FAST 720.

At Long Stanton, Cambs, on January 5th, during an attempt for a peal of Minor, at the Church of All Saints, 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor was rung in 18 mins.: Rev. H. B. Woolley 1, Fred Cook 2, Christopher Woolley 3, George Crisp 4, Charles W. Cook 5, John Woolley (conductor) 6. This is the fastest 720 on the bells, the rate of ringing being 40 changes per minute.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

NORTHFIELD, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, January 21st, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: C. Webb 1, W. B. Cartwright 2, P. O. Laffin (conductor) 3, W. H. Ball 4, S. Grove 5, J. Withers, senr., 6.

TEYNHAM, KENT.—On Sunday, January 21st, for evening service, a date touch of Minor (1,923 changes), in 1 hour and 2 mins., being 600 College Single, 541 Plain Bob, 422 Oxford Bob, and 360 Canterbury Pleasure: V. Page 1, C. Tumber 2, E. W. Gambell 3, E. W. Tumber 4, E. Hodges 5, W. Nye (conductor) 6.

HEMEL, HEMPSTEAD.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Jan. 21st, for the morning service, 360 Oxford Bob Minor: R. Walker 1, H. Gates 2, W. Floyd 3, J. Floyd 4, W. Shepherd (conductor) 5, H. Golding 6, E. Lee 7 (covering).—For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: R. Walker 1, W. H. Newell 2, H. Gates 3, W. Floyd 4, J. Floyd 5, W. Shepherd (conductor) 6, H. Golding 7.

LINCOLN.—At St. Peter-at-Gowt's Church, on Sunday, January 21st, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: F. Walker (first of Treble Bob) 1, G. Collins 2, R. H. Hurst 3, H. Lowman 4, W. Bettles 5, W. H. Lloyd (conductor) 6.

STOKE-ELY-CLARE.—On Sunday, Jan. 21st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: H. Perkins 1, W. Underwood (cond.), 2, B. Ince 3, B. W. Pettitt 4, A. Catterwell 5, T. Slater 6. Also another 720 of Oxford: H. Perkins 1, F. Kemp 2, F. Johnson 3, W. Underwood (conductor) 4, A. Catterwell 5, G. Moore 6.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, Jan. 21st, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: A. Layton 1, C. Layton 2, R. Lewis 3, C. Bowers 4, G. Lewis (conductor) 5, J. Jordan 6. First 720 in the method on the bells by a local band.

BWHURST, SURREY.—On Sunday, January 21st, at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, for morning service, a 720 Oxford Single Bob: J. Rose 1, E. R. Warner (first 720 away from treble) 2, W. Denyer 3, W. Tidy 4, H. Tidy 5, T. W. Denyer (conductor) 6.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At the Church of St. John the Evangelist, on Sunday, January 21st, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. W. Pannett 1, J. Crowder 2, H. James (Lee) 3, R. A. Foadike 4, T. A. Easterby 5, E. J. Pannett 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8. This was rung as a farewell quarter to the Vicar (the Rev. W. F. Jepson).

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, January 21st, for evensong, at St. Mary's, 567 Stedman Triples: F. W. Rogers (conductor) 1, T. K. Taylor 2, C. Groves 3, J. J. Symons 4, W. Tate 5, R. J. Stone 6, J. D. Harris 7, E. J. Harding, senr., 8. Composed by W. Shepherd. —Recently, for practice, 448 Double Norwich: J. J. Symons 1, F. S. Bayley 2, F. A. Burnett 3, T. R. Taylor 4, W. Tate 5, F. W. Rogers 6, J. D. Harris 7, E. J. Harding, senr. (conductor) 8. Also two courses of Cambridge Surprise Major.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, Jan. 21st, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: F. G. Goddard 1, T. Beadle 2, G. Spencer 3, J. Milner 4, A. Harding 5, A. Beckensale (longest touch of Stedman) 6, C. J. Tricker (conductor) 7, H. Brooks 8.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—At All Saints' Church, on the evening of Jan. 21st, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Francis Kingston Biggs (a member of the Wycombe belfry), 1,259 Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins.: A. J. Boing 1, R. Coles 2, F. Hayes 3, Jas. W. Wilkins (composer and conductor) 4, G. Twitche 5, S. T. Goodchild 6, G. White 7, E. R. Coles 8, J. Granbury 9, W. H. Plumridge 10.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, January 20th, at St. Mary's Parish Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes), in 48 mins.: H. A. Harding 1, J. E. Churchill 2, A. M. Stacey 3, *G. W. Stevens 4, J. H. Hunnisett 5, H. J. Hunnisett 6, F. W. Goodfellow 7, L. H. Page (conductor) 8. * First quarter-peal in the method, and on inside bell. For evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), from Holt's Original, in 44 mins.: J. H. Hunnisett 1, F. W. Goodfellow (conductor) 2, L. H. Page 3, *G. W. Stevens 4, A. H. Fulwell 5, A. M. Stacey 6, H. J. Hunnisett 7, C. Cooper 8. * First quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on an 'inside' bell.

