

THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1923.

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Price 8d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, SURREY



The Recast Tenor (30 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921.

**BELLS,
CARILLONS,
CLOCKS.**

LONG LENGTHS OF ROYAL.

The attempt which is to be made on Boxing Day for a peal of 10,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal is a reminder that among the many long lengths that have been rung, peals of "Ten-In" are by no means numerous. Peals of Major, in which the changes ran into five figures, could be literally numbered by the dozen—there are records of more than a score over 12,000 in length—and yet we believe the peals of more than ten thousand of Royal could be numbered on the fingers of one hand. Stedman and Grandsire Caters have been methods over which for nearly two centuries ringers have striven for records. No fewer than five times in the last thirty-five years the Stedman Caters' record has been broken, while half a dozen new records were made in Grandsire Caters during last century. But long lengths of Royal seem to have had little attraction for ringers during all this time; indeed, the record of 12,000 put up in 1784 by the Royal Cumberland Youths remained unbroken, as far as can be ascertained, until the Ashton-under-Lyne men rang a peal of 14,000 in the year 1914. The earlier record was the culmination of an interesting struggle for supremacy between the two great rival London societies, which began with a round ten thousand of Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch by the College Youths in 1777 and ended with the Cumberlands' 12,000 seven years later. And that, so far as we are aware, was the end of record making with ten-in for a hundred and thirty years, although there was more or less constant effort on all other numbers, with the exception of Maximus, in which a 10,224, rung at Painswick in 1833, waited until 1911 before being beaten—also at Ashton-under-Lyne. As far as we can trace, and should it be otherwise we should be glad to be informed, all the long lengths of Royal and Maximus have been Treble Bob, and herein perhaps lies the explanation of the absence of attempts to make new records. Has it been due to the uninteresting nature of Plain Bob and the monotony of Treble Bob that ringers have been loth to set out upon those herculean tasks that have marked the progress of record peals in other methods? If this be so, the advent of Surprise Royal ringing, as a more or less regular feature of present-day practice, is likely to change this state of affairs. The limitations which may be found even in Cambridge Surprise disappear in some of the newer methods, which are not only more difficult, and therefore more interesting, but, having a cleaner proof scale, will lend themselves to the composition of longer lengths without parting the big bells. We look upon this long peal of Cambridge Royal, by whoever it is first rung—and the Leicester men were unfortunate in not pulling it off—as the precursor of an attempt, or, maybe, series of attempts, to set up a new record in Royal ringing.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1923, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE, CITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 53 cwt. 0 qr. 22 lb. in B.

ARTHUR J. NEALE Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	JAMES GEORGE 8
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	GEORGE A. CARD... .. 9
T. WILFRED TAFFENDER ... 4	JAMES BULLOCK 10
WILLIAM J. NUDDS 5	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 11
ERNEST J. KING 6	FRANCIS E. DAWE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

TEN BELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 13, 1923, in Four Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 0 qr. 9 lb.

JOHN W. WOOD Treble	GEORGE LADD 6
WILLIAM RICHARDSON ... 2	ARTHUR J. FARR 7
JOHN T. BROWN 3	JOHN CURRY 8
RUPERT RICHARDSON ... 4	WILLIAM HOLLINGWORTH... 9
JOHN G. AMES 5	REV. H. LAW JAMES Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by R. RICHARDSON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled for the Rev. F. F. Wayet, Vicar of Pinchbeck, and President of the Elloe Deaneries Branch since 1904, who was interred at Pinchbeck on the above date.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(BRISTOL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

EDWIN J. BROWN Treble	HENRY J. WAY 6
FREDERICK G. LEAKER ... 2	*† WILLIAM H. LEWIS ... 7
EDGAR GUISE 3	* WILLIAM C. HUNTER ... 8
ALFRED PEARCE 4	* GEORGE TREW 9
GILBERT PEARCE 5	URIAH BRAVEN... .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE DALTRY. Conducted by EDGAR GUISE.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Caters. First peal of bob-called Stedman as conductor.

EXETER.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(EXETER DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SIDWELL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWIN SHEPHERD Treble	THOMAS LOVER 6
* JOHN OKE 2	EDMUND SARGENT 7
ALFRED MONKLEY 3	FRANK MURPHY... .. 8
* WILLIAM HOWE... .. 4	GEORGE BETTS 9
THOMAS BARTLETT 5	* JOHN HARRIS Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by EDWIN SHEPHERD.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Caters 'inside.'

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

HENRY F. EWINS Treble	FREDERICK W. RICE 6
GEORGE MARRINER 2	WALTER CLAYDON 7
CHARLES H. KIPPIN... .. 3	ALBERT HARMAN... .. 8
* STEPHEN W. HOLDAWAY... 4	ARTHUR DEAN 9
REGINALD H. THORPE ... 5	GEORGE F. HOAD... .. Tenor

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by G. F. HOAD.

* First peal of Royal. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. W. Rice and Francis T. Hoad.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

KIRKBURTON, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1923, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

J. ROLLINSON Treble	E. R. ARMITAGE 5
H. ARMITAGE 2	H. PICKERING 6
J. PICKERING 3	F. TOWNEND 7
H. ROBERTS 4	J. W. PICKERING Tenor

Conducted by J. W. PICKERING.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 10, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. John, Wilton Road,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN SPARROW Treble	GEORGE A. CARD 5
THOMAS NEWMAN 2	CECIL J. MATTHEWS 6
JOHN W. CORNFORD 3	JOHN D. MATTHEWS 7
FRANK SMITH 4	THOMAS BEVAN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 11, 1923, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. John the Baptist,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 30 cwt.

HERBERT J. SKELT Treble	DANIEL COOPER 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 2	JAMES E. COOPER 6
AMOS W. CLARK 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD 4	JOSEPH TALBOT Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

This is the first peal on the bells since 1912. They have recently been overhauled by Messrs. Groombridge and Palmer. Rung as a birthday compliment to Amos W. Clark.

OLD WINDSOR BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

FREDERICK MIDDLETON ... Treble	FREDERICK TINDALL 5
WILLIAM BORDEN 2	ERNEST E. GOSLING 6
RONALD FRANKLIN 3	WILLIAM WELLING 7
*ROBERT WOOD 4	ARTHUR CROSS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST E. GOSLING.

* First peal inside. First peal as conductor. Rung by the local band to celebrate the 75th birthday of Mr. Joseph Guttridge, the much-respected foreman of the band, who hospitably entertained the ringers after the peal.

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 14, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*MISS N. DENYER (AGE 13) Treble	†WILLIAM DENYER 5
*MISS ADDIE FISHER ... 2	ALBERT J. CROUCHER 6
†MISS BERTHA M. MILLS ... 3	†ALFRED J. CROUCHER 7
†MISS HILDA F. MILLS ... 4	QR.-SGT. G. GILBERT, R.E. Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT, R.E.

First peal of Major on the bells. First peal on the bells by an entirely local band. The treble ringer was proposed a member of the Guild prior to commencing the peal. * First peal. † First peal in the method. ‡ 40th peal.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, December 13, 1923, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. Paul, Hammersmith,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

*WILLIAM C. STACEY ... Treble	RALPH MACKRILL 5
ERNEST H. COOK 2	FRANK SKEVINGTON 6
FREDERICK H. CROOK ... 3	CHARLES F. W. HUNT 7
GEORGE C. ILES 4	*PHILIP STRATTON Tenor

Conducted by FRANK SKEVINGTON.

* First peal.

STANSTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 14, 1923, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

HERBERT W. WATTS ... Treble	THOMAS J. WATTS 5
WALTER PRIOR 2	FREDERICK J. PITSTOW 6
THOMAS JORDAN 3	W. T. PRIOR 7
ALFRED PITSTOW 4	GEORGE JORDAN Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE JORDAN.
Rung on the occasion of the conductor's silver wedding, and as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Jordan, the wife of the ringer of the 3rd.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 14, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*CYRIL VALENTINE ... Treble	†ERNEST PALMER 5
JOHN E. BIBBY 2	WILLIAM BIBBY 6
†NORAH M. BIBBY 3	GEORGE H. HANDLES 7
HENRY C. COLYER 4	FRANCIS BIBBY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by F. BIBBY.
* First peal. † First peal inside. ‡ First peal in the method inside.
First peal as conductor.

HUGGLESCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. John the Baptist,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... Treble	E. HARRY STONELEY 5
HARRY BROUGHTON 2	HAROLD J. POOLE 6
JAMES F. CLARKE 3	EPHRAIM W. RANDE 7
ERNEST MORRIS 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... Tenor

Composed by FRED H. DEXTER. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
First peal in the method on the bells. First 'touch' in the method by the ringer of the 7th, who the ringers heartily congratulate on his excellent performance.

ERITH, KENT.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. John the Baptist,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN WHEADON Treble	CECIL V. EBBERSON 5
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	GEORGE R. PYE 6
WILLIAM H. HEWITT ... 3	ALBERT W. COLES 7
CHARLES T. COLES 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.
The above is the 100th peal in the method for the above association, the 'Century' including the only three peals rung double-handed, and also the longest length ever rung.

BEESTON, NOTTS. — On Monday, Oct. 22nd, 1,152 London Surprise Major: W. Clifford, junr., 1. A. Coppock (conductor) 2. W. Clifford, senr., 3. W. A. Jones 4. J. C. Dicken 5. E. C. Shepherd 6. F. Blood 7. F. S. Price 8.

CLIFFEAT-HOO, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 5
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 2	CHARLES WINNER ... 6
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 3	CLER. SGT. JAMES BENNETT ... 7
WILLIAM HAIGH ... 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.
First peal in the method on the bells.

PERLY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

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

Tenor 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

*GEORGE T. MITCHISON ... Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 5
†ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... 2	OLIVER G. NORMAN ... 6
THOMAS H. REEVES ... 3	JAMES GEORGE ... 7
GEORGE F. SWANN ... 4	ALBERT E. NORMAN ... Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. E. NORMAN.

* First peal of Double Norwich. † First peal inside. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. George T. Mitchison and Thomas H. Reeves. Also as a silver wedding peal to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walker, Deputy Ringing Master of the St. Martin's Guild.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S.

BENJAMIN GOUGH ... Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS ... 5
EDGAR MARLOW ... 2	BERT HORTON ... 6
HERBERT KNIGHT ... 3	THOMAS J. ELTON ... 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 4	WILLIAM FISHER ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

First Surprise peal on the bells.

ALTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

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

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOHN H. B. HESSE ... Treble	C. Q. M. S. GEORGE GILBERT ... 5
CANON G. F. COLERIDGE ... 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 6
RAYMOND PHILPOTT ... 3	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON, JUN. ... 4	ALFRED H. PULLING ... Tenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

First peal of Double Norwich on the bells. W. T. Beeson's 50th peal.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S ODD BOB ONE-PART.

Tenor 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

EVERED J. WALSON ... Treble	PERCY E. CLARK ... 5
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 2	HAROLD N. PITSTOW ... 6
GILBERT H. HARDING ... 3	ALAN R. MACDONALD ... 7
HERBERT LANGDON ... 4	ARTHUR H. GAMBLE ... Tenor

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

THOS. J. GROOMBRIDGE

Church Bell Hanger,

CRAYFORD, KENT.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW OR REPAIR WORK

MONK'S KIRBY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

GEORGE THOMPSON ... Treble	†JOSEPH BEALE ... 5
*JOHN ISON ... 2	BERT RIDGWAY ... 6
†WILLIAM COPE ... 3	FRED COTTON ... 7
SAMUEL WHITE ... 4	†ROBERT FURBROUGH ... Tenor

Conducted by F. COTTON.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Triples. ‡ First peal of Triples with bob bell.

NORTH WINGFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5888 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

WALTER ALLWOOD ... Treble	JOHN HOLMAN ... 5
THOMAS O'HARA ... 2	ARTHUR KNIGHTS ... 6
ALFRED E. BACON ... 3	FREDERICK E. SMITH ... 6
JOHN P. TARLTON ... 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 257). Conducted by J. E. SYKES.

This composition is now rung for the first time.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 27 cwt.

MARK BEND ... Treble	JOHN W. KIRTON ... 5
REV. C. J. STURTON ... 2	ARTHUR W. WARD ... 6
R. CECIL BLAKEY ... 3	SIDNEY PROCTOR ... 7
*CLARENCE BRIGGS ... 4	*JOHN H. BRANSTON ... Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY PROCTOR.

* First peal. Rung to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the augmentation and reopening of the bells. Messrs. Blakey, Briggs and Branstow were elected life members of the Guild.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

*FRANK TUCKER ... Treble	*ERNEST HINBEST ... 5
CHARLES H. SONE ... 2	JAMES W. LEONARD ... 6
GEORGE NEWMAN ... 3	LOUIS HEAD ... 7
GEORGE BELL ... 4	LEWIS NEWMAN ... Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by LEWIS NEWMAN.

* First peal of Major. Rung in honour of the 70th birthday of J. W. Leonard, who has been a member of the Malling company for forty-three years, and captain of the company for thirty years.

GOUDHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 27 cwt.

ANDREW MARSHALL ... Treble	WILLIAM H. HOAD ... 5
HARRY BAKER ... 2	FRANK PATTENDEN ... 6
MRS. H. BAKER ... 3	GEORGE BILLENNESS ... 7
KENNETH PATTENDEN ... 4	*JAMES FOREMAN ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BILLENNESS.

* First peal. Also first attempt by a lady on this heavy ring of bells which are rather difficult to control. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. The composition is the 36th in the C. C. Collection.

RANMORE COMMON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

ALFRED A. DOBINSON... ..Treble	JOHN H. WHITE 5
GEORGE ELLIS 2	ALFRED H. WINCH 6
MISS E. FISHER 3	OLIVER SIPPETTS... .. 7
ALFRED J. BULL 4	WILLIAM LYNCHTenor

Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

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

Tenor 15½ cwt.

H. CHARLES GILLINGHAM...Treble	JAMES DORRANT 5
FRANK RUFFLES 2	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ... 6
HARRY R. ROPER 3	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 7
WALTER RUFFLES 4	CHARLES J. SEDGLEYTenor

Composed by the late SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, BART.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Rung in honour of the induction of the Rev. R. Carnegie Knox, M.A. The Brothers Ruffles belong to Monk Soham. Composition No. 49, C.C. Collection, Section III.

FINEDON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 21½ cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

JOHN J. MAWBY... ..Treble	THOMAS ABBOTT 5
*GEORGE LINES 2	JOHN R. MAIN 6
*HARRY TOMPKINS 3	ANDERSON Y. TYLER 7
JAMES T. WARD... .. 4	GEORGE BASFORDTenor

Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. T. Ward.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHAPEL H.M. DOCKYARD, DEVONPORT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 9 cwt.

*WILLIAM WONNACOTT ...Treble	†ALFRED T. WESTCOTT ... 5
HARRY BURNER 2	WARREN S. HORNBROOK ... 6
WILLIAM HAMLYN 3	‡WILLIAM RUNDLE 7
WILLIAM RICHARDS 4	GEORGE GOMER... ..Tenor

Conducted by WARREN S. HORNBROOK.

* First peal. † First with 'bob' bell. ‡ 50th peal.

NELSON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 16, 1923, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

W. STEPHENSONTreble	W. H. HUNTER 5
C. W. STEPHENSON 2	E. OGDEN 6
*W. McCLEAVE 3	H. ENTWISTLE 7
H. WORMWELL 4	R. HARTLEY... ..Tenor

Composed by J. FLEMING.

Conducted by R. HARTLEY.

First peal on the bells. Rung to celebrate the dedication which took place on Saturday, Dec. 15th, 1923. All the ringers belong to the tower of Holy Trinity Church, Burnley. * First peal.

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THE RINGING
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WEEK

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, December 16, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

FRED HAYESTreble	EDWARD MARKHAM 5
GEORGE TWITCHEN 2	SIDNEY T. GOODCHILD ... 6
RALPH COLES 3	JOHN EVANS 7
*ARTHUR J. HOING 4	†WILLIAM COLES... ..Tenor

Conducted by JOHN EVANS,

* First peal of Stedman Triples away from the tenor. † First peal on eight. First peal on the bells after restoration and addition of two new bells by Messrs. White, of Appleton. Great satisfaction was expressed at the tone and 'go' of the bells.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS.

OXTED, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH)

On Saturday, December 8, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS FIRMAGERTreble	CHARLES W. CLINCH 4
H. F. HYLTON TIDY 2	EDWARD E. TIDY... .. 5
PERCIVAL C. TIDY 3	LEONARD A. TIDYTenor

Conducted by LEONARD A. TIDY.

This is the first peal on the bells which have recently been rehung and augmented to six by the addition of a new treble by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

DOULTING, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 10, 1923, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALDHELM,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Bob, and four of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHARLES J. PAIN... ..Treble	WILLIAM ROSEWELL 4
RONALD G. BECK 2	THOMAS M. GRIFFIN 5
GERALD F. GRIFFIN 3	JOSEPH T. DYKETenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

First peal of Minor on the bells. The band desires to thank the local men for their hospitality. This is the 100th tower in which the conductor has rung a peal.

WEST STOW, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 11, 1923, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's six different callings. Tenor 16 cwt.

A. BALLAMTreble	S. BAYBUT 4
H. S. ARBIN 2	WILLIAM STANNARD 5
H. DORLING... .. 3	A. DORLINGTenor

Conducted by WM. STANNARD.

First peal by all except the conductor, and rung at third attempt. First peal on the bells by a local band.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, GRASSENDALE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ARRANGED BY THE REV. E. BANKS JAMES. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*THOMAS JENNISONTreble	ARTHUR LINTOTT 4
*JOHN ALLEN 2	GEORGE R. NEWTON... .. 5
JOHN WILKINSON 3	*CLAUDE I. DAVIESTenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

* First peal of Surprise Minor. The band would like to thank the Vicar (the Rev. G. H. Jobling) for his hospitality at the conclusion of the peal.

**PYCHLEY, NORTHANTS.
THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wednesday, December 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,*

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 8 six-scores each of Canterbury, St. Simon's and Plain Bob, and 18 differently called six-scores of Grandsire. Tenor 8 cwt.

FRED RANDALL Treble	HARRY BAXTER 3
REGINALD WILLIAMSON ... 2	FRANK FOX 4
TOM BUTLER Tenor	

Conducted by TOM BUTLER.

Rung for the induction of the new Vicar (the Rev. W. Slater Hills).

**WALTHAM, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Wednesday, December 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,*

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

HAROLD RUSHBY Treble	JOHN B. BUDD 4
EDWARD W. ABBOTT 2	RALPH S. LONG 5
CHARLES W. TAYLOR 3	HERBERT J. MINGAY ... Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT J. MINGAY.

First attempt at Oxford by E. W. Abbott, who hails from Alvingham, Louth. First peal as conductor by H. J. Mingay.

WESTHAM, SUSSEX.

*On Wednesday, December 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,*

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 12 six-scores of Plain Bob, 10 six-scores of Grandsire with 3 as the plain hunt bell, and 20 six-scores with Treble as the plain hunt bell, called differently. Tenor 10 cwt, 1 qr, 10 lb.

*FREDERICK G. MILLER ... Treble	GEORGE PENFOLD 4
HENRY J. FIELD 2	JOHN H. BRAY 5
*WILLIAM MILLER 3	*FREDERICK DALLAWAY ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE PENFOLD.

First peal on the bells. * First peal and first attempt. The first five ringers belong to Pevensey; the tenor to Westham.

**STOKESAY, SHROPSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD**

*On Wednesday, December 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings.

*VICTOR ALLEN Treble	HUBERT JONES 4
W. J. BENIAMS 2	*GEORGE ALLEN 5
W. R. NASH 3	*JOHN PLAIN Tenor

Conducted by W. R. NASH.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal inside. Treble, 5th and tenor are Stokesay ringers; 2nd, 3rd and 4th from Ludlow. This peal was rung as a compliment to Mr. Joel Allen, father and grandfather of the 5th and treble ringers, respectively, on his completion of 50 years' service as clerk at Shipton Church.

**BEDFORD.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Thursday, December 13, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-DE-MERTON,*

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

STANLEY G. HARLOW ... Treble	MISS EVELYN STEEL ... 4
*MISS ELISE K. KNIGHT ... 2	HERBERT J. HARLOW ... 5
CHARLES A. ROBINSON ... 3	HERBERT L. HARLOW ... Tenor

Conducted by H. L. HARLOW.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the Rev. F. M. Squibb, who was inducted Rector of the above church on the 11th inst.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Saturday, December 15th, at St. Mary-the-Virgin, Beachampton, 720 Grandsire Doubles by H. Warren 1, W. Alderman 2, W. Neale 3, R. Bailey 4, A. W. Dillon (conductor) 5. This was rung after the wedding of Mr. Reggie Ginger and Miss May Lovell, the bride being the sister of one of the local ringers. In the evening the bells again rang out merrily as the happy pair left for the honeymoon.

**MARKET DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Three Hours,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Double and Single Oxford (Spliced), Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

MISS PHYLLIS HARE ... Treble	HORACE M. DAY 4
*MISS KITTY MOORE 2	JOSEPH LONDON 5
ARTHUR RIGGALL 3	GEORGE H. WELLS ... Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First peal in eight methods, and proposed a member previous to starting.

BERGH-APTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH.

On Saturday, December 15, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 Double Oxford Bob, and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

†CHARLES WALPOLE ... Treble	ARTHUR A. CORBYN 4
*GODFREY G. WALPOLE ... 2	HARRY W. BARRETT 5
ROBERT A. WARMAN 3	FREDERICK A. FINCH ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK A. FINCH.

† First peal in four methods. * First peal.

HANDBELL PEALS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY.)

*On Monday, December 10, 1923, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL,*

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

RAYMOND PHILPOTT 1—2	JOHN FOSTER 5—6
ALFRED H. POLLING 3—4	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 7—8

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

Witness: MRS. POLLING.

* First peal in the method.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY.)