HARWELL, BERKS.—On the Feast of Epiphany, 720 Bob Minor: W. V. Webb 1, J. Butler 2, W. Hitchman 3, V. R. Hitchman 4, R. G. Rice (conductor) 5, J. S. Napper 6. Also 216 Grandsire Minor, 240 Stedman Doubles, and six-stores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles.

ST. PETER'S, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—For evening service, on Sunday, January 7th, 1,260 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. Ballard 1, F. White 2, G. Thompson 3, Miss D. Orlebar 4, W. Collison 5, A. Richardson 6, W. Latter 7, S. H. Green (conductor) 8.

KEIGULEY.—At St. Andrew's Church, for evening service, on Jan. 7th, in 42 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: J. Hoeg 1, H. Thorpe (conductor) 2, E. Green 3, R. Bottomley 4, J. Hall 5, R. W. Jennison 6, A. Jackson 7, J. Coulton 8.

WEST EALING, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Stephen's Church, on Sunday, Dec. 31st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: F. S. Palmer, junr., 1, H. Belcher 2, O. Edwards 3, P. E. Clark 4, A. R. Macdonald (conductor) 5, E. Harris 6, E. J. Walsom 7, F. S. Palmer, senr., 8.

WHAT DOES DIOCESAN MEAN?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—In his last three letters Mr. Burton evidently believes in giving us news. It is always so interesting to hear what you have been doing especially when you had no idea of it. And as the news comes from over fifty miles away, of course, it simply must be true. Moreover, as Mr. Burton lives in Norfolk, he must know accurately what we Suffolk people have been doing, and not only what is good for us, but what we want, much better than we do ourselves.

But if the contents of his letters are wonderful, much more wonderful are the omissions. I wrote a letter asking what does 'Diocesan' mean? In a letter which he tells us is a 'reply,' so that we may make no mistake about it, he does not answer the question at all. I will, therefore, answer it myself. It means belonging to a bishop as regards the area of his See, just as 'episcopal' means belonging to a bishop as regards himself personally.

In fact, 'Diocesan' means 'Bishop's,' and it would be much better if we used the latter word in many ways. The two are often quite interchangeable; thus I could well say that Mr. Burton would never dare to find fault with or to dictate to his own Diocesan (meaning the Bishop of Norwich), as he does to ours.

That being so, is it not absurd for three gentlemen in Norfolk to arrange for our Bishop as to what his Association is to be; and when he remonstrates with them to insist that they will constitute his Society for him; and still persist in it in your columns, to the immense amusement of the whole of Christendom?

I would not for worlds spoil his pretty tale from Norwich, and besides it cannot be nearly so interesting to hear what we thought we had ourselves been doing; but as there are some misguided people who prefer the Suffolk history of Suffolk to the Norfolk history of Suffolk, I will shortly recite the true but prosaic facts thereof.

A couple of years ago, some Suffolk ringers, who had for many years been wanting a local Association, decided to make a start. The See being then vacant, there was no Bishop to arrange a Diocesan Association; and to begin with they called it a County Association. When there was a new Bishop they asked me to approach him as to whether he would consent to a Diocesan Association being formed. He agreed to this, and (as I was anxious he should) he also agreed to continue as patron of the old Association. Our idea was that ultimately there would be a union of two Diocesan societies. If the Norwich Association were already this, as Mr. Burton says it is, there would clearly be no further conflict. At that time, however, the old Association had, two years before, deliberately dropped the word 'Diocesan' from its title; and it was not until the next year (1922) that any proposal was made that such a word should be used by it. Therefore, instead of it being four months earlier (as Mr. Burton states), it was several months later in using the word than the newer Association. At the next meeting of the new Association the secretary of the Suffolk Branch of the old Association attended, as he told us, as the representative of the old Association. He was told by the chairman in clear and definite language of the annoyance of the Bishop at the old Association using the term Diocesan without consulting him. The Secretary of the Suffolk Branch expressed his great sorrow that they had annoyed the Bishop, and promised that the Association would fall in with his wishes in the matter. This, of course, was quite the right thing to do. Unfortunately, however, this promise was only made to a Bishop; and as the Norfolk men seem to think that, if they call themselves Diocesan, they are above the Bishop, they proceeded to break it. Of course, the Bishop resigned from their society; what else could he do?

I have not seen the Bishop on the matter (since that meeting), so I know no more of his mind than your readers do, but as he chose for us exactly the same title as the old society pretends to, he clearly means us to understand that there can only be one genuine Diocesan Society in one Diocese; that he is the only person to say which is the Diocesan Society, and that he has in this case said that the new Association is it. After this there is nothing more that our Norfolk friends can do, whatever they may write or say; they can only succeed in making themselves ridiculous. They are not so much as entitled to say that they are Diocesan even for Norfolk, for it is quite certain that the Bishop of Norwich will not allow the new title to be used merely to defy his brother Bishop.

After this, it is useless to add that the new title has been illegally adopted, according to the rules; and that the old Association has no legal right to any of its property or any of its peals.

This brings us to the most extraordinary omission in Mr. Burton's 'reply.' My argument was that the new title lends itself to fraud, and that peals rung under it were rung under false pretences. Will it be believed that Mr. Burton does not refer to this at all? He would refuse to ring a peal in which he knew there was a false change, still more one in a false method; but the much more important matter of a false title does not trouble him at all. It is not only making all the members of the old society ridiculous now, but it is entering on the records, statements which will make the ringers of these peals ridiculous for all posterity. People will wonder why the old society should pretend that their peals are rung by the new one.

Mr. Burton makes the unfounded statement that our Bishop has deserted the majority of his ringers. It is the old Association which is trying to alienate its old supporters; it has already alienated all the clergy in Suffolk, except one who is bound to the old Association by his many ringing records; and it has illegally expelled from its committee the only two active Suffolk members there. Mr. Burton also says, 'It is greatly to be regretted that when the present Bishop came to the Diocese he did not adopt the bold course of becoming patron of his ringers both East and West.' What Mr. Burton means I cannot imagine, as he knows quite well that for the first year of his episcopate, Dr. David was patron of both Associations, and only left the old one when they as good as told him they did not want him.

Just as Mr. Burton is quite wrong in all his references to our Bishop, so he is in all those referring to the new Association. There has been no demand for the surrender of the East Suffolk members (I suppose he is referring to the tinkered document to which Mr. Coleman affixed my 'signature.' This is more Norfolk history of Suffolk). In Suffolk there have been no 'failures' of 'expectations,' or of anything else; everything has gone according to plan; no form of any kind of 'coercion,' no 'impasse,' and no 'bitterness.' We are all friends together in Suffolk, and ringing together just as we have always done. In spite of what Mr. Burton says, there is no Suffolk ringer but regrets that our old Association is so foolishly defying the Bishop. We do not like being put into such a ridiculous position, but there are worse things to bear even that ridicule.

Of course, if our Norfolk friends have been trying to absorb the strange things that have been written in the Norfolk history of Suffolk, they may well be suffering from indigestion, and from bitterness, too. It is to be hoped that they will for the future eschew those sensational mixtures, and return to the genuine and healthful true Suffolk brew.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

THE TITLE 'DIOCESAN.'

Dear Sir,—I tender to Mr. Burton an apology for my mistakes in chronology, but they do not affect the general argument. Mr. Burton has himself made an important omission. In his account of the sequence of events, which is doubtless correct in other points, the concluding paragraph reads as follows: 'May 26th, p. 327.—The Bishop announces his decision to change title to St. E. and I.' Here Mr. Burton has omitted the words 'Diocesan Association' after 'St. E. and I.' It should read 'The Bishop announces his decision to change title to St. E. and I. Diocesan Association of Ringers.'

This, of course, decides the matter, for in all diocesan affairs the Bishop is the final court of appeal. Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to his being well advised, there can be no question as to his authority.

It is very satisfactory to observe that Suffolk towers affiliated to Norwich have dropped the 'Diocesan' in their reports of peals to this week's 'Ringing World,' thus taking one step towards a settlement. There is one accomplished band, however, which shows a true appreciation of the real position by reporting under 'Norwich and Ipswich Association.' To this title no exception can be taken, and I believe that the general adoption of this or a similar title would allay any misapprehension, and solve the problem for good and all.

H. B. WOOLLEY.

Yours truly,

Long Stanton.

THE BISHOP'S APPEAL.

The Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, in a New Year letter to his clergy, says with regard to the St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Association:—

'There has recently been formed a Diocesan Association, of which I am patron, the Archdeacon of Sudbury, president, and the Rev. H. Drake, of Ufford, secretary. It is much to be desired that all our ringers should belong to it. But many in East Suffolk prefer their old allegiance to the Norwich Association, which is naturally unwilling to let them go, and has added "St. Edmundsbury" to its name. I do not suggest that any great pressure should be used in favour of our own organisation, which is bound to win its way in time, but I should be glad if incumbents would use their influence for its benefit as opportunity offers. I understand that there are a great number of cracked bells in the Diocese, and that this is caused by the clapper being tied by a cord so that it does not hang free to rebound at the moment of striking. This is done to allow the bell to be struck more easily. I trust that this dangerous practice will be discontinued, and that every care will be taken to protect our bells, which form a valuable piece of church property.'

DUKE OF YORK'S BETROTHAL.

In honour of the engagement of H.R.H. the Duke of York and Lady Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, the Oxford Society rang, on Tuesday, Jan. 16th, at the Church of St. Ebbe, a half-peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor (2,520 changes), in 1 hour 20 minutes: H. Tolley 1. F. E. Taylor 2. W. Harris 3. H. Miles 4. F. Clinkard 5. W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor) 6.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Ringing at St. Mary's (10 bells) 2.30 to 6 p.m. and St. Peter's (10 bells) 4 to 6 p.m. Business meeting in St. Peter's tower 4.45 p.m. There will be a short service in St. Mary's Church 4.15.—Thos. H. Kirkby.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—A dinner will be held at the Flying Horse Hotel, Market Place, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 27th, at 6.30 p.m., to honour the memory of William Doubleday Crofts (1737—1809), one of the greatest ringers of his day. A first-class musical programme will be given.—Thos. H. Kirkby, 7, Selkirk Street, Carrington.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Annual meeting at Southgate on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Ringing from 3 p.m. District Committee meeting in the Choir Vestry at 4 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at the Cherry Tree at 5.45, followed by usual business meeting.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting will be held at Sevenoaks on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea at 5.45 at the Lime Tree Hotel, followed by business meeting; 6d. per head will be charged for tea. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at the meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m. Reports ready.—Peter Crook, Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—A Quarterly meeting will be held at Higham Ferrers on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells available at 2 o'clock.—F. Barber, District Sec., School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leominster and Presteign District.—Annual meeting of the district will be held at Leominster on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells (10) available 3.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 6 p.m., at Belliars, Etman Street.—A. Talbot, District Sec., Staunton-on-Arrow, Pembridge.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A Meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday 27th. Bells open at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea 5.30.—P. Timson, 80, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Martock on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and meeting to follow. Visitors requiring tea should give notice early to F. Farrant, Martock, Somerset.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—The next quarterly meeting of the above society will be held at St. Mark's, Glodwick, on Jan. 27th. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—Samuel Booth, Hon. Sec.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Doncaster on Saturday, Jan. 27th. The bells at the Parish Church (8) and Arksey (8) will be available for ringing throughout the day. Divine service at 4 p.m. Preacher, the Bishop of Sheffield (Right Rev. L. H. Burrows, D.D.).—Percy J. Johnson, Hon. General Sec., 90, Blackman Lane, Leeds.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary Church, Torquay, on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 (by Vicar). Tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Barkston on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Bells available afternoon and evening.—S. Proctor, 72, Bridge End Road, Grantham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (established 1637).—The subscription of 1/8, which enables members who have not attended 20 times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meeting for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral, on Jan. 30th.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—North:rn District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Baldock, on Saturday, Feb. 3rd.—F. R. Bacon, Hon. District Secretary.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Hereford on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells available: St. Nicholas (6), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; All Saints' (8), 2.30 to 4.30; Cathedral (10), 7 to 9 p.m. Service All Saints' 4.30. Tea 5.30, Spread Eagle Hotel. Free only to those notifying me by Jan. 29th.—C. Edwards, Great Brampton, Madley, Hereford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Wisbech Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, at Haddenham, Ely (6 bells). Service 4.30. Tea in Church Hall, 6d. each. Please let me know early.—H. W. Giddings, 101, Elwyn Road, March, Cambs.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE SOCIETY.—At Treeton, Feb. 3rd. Six bells. Ringing 3 to 9 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m., 1s. 6d. each. Nominations for officers and committee will be received at this meeting. The committee will meet at Chesterfield on Saturday, March 3rd.—J. E. Amies, Hon. Sec., The Clergy House, Chesterfield.