*On Wednesday, December 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes
AT THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor size 14 in D.

WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 1—2	RAYMOND PHILPOTT ... 5—6
ALFRED H. POLLING 3—4	MRS. W. R. MELVILLE ... 7—8

Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

Witnesses: MRS. POLLING and JESSIE MELVILLE.

Arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Melville on the 26th anniversary of their wedding.

**LONDON.
OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Wednesday, December 12, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT 130, CLONMORE STREET, S.W.18,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor B flat 16.

JOHN D. MATTHEWS 1—2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 5—6
HERBERT LANGDON 3—4	JOHN SPARROW 7—8
CECIL J. MATTHEWS 9—10	

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

Umpire: MR. WILLIAM S. LANGDON.

FOR SALE.

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FOR CHURCH BELLS.**

Apply: **B. FULLWOOD, Priory, Sedgley, Staffs.**

DINNER & PRESENTATIONS AT BLACKHILL.

On Thursday, December 6th, the members of St. Aidan's Guild, Blackhill, held their first annual dinner in St. Aidan's Church Hall, Blackhill. The chair was taken by the President (the Rev. Jenkin Jones, M.A., Vicar), Mr. G. W. Brydon being in the vice-chair. About 40 guests sat down to an excellent repast, amongst those present being Mr. Chas. Todd, of Darlington, the President of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association; Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Brodie, Miss Mudge, Mrs. Lee (the donor of St. Aidan's bells), Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. J. Siddell (vice-presidents), Mr. W. W. Sinclair (the Ringing Master) and Mrs. Sinclair, together with the ringers and their wives.—After dinner the Chairman proposed the toast of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Change Ringers, saying how much St. Aidan's Church was indebted to the association for having provided ringers when the bells were dedicated a year ago, and for their assistance and advice in all matters pertaining to ringing; also for recommending a practical ringer in Mr. Sinclair as instructor.—Mr. Todd, who replied, thanked the chairman for his kind remarks, and said that by assisting in the way referred to the association was carrying out one of the objects for which it was intended, while another was to improve the quality of ringing for Sunday services.—'St. Aidan's Guild of Change Ringers' was proposed by Mr. Marshall, and responded to by Mr. Macfeggan.

Mr. J. Siddell proposed the health of the founder of the feast, Mrs. Lee, and referred to her great generosity in giving the bells to St. Aidan's Church.

Mr. Brydon proposed the health of the ladies.

Harmony was supplied by Messrs. P. Watson, N. Johnson, and others, the ringers adding their share to the proceedings by ringing a plain course of Grandsire Triples and 120 Bob Doubles, etc., on the handbells.

During the evening, Mr. Sinclair presented each ringer with a certificate of membership of the Durham and Newcastle Association, and also with the association badge to wear on their watch chains.

Perhaps the most pleasing item on the programme was when the chairman, on behalf of the members of the Guild, presented Mr. Sinclair with a gold albert and pendant, as a slight mark of esteem and regard for the way in which he has carried out his duties as Ringing Master. The pendant bears this inscription: 'Presented to Wm. W. Sinclair by St. Aidan's Guild of Change Ringers, November, 1923.'

In making the presentation, the Vicar referred to the hard work

Mr. Sinclair had put in, in teaching a band of ringers who were all novices.

Mr. Sinclair, in thanking the members for their gift, said it was a pleasure to help and teach those who were willing to learn the art of bell ringing, and he hoped before another year passed, to have the best band of ringers in the district for eight bell towers.

'Auld Lang Syne' and the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Biggleswade District was held at St. Swithin's, Sandy, on December 8th. Tea was followed by the business meeting, at which Mr. W. G. Cope presided. Members were present from Biggleswade, Everton, Clifton, Roston, Northill, Sandy and Cambridge. The committee were re-elected en bloc.

Mr. C. J. Ball was elected district secretary.—One new member was elected, and it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Old Warden.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the chairman, brought the meeting to a close.

Some good touches were rung during the afternoon, including Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Woodbine, Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. The bells were run down before 7 o'clock by request of Mr. Rust, whose wife was ill. Mr. Rust wishes the secretary to thank all the ringers who were present for acceding to his request.

BEDFORD DISTRICT.

A successful meeting of the Bedford District was held at Clapham on Saturday. Ringing started at 3 o'clock. Tea was served in the reading-room, and was kindly provided by the churchwardens. At the business meeting, the Vicar (the Rev. E. Barton) was in the chair, supported by Mr. T. Yeomans (churchwarden). Members were present from Bedford, Kempston, Turvey, Biddenham, Roston and the local company.

Miss E. Steel was asked to carry on the office of secretary pro tem. to the next meeting, to be held at Cardington early in the new year, notice of which will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

The Vicar welcomed the members to Clapham, and was thanked for the use of the bells. Hearty thanks were also accorded to the churchwardens for the tea, and to the ladies who waited at table.

The tower was again visited, when the Vicar unveiled a peal board recording a peal of Doubles rung by an entirely local company, with the exception of the conductor.

JOHN TAYLOR & Co.,
LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE
LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

MEARS & STAINBANK,

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In Sets of any number.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On account of the Christmas Holidays, *The Ringing World* for December 28th will have to be sent to press two days earlier than usual next week.

Matter intended for publication in that issue should be sent at once, but notices and reports relating to events on Saturday, December 22nd, will be accepted up to first post on Monday, December 24th.

"The Ringing World" will be published as usual on Friday.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Venerable the Archdeacon of Swindon has accepted the invitation of the Bristol United Guilds to be present at their third annual dinners as 'guest of the evening.' Musical items will be given this year between the toasts. There is, we are informed, a little surprise for the committee, which will be very much appreciated, being in the nature of a return for 'Honour Bestowed.'

The Middlesex Association are, we believe, the first society to ring a hundred peals of Bristol Surprise. To the fact that their leading Surprise ringers took the method up with such keenness is largely due the popularity which Bristol has attained to-day. Outside the three old Surprise Methods, no other has been practised to anything like the same extent as the Rev. E. B. James' creation. The Middlesex 'hundred,' it is interesting to note, includes the only three handbell peals in the method, and the 15,264 at Hornchurch in 1912.

The new peal of eight at Nelson, Lancs, installed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, were opened on Saturday.

Seaford (Sussex) bells which have been recast, and rehung in a new frame, are to be dedicated to-morrow (Saturday).

The very first peal of Treble Bob on record was rung on December 27th, 1718. This was a performance by the Union Scholars, and the peal was rung at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, City. Following the custom prevailing at that time the society called the method after their own name, viz., Union Treble Bob, but, although the title clung to it for a while, other ringers gave it the name of Oxford, by which we know it to-day.

To all our Readers,

"A MERRY CHRISTMAS."

An interesting fact about this peal is that the composition is preserved to us. It is a five-part, with a before in every course, and two bobs Wrong and one Home in every fourth course.

The Christmas Holidays have been a favourite time for long peals, and among the noteworthy peals have been the following: On Dec. 26th, 1831, 15,168 Kent Treble Bob Major at Eland; 1885, 8,064 Double Norwich at Leiston by College Youths; 1894, 9,312 Superlative Surprise at Crawley; 1901, 11,111 Stedman Cinques at Birmingham; 1901, 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major at Beeston, Notts; 1910, 9,728 Superlative Surprise (record) at Clent, Worcestershire.

On December 27th, 1904, 17,104 Double Norwich at South Wigston; 1909, 10,176 Double Oxford Bob Major, Brierley Hill.

Miss Nancy Denyer, at the age of 13 years, has just rung her first peal at Aldershot, where the local band, including four ladies, have just scored their 'first.' The method was Bob Major. The band would like to know if they possess the youngest lady who has ever rung a peal of Major on tower bells. Miss Denyer rang her bell exceptionally well throughout the peal, and the Ladies' Guild have every reason to be proud of the latest recruit to their peal ringers' ranks.

It will be noticed that a handbell peal rung in London by Cumberland and College Youths last week, was rung under the auspices of the Oxford Guild.

With regard to the peal of Cambridge at Port Sunlight on November 26th, it should have been recorded as the first peal of Surprise Major by a band residing in the Wirral Peninsula.

The peal of Doubles at Barlaston, Staffs, on November 24th, was rung in 2 hours 50 minutes, not 3 hours 50 minutes, as published.

The new trebles to make a peal of eight at West Wycombe and the new peal of eight which Messrs. Taylor and Co. have placed in the tower at Newchurch, Lancs, were dedicated on Saturday. No time was lost in putting the bells to the proof, for in each case a peal was rung on them on the following day.

A letter from Mr. A. Craven with regard to Edinburgh Surprise is unavoidably held over till next week.

Six mats used by bell ringers at Chertsey Parish Church—where the curfew has been rung for 600 years—have been stolen from the belfry. This is one of a series of thefts from churches in West Surrey, the belief being that the person who carried them off used a motor-car.

DEDICATION OF NEW PEAL AT NEWCHURCH.

A SPLENDID PRODUCTION FROM LOUGHBOROUGH FOUNDRY.

On Saturday, December 15th, the new peal of bells at the Parish Church, Newchurch, near Warrington, were dedicated by the Ven. Archdeacon Howson (Archdeacon of Warrington). The service was, indeed, very impressive, and there was a large attendance, which included many bell ringers from various parts of the country, and Mr. Taylor, representing the founders.

The recast bells are a beautiful ring of eight, cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., the famous Loughborough foundry. The tenor bell is a fine-toned bell of just over 12 cwt., in F sharp, and the whole peal have been tuned on Messrs. Taylor's latest reinforced system of harmonical tuning. Undoubtedly to the listener the peal sounds wonderfully melodious, quite a contrast to the original bells, and upon all sides, as the congregation were leaving the church after the dedication ceremony, one heard nothing but praise for the wonderful tonal results obtained.

Then with regard to the fittings, these contain all those improvements in bell hanging which Messrs. Taylor have introduced in recent years, including, of course, ball bearings in which the bells swing.

The strong and massive iron framework which carries the bells is so designed by the bell founders that the least possible amount of strain is placed upon the tower walls, and this framework is even a source of strength to the tower, as the main foundation girders are arranged and fixed so as to form a bond to the tower walls. The ringers were entranced by the splendid 'go' of the bells, and everyone is to be congratulated upon the achievement of so magnificent a result.

The inscriptions upon the bells are as follow, together with the founders' mark—Recast by Taylor, Loughborough—on each bell:—

Treble.—To the memory of their nephew, Robert Leigh, who died at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, Nov. 14th, 1911, aged 22 years.

2nd.—The gift of the Misses Leigh, Leigh Hall, Kenyon.

3rd and 4th bells blank.

5th.—Three bells, the gift of M. M. S. Marsh, High Peak, Kenyon. In memory of her brothers.

6th.—To the memory of Ann Allen, Brooklyn, Culcheth. The gift of her sister.

7th.—To the memory of Thomas Ellames Withington. The gift of his son and daughter, Arthur and Cecilia.

Tenor.—To the memory of the fallen in the war, 1914-1919. Rev. E. W. Whittenbury-Kaye, Rector. R. Grimshaw and R. Overton, Churchwardens, 1923.

After the ceremony, the ringers and visitors were invited to the Schools for tea, over which many reminiscences were recalled. However, as may be imagined, the ringers were eager to return to the belfry, and the first touch of Superlative Surprise was rung on the bells by the following: Messrs. A. Barnes, P. Taylor, T. B. Worsley, A. F. Baily, J. Potter, T. Barlow, J. W. Washbrook and H. Openshaw. Many other methods were rung during the evening by various ringers.

The Newchurch band consists of Messrs. J. Leatherbarrow (leader), F. Reynolds, J. Yates, W. Hampson, J. Orms, G. Pounall, W. Gould and E. Leatherbarrow. There are two understudies, E. Thomason and H. Thomason.

On Sunday next a carol service is being held in the church, the special feature being the ringing of hymn tunes upon the bells.

'THE BIG BELL OF BOW.'

The famous tenor at Bow, Cheapside, is justly considered by musical experts, and by ringers generally, to be unexcelled for richness and purity of tone. It is also, perhaps, the most historical and valued bell in existence. The 'Big Bell at Bow' is versed in nursery rhyme, and well known in all parts of the world! It cannot, therefore, be wondered at, that it is the ambition of many men to ring it for a peal. Up to about a century and a half ago, the records show that it always required two and sometimes three ringers to achieve this, but in 1787, Philip Pilgrim was the first man to do so single-handed.

A lengthy search of all the records show that up to the present moment exactly 21 ringers have accomplished this performance, which number includes two well-known ringing parsons. We venture to think, however, that none can appreciate the distinctive honour of doing so more than F. E. Dawe, who called a peal of Stedman Cinques from it on Saturday, December 8th, within measurable distance of his 62nd birthday!

Many peals of Stedman Cinques have now been called from the tenor, but Mr. Dawe was the first to do this when he called the famous 'Bachelor's Peal' at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, City, on 7th February, 1891.

The earliest recorded mention of a bell at Bow Church is in 1334, when the city ordered that no one should wander about the streets 'after the hour of curfew rung out at the Church of our Lady at Bow.' The Great Fire of 1666 destroyed the old bells, and eight new bells were installed in 1669. In 1762 the peal was recast and two trebles added, while later they were made into the ring of twelve which we know to-day.

LONG PEAL ATTEMPT.

A peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, 10,440 changes, will be attempted (D.V.) at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, by members of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, on Wednesday, December 26th, starting at 9.30 a.m. The composition is by the Rev. H. Lav. James, and will be found in 'Bell News' for Dec. 31st, 1910, page 574.

BELLS IN THE COUNTRY.

AN APPRECIATION BY RONALD D. WHITTENBURY-KAYE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—After weary months of waiting, we, in a little country parish, have at last got a peal of bells in our village church. Imagine a country district on a Sunday morning. No bells to call us to prayer in the House of God—no clock to tell the time. No sweet music during the week. How we existed without, one only knows—perhaps it was because we were living in a state of joy—knowing that eventually we could boast of a peal of bells which no place for many, many miles around could possess.

Dedication day arrived, the village was in a state of excitement, and thronged the church to the number of about 500. After the dedication prayers had been read, what did we hear—why, the most delicious sound of the sweetest music imaginable. Eight bells harmonising perfectly one with another. Ah! how great, we had waited for that moment for many years, just prior to the war, when a fund was opened for a new peal to consist of eight bells.

Just one word about the ringers. Few know how hard our ringers have worked for this great day. We have the finest band of ringers in the country (dubious ringers please note, and if in complete doubt visit Newchurch to learn the honest truth). Before long we shall be breaking every record imaginable. The ringers have started practices already, and although it is but two days since we have had the bells dedicated, the ringers have improved wonderfully.