NORWICH AND ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Branch.—A general meeting of the above will be held at Saxmundham on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, with a view to electing officers for 1923. Will as many as possible make a special effort to attend? Meeting will be held at the Angel, High Street, at 4.30. Bells of the Parish Church available from 1 p.m. till 9 p.m. Also Kelsale (8). All ringers will be welcome.—George Wilson, Hon. Sec., Saxmundham District, 41, Valley Road, Leiston, Suffolk.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of the Winchester District will be held at Alresford on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by Jan. 30th?—W. T. Tucker, District Sec., 71, High Street, Eastleigh.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, Feb. 3rd.—A. Vaughan, Hon. Sec., 26, Clarence Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A monthly meeting of this branch will be held at Tapcote on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells available 4 till 7 p.m. Subscriptions for 1923 are now due.—F. Cotton, Local Hon. Sec., Hinckley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at North Bradley on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Business meeting 5.30.—F. Green, Hon. Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes, Wilts.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Divine service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 5 at the Church House, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

EXETER CATHEDRAL.—Augmentation to ring of twelve. Dedication service for two new bells on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, followed by special evensong at 3 p.m. Ringers admitted to tower after 4.30. Refreshments provided at Deller's Cafe.—Apply for tickets before Jan. 29th to T. Laver, Hon. Sec., 22, Cathedral Yard, Exeter.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea 5.30, followed by business meeting. Tea, free to members, who must let me know by Jan. 27th. Visitors to pay 1s. Committee meeting at Acton on Thursday, Feb. 1st, at 8 p.m.—W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Service at St. Laurence's Church at 5 p.m. Bells available: St. Mary's from 3 p.m., St. Laurence's from 4 p.m. Tea, business meeting and smoker at the Central Cafe (Cinema), Friar Street, at 6 p.m., at 2s. 6d. each. 1s. 6d. will be allowed by the branch to all who let me know their intention of being present by Jan. 31st.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Branch Sec., 75, Kensington Road, Reading.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Field on Feb. 3rd. Bells available at 4 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Church Room at 6 p.m. to those who notify me by Feb. 1st.—J. W. Cornford, Hon. Sec., 7d, Morgan Mansions, Holloway, N.7.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Egham on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Guild's form of service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at the Parish Hall. Will those intending coming kindly notify me by Tuesday, Jan. 30th? Subscriptions for 1923 now due.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. District Sec., 11, Queen's Street, Chertsey.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Northchurch on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service, with short address by the Vicar, 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Berkhamstead bells will be available in the evening. — F. J. Reeve, Hon. District Sec., Clifton House, Tring.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Newburn, on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Committee Meeting at 4.15, and tea at 5 p.m. (1/9 to members and 2/6 to non-members) at the Newburn Hotel. Those intending to be present at tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 6th.—E. Ferry, Hon. Sec., 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle.

BAMPTON, DEVON.—The reopening of these bells (6) after restoration has been fixed provisionally for Saturday, Feb. 10th, at 2 p.m. A further notice will appear next week.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Taunton, on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Bells from 4 p.m. Tea provided by the president at the Church Room at 5 p.m. sharp. Meeting afterwards, and service in church at 6.15. Wilton bells (6) will be available from 3 to 4.30 only. Those who are coming to tea please let me know by Monday, Feb. 5th.—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Bells available for ringing: St. Giles, Bloomsbury, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; All Hallows', Lombard Street, 1.45 to 2.45 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.30, at 1s. per head, at Express Dairy. Business meeting to follow. Names for tea required by Feb. 3rd latest.—A. D. Barker, Hon. General Sec., Stoke Green, near Slough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting will be held at Faversham on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Divine service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 4.45, at the Central Cafe, Market Place, Faversham, at 1s. 6d. per head. Association allowance 1s. 3d., followed by business meeting. All members requiring tea must notify the District Secretary not later than Tuesday, Feb. 6th. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at the meeting, or sent to the District Secretary. The bells of Ospringe will also be available.—E. G. Buesden, Hon. District Sec., 3, Hackington Terrace, Canterbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6. A good meeting is requested.—Walter Hughes, Hon. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ripple on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Service at 4.30 prompt. Business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. The branch secretary should be notified how many to expect by the Wednesday previous.—R. G. Knowles, Madresfield, Malvern.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Thursday, Nov. 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins.: J. Herberts 1, T. Cooper 2, H. Briggs 3, E. Chamberlin 4, T. Atkin 5, F. E. Wilson 6, C. Brigg (conductor) 7, W. Briggs 8. Ring as a welcome home to the Rev. A. E. D. Disney, after an absence of some weeks.

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