We have only praise to give to Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, but that I think is all they require. If we are satisfied they must be, and they will look up to us now to show the rest of the ringing world how to ring bells, under the leadership of Mr. Joe Leatherbarrow.—Believe me, Sir, only an onlooker.

RONALD D. WHITTENBURY-KAYE.

A PEAL AT 86.

REMARKABLE FEAT BY AN OLD RINGER.

The ringer of the third bell in the peal at Kirkburton Parish Church on December 8th, a report of which will be found on another page, accomplished a feat which ringers in the Huddersfield district are proud to place on record.

Mr. Joseph Pickering was 86 years of age on August 1st last, and we cannot do otherwise than pay a tribute of admiration to the old gentleman for his pluck and endurance in standing under a bell for 3 hrs. and 10 minutes for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. The writer is pleased to say that when he went to Kirkburton last Sunday evening to congratulate Mr. Pickering on his performance he found him at his usual place ready to take part in the Sunday Service ringing, which he had done intermittently for the long period of 71 years at this church.

Wonderful feats of endurance by old ringers are often related in these columns, but this, it is believed, will constitute a record, as also in long service as a ringer at one church.

Mr. Pickering is the only surviving member of the 'All England Company of Change Ringers,' to which Mr. T. Stead, whose obituary was published last August, also belonged.

Mr. Pickering helped to win a good number of prizes in his day, and these include 12 first and 13 second prizes, of which he was justly proud. His first success in prize ringing was gained in a competition in 1862, when he assisted to capture the fifth prize.

Mr. Pickering acted as judge on many occasions at ringing competitions, and was appointed judge to the old United Counties Association. He has taken great interest in local affairs, and acted as chairman of the old Local Board, and for nine years as chairman of the Urban District Council, his connection with the two bodies extending over a period of 35 years. Mr. Pickering was for 45 years corresponding secretary for the Kirkburton district of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows.

The ringer of the second bell in the peal at Kirkburton was the third generation of Armitages as service ringers with Mr. Pickering.

During the evening a dinner was served in the Masonic Hall, and a social evening followed, at which a pleasant ceremony was performed, a framed enlargement of his own photograph being presented to Mr. Pickering as a token of regard from ringers, choir and friends. It is hoped that Mr. Pickering will be spared many years in as good health as he is at the present to carry on his good work.

LIMPSFIELD, SURREY.—On Friday, Nov. 30th, at St. Andrew's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Minor (1,260 changes), in 42 mins.: T. Firmaker 1, H. Tidy 2, C. Clinch 3, P. Tidy 4, E. Tidy 5, L. Tidy (conductor) 6.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

ESTABLISHED 1844.



ROYAL EXCHANGE, 1921.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921.

THE CROYDON BELL FOUNDRY

CARISBROOKE, 1921.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL 1921.

ACCIDENT AT OAKHAM BELFRY.**TENOR BELL BREAKS.**

An alarming accident occurred at Oakham Parish Church on Sunday week while the bells were being rung for 10 o'clock Eucharist.

The bells were being raised in peal when the tenor, which weighs about a ton and was being rung by Mr. W. E. Higgs, stopped suddenly, with a heavy thud. On going to see what had happened the ringers found that the bell had broken at the crown. The top was still attached to the headstock, but the rest of the bell had become wedged in the frame. Had it come through the floor, of course, the damage would have been much more serious.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**SOUTHERN DISTRICT MEETING ENDS A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.**

The Southern District of the above Association wound up a successful year, by a very pleasant meeting at St. Luke's, Chelsea, on Saturday. It was regretted that such short notice was given, and attendance under the circumstances was very good. Ringers attended from Beddington, Camberwell, Croydon, Ealing, Hammersmith, Islington, Kensington, Streatham, Uxbridge, and the local band. Two ladies were among the company: Mrs. R. F. Deal and Miss P. M. Moss, from Uxbridge. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Kent and Cambridge Royal, Stedman Triples, Superlative and Cambridge Major.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Ven. Archdeacon Bevan for the use of bells, and to Mr. Hinds, and the local company, for having same in readiness.

The officers desire to thank the members for their loyal support during the year, and wish them a very happy Christmas, and in the coming year continued good progress.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**ENJOYABLE MEETING OF SOUTHERN BRANCH.**

A successful and well-attended meeting of the Southern Branch was held at Elmley Castle, on December 15th, when, in addition to branch members, visitors were present from Worcester, Crowle, Hanley Castle and Upton-on-Severn. The bells, a peal of six on the heavy side, were utilised throughout the afternoon, the methods ranging from Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob to Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. The Association's special form of service was held in the Parish Church, the Vicar (the Rev. Harcourt B. S. Fowler) officiating. Going somewhat off the beaten track, he gave an original address, indulging in what he termed 'plain speaking,' a course most acceptable to those present.

A second appeal on behalf of Rowley Regis Bell Restoration Fund realised 15s.

Through the generosity of the Vicar, tea was provided in a private room at the Queen's Head, and he subsequently presided at the business meeting.

Several new members having been elected, it was decided to hold the spring meeting at Overbury, subject to the approval of the Rev. W. Lea, and to attempt the quarterly peal on Elmley bells, with Mr. R. Harris as conductor.

The retiring branch officers (viz., Mr. J. D. Johnson, Master; Mr. J. Hemming, secretary and treasurer; Mr. J. Hall, Central Committee representative) were re-elected en bloc for the ensuing year.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the welcome he had given the branch, the use of the bells, officiating at the service, and his splendid address, his generosity in providing tea, and for presiding at the meeting; to the Rev. D. Fitzmaurice (Vicar of Hampton) for his presence; to the organist and Mr. W. Bennett for their services; and to the ladies who attended to the tea tables, were carried in an unusually hearty manner, those concerned replying briefly.

The Vicar then sprang a pleasant surprise on the members, in announcing that he had arranged a social evening, and had obtained the services of Mr. G. Crook, of Pershore, as pianist. He himself was the life and soul of the party, giving pieces from his extensive repertoire from 'Three Blue Bottles' and 'The Bassoon' to 'The Lads of the Old Brigade,' while his unlimited store of witty anecdotes kept the company in uncontrollable mirth and good-humour. Mr. Crook, in his inimitable manner, gave as recitations, 'The Major,' 'The Butcher's Boy,' and others.

A new composition dealing with local personnel and branch events, was now (sung for the first time by Mr. G. Ashlev, and caused much merriment, while Mr. F. J. Johnson contributed his usual quota with his 'Pack of Lies,' 'Quipps, the Quaker,' 'Bacon and Greens,' and 'Blue-Haired Boy.' Others to contribute to the evening's enjoyment were Messrs. J. Hall ('Old Iron'), and 'Hall's Variation of the Farmer's Boy.' G. J. Hemming ('Me and My Wife'), with Mr. F. Poole at the piano, and J. D. Johnson ('The Trumpeter'). The handbells were also requisitioned, and Treble Twelve being out of the question (owing to the unavoidable absence of Miss Johnson), Treble Ten and Grandsire Caters were rung. A novel feature was introduced by Messrs. G. J. Hemming and J. D. Johnson, who gave handbell selections with piano accompaniments by Mr. Crook. The singing of 'Auld Lang Syne' and the National Anthem, brought to a close what was unanimously voted by all present to be the most successful and enjoyable meeting ever held by the branch.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at Yatton on Saturday, when about 14 towers were represented. The bells were raised in peal, and touches of Stedman Triples rung before the business meeting, which was held in the Church House. The Master (the Rev. C. C. Parker) presided, supported by the Rev. F. E. Peart (Vicar of Yatton).

At the outset the Master said the meeting should have been held at Congresbury, but owing to the illness of the Vicar (Canon Law), who had since died, it could not be held there, and he moved that a vote of sympathy with the relatives be sent. — This was carried by the members standing.

The ordinary business was then proceeded with, one honorary and 27 performing members were elected.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held at Frome.

Two resolutions with regard to alterations of rules—one from the Dunster branch and one from the Ilchester branch—were read. After some discussion it was decided to refer the matter to the committee, and after they had met, to call a special meeting to deal with the matter.—The Master then proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. F. E. Peart for kindly allowing the association to come to Yatton at so short a notice, and for making the arrangements for service, and the use of the bells.—The Vicar briefly replied.

Tea was then partaken of, after which a short service was held in the Parish Church.

During the evening touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Bob and Treble Bob Major were rung.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**ARCHDEACONRY OF ELY.**

A district meeting was held at Ickleton on Saturday, Dec. 15th, when, in addition to the local band, ringers were present from Newmarket, Cambridge, Wendens Ambo, Elmdon, Castle Camps, Great Chesterford, and Stapleford. A short service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. P. H. Cooke) was held in the church, followed by tea and meeting at the Duke of Wellington. Two ringers from Wendens Ambo were elected as non-resident members, and the Rev. R. Routh, Rector of Castle Camps, was elected as a resident member.

The Rev. R. Routh, who has recently been appointed to the living of Castle Camps, cycled a distance of 12 miles to attend the meeting, and took part in several touches.

The Ickleton Society of Ringers generously defrayed half the cost of the tea, which was presided over by the Vicar. The methods rung during the day included Grandsire Doubles, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob on the tower bells, and Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Bob Minor on handbells. The Ickleton ringers also played a number of tunes, including carols, on the handbells.

THREE HOURS OF ROUNDS.

In connection with the peal at Westham, Sussex, recorded this week, it is interesting to note that the bells were first hung in the tower in 1789 by the Whitechapel firm, the tenor being about 8 cwt. In 1921 they were recast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, with additional metal, as a memorial to those killed in the war, their names being inscribed on the bells.

About 20 years ago the ringers of Christ Church, Eastbourne, attempted a peal of Bob Minor, which was lost in the sixth extent, and so far as is known, no other attempt has ever been made to ring a peal on the bells, while only for a short time has there ever been a change ringing party in this tower. The peal now rung was attempted at the invitation of the captain of the Westham band—the tenor man, and the Pevensy five, who can all ring Bob Minor, hope to attempt a peal of Minor shortly.

The time of the peal is not, however, the longest time these bells have been rung. About 40 years ago the newly-appointed Vicar told his ringers that in London peals were rung which lasted three hours. They did not believe him, but in order to test it, six men rang rounds for three hours. What about that for a record?

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A very enjoyable and successful meeting of the Southern Division was held at Rawmarsh on Saturday, December 8th, when members attended from Sheffield (All Saints' and St. Maries'), Rotherham, Wath, Handsworth, Tickhill, Badsworth, Darfield, Wortley and Arksey.

Touches in various methods were brought round previous to a short service at 5 o'clock, conducted by the Rector of Rawmarsh (the Rev. F. Scovell), who based an interesting and inspiring sermon on 'Time, life and God.'—The Rev. C. Wooler, of Worsborough, himself a ringer, very kindly officiated at the organ.

A splendid tea, provided by the local company, was much appreciated, and was followed by the business meeting, which was presided over by the Rector, and supported by his curate (the Rev. L. H. Hecley).

On the proposal of Mr. F. Willey, vice-president of the association, all present stood in silence as a mark of sympathy with the victims of the Nunnery Pit disaster.

Votes of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company for the tea, were heartily carried.

HANDSWORTH RINGERS AT DINNER.

ENJOYABLE GATHERING AT SHEFFIELD.

The third annual dinner and social of the St. Mary's company of ringers was held in the Parish School, Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, December 15th. No dust was allowed to settle on the 'memorial peal' during the afternoon. In the evening a company of about 50 sat down to the festive board, which groaned under the weight of the good things placed thereon by Host and Hostess Turner, of the Old Crown. After full justice had been done to the homely viands, the Rector (the Rev. W. A. Baker), president of the Guild, took the chair, supported by Mr. P. Berley, churchwarden. Among the visitors were Mr. P. Johnson (Leeds), secretary of the Yorkshire Association, Mr. Brothwell, Mr. and Miss Fox (Treeton), Miss Butcher (Richmond), Miss Barker (Harworth) and Miss Sharp (Derby).

The President, in eloquent terms, submitted 'The King,' which was loyally honoured.

Next Mr. F. Cardwell proposed 'The Clergy,' and paid a glowing tribute to the Lord Bishop of Sheffield, who he described as 'one of the best,' and further pointed out that the work of their own Rector had become part and parcel of their daily lives in Handsworth (applause).

Rising to respond, amid further applause, the President remarked that he was proud to say that the lives of his ringers in Handsworth were most certainly in harmony with the message which they as ringers sent out from the bells. Continuing, the speaker said that ringers in many other towers might take from them (the Handsworth ringers) an example. He added that the Bishop was overworked; he was wearing himself out in their service, and it was up to the clergy to do all in their power to see that the Bishop should not overwork himself. He (the speaker) expressed a hope that the clergy in the diocese would be more considerate in the claims they made upon him. The Bishop of Sheffield, continued the speaker, is a man who is very broadminded, and who overflows with humanity. Concerning himself, the Rector facetiously remarked that he would not stay in Handsworth till the parishioners wished to sing the 'Te Deum' over his grave. Concerning the vexed question, 'Is the church a failure?' he condemned the small vision of the clergy where the church did not succeed. Some of the guilt, however, lay at the door of the laity.

Mr. P. Johnson submitted 'The Guild,' and spoke most encouraging words of counsel and advice to this young organisation. No arts in the church called for such patience, self-denial and perseverance as the art and science of change ringing. They had in Mr. Watkinson a leader with great patience and mental ability, and they as a Guild should stand loyally by him, and give him every encouragement. He reminded them that, as a Guild, it was the speed of the slowest that made the pace. In conclusion, the speaker implored them not to ring for amusement alone, but to continue to cultivate the true spirit of patience and kind consideration one with another (applause).

The toast was honoured in a very appropriate manner. The Guild being holders of the Sheffield and District challenge cup for best Sunday attendance, this massive silver trophy was filled with the 'wine of bells,' and handed round as a 'loving cup,' from which all present drank to 'The Guild.' After which, the unassuming Mr. Watkinson, in a brief response, implored the Guild to take note of Mr. Johnson's words, and said if they, as a Guild, put the church 'first' and change-ringing 'second,' and aim at unity, with enthusiasm and patience, progress would be their reward! On behalf of the Guild, he expressed his gratitude and thanks to Mr. Johnson for honouring them with his presence that evening, and for the common-sense advice and good counsel contained in his remarks.

'Our Visitors' was ably submitted by Mr. W. H. Taylor, who commented upon the debt which the Guild owed to Mr. J. Brothwell who had rendered them great assistance when they were first struggling with the primary intricacy of the art.

Mr. Potter, of Barnsley, was down on the toast list to respond, but unfortunately the dinner clashed with a meeting of the Barnsley and District Society, of which Mr. Potter is secretary, and he was prevented by duty in connection with the meeting from being present. Mr. Brothwell was 'called,' but could not be prevailed upon to fill up the vacant 'place,' at the 'front.' Even though 'half-pulls' and 'whole-pulls' were applied, that gentleman would persist in 'dodging' 'behind!' Happily, one of the 'Press Gang,' a 'prentice reporter,' came to the front and filled up the 'place' in a kind of roundhand, shorthand, offhand staccato return of thanks for the kind hospitality shown to the visitors present, also for those who, by force of circumstances, were compelled to leave early.

The speeches were interspersed with musical items. The Rector's wife kindly acted as accompanist at the piano; Mr. H. Wilson, senr., contributed two songs, 'The great, great world,' and 'An old man's treasure'; Messrs. J. Taylor, F. Watkinson and W. H. Taylor gave an excellent rendering of 'Hark! the Sabbath bells,' upon handbells retained in hand. A very amusing address on babies was given by the Rector, who caused roars of laughter with his why's, don'ts and do's.

Miss Fox gave a selection on the mandoline, which was received with applause. A course of Grandfire Caterers was rung in faultless style by Messrs. J. Taylor 1—2, H. Wilson 3—4, F. Watkinson 5—6, W.

Godden 7—8, H. Taylor 9—10. Misses E. Lakin, I. Sidgett, E. Sidgett and A. Dixon contributed songs; Mr. H. Buckler gave a monologue, 'I "had" a little motor-car,' which called for an encore. The Rector gave his humorous rendering of 'No. 1,' in which Mr. J. Taylor joined, with a few extempore skits at different members of the Guild, whose names were introduced. Duets were contributed by Misses I. and E. Sidgett, Messrs. J. E. and W. H. Taylor, which were highly appreciated. A course of Bob Major was tapped off by Messrs. Watkinson, Wilson, Godden and W. H. Taylor, and Mr. J. E. Taylor added to the harmony of the evening also with songs. Games, dancing, and 'Auld Lang Syne' brought to a close a most enjoyable gathering. B. A. T.

A WEST SOMERSET GATHERING.

PEAL OF EIGHT IN PROSPECT FOR WATCHET.

At the invitation of the Vicar of St. Decuman's, the Rev. W. Burgess, the Dunster Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, held their quarterly meeting at Watchet last Saturday. The attendance was an excellent one, there being about sixty members and visitors present, including the Revs. W. Burgess, T. S. Dawson (chairman of the branch), W. G. McTaggart (Rector of Monk-silver), and the Rev. and Mrs. Billington (St. Audries), Messrs. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), Coles Bros. (Taunton), J. R. Hensley (Williton), W. Hoyle, Ringing Master (Minehead), and G. Stacey, hon. secretary (Minehead). The towers represented were Stogumber, Selworthy, Porlock, St. Audries, Chipstable, Wootton Courtenay, Monksilver, Carhampton, Minehead and St. Decuman's.

The members, who were accorded a hearty welcome by Mr. Burgess, assembled in the church, where the afternoon's proceedings commenced with a selection of music, played by the Vicar, on the new organ, which effectively demonstrated the qualities of the instrument, and was much enjoyed. Subsequently the usual form of service was held, conducted by Mr. Dawson and the Vicar, who gave an inspiring address, in the course of which he remarked that some people had an idea that those who ring the bells do not take the same part as others, such as the organist and choristers, in the worship of God, but he held a different view, as he knew many ringers who were loyal church workers. He reminded those present that while as ringers they had such duties to perform as ringing in the New Year, and ringing for weddings, muffled peals, etc., their main duty was in calling people to worship the great God.

Mrs. Hulland presided at the organ during the service, and at its conclusion the company made their way to Snell's Cafe at Watchet, where they were entertained to tea by the Vicar.

The usual business meeting followed, Mr. Dawson presiding. Letters of apology were read from Preh. A. C. Harman (Old Cleeve), the Rev. G. L. Fitzmaurice (Brompton Ralph), and Mr. A. Tout. The business included the election of three ordinary members and one honorary member, and the selection of the next place of meeting. Minehead and Carhampton were proposed, and on a show of hands being taken, the decision was in favour of Carhampton, and it was left to the chairman and hon. secretary to fix a date.

The Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of St. Decuman's for the cordial welcome which he had given the members, and for providing tea for such a large number. — The vote was heartily endorsed, with applause, and in acknowledgment Mr. Burgess said he was very pleased to have them there. He liked the ringers, and being a ringer himself he knew what it was to take his coat off. He intimated that the association would always get the same reception so long as he was at Watchet, and he hoped on their next visit that he would have eight bells in the tower instead of six (applause).

Votes of thanks were also accorded to Mrs. Hulland and to the ringers' wives, who had helped in the reception. — Mr. Stacey also proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors. It added to the pleasure of their meeting, he said, to be honoured by the presence of visitors such as were with them that day, including Mr. and Mrs. Billington and Mr. McTaggart. — Mr. Billington, in response, said they would like the association to hold a meeting at St. Audries as soon as convenient.

Mr. McTaggart moved a vote of thanks to the chairman, and this concluded the proceedings. Afterwards the ringers adjourned to the tower of St. Decuman's, and carried on briskly with the ringing until 8.30 p.m., the methods comprising Grandfire and Steadman Doubles, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and Bob Minor.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Eastern District was held at Hoddesdon on Saturday, when the bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and good practice in various methods was enjoyed. Members were present from Hertford, Ware, Widford, Hunston, Deptford, Bennington, Hatfield, Little Munden, and Edmonton, besides members of the Hoddesdon band.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for kindly allowing the use of the bells, and to Mr. G. Paice, of Edmonton, for presiding at the business meeting.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, December 16th, for evening service, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (10 different callings), in 46 mins.: C. J. Tricker, junr., 1, W. F. Ellingham 2, D. G. Archer 3, C. Folly 4, S. Stilwell 5, H. Gash 6, C. J. Tricker (conductor) 7, C. Gash 8. First quarter-peal by the treble ringer, whose age is 11½ years. Rung with 4, 6, 8 covering.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, Dec. 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major in 50 mins.: *G. Seaman 1, W. E. Oakley 2, *S. Hoare 3, *E. M. Elliott 4, W. Norris 5, F. Edwards 6, W. Hewitt 7, *C. H. Horton (conductor) 8. *First quarter in the method, and first quarter of Major on the bells.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Dec. 16th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes), in 47 minutes: A. J. Moore 1, A. H. Fulwell 2, F. W. Goodfellow 3, G. W. Stevens 4, J. H. Hunnisett 5, H. A. Folkard 6, H. J. Hunnisett 7, L. H. Page (conductor) 8. Also for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), from Holt's Original, in 45 mins.: A. J. Moore 1, A. H. Fulwell 2, J. E. Churchill 3, G. W. Stevens 4, J. H. Hunnisett 5, H. J. Hunnisett 6, F. W. Goodfellow (conductor) 7, C. G. Cooper 8. The latter quarter-peal was the 20th quarter-peal as conductor for Sunday Service this year by the 7th ringer.

FULHAM.—For evening service, on December 16th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. H. Wood 1, A. W. Coles 2, L. H. Page 3, G. C. Iles 4, J. W. Driver 5, H. A. Folkard 6, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 7, E. Page 8.

HESTON.—For Sunday morning service, December 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. Barker 1, S. Rose 2, W. Lewes 3, H. C. Chandler 4, C. I. Edwards 5, C. S. Bird 6, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 7, A. Lewis 8.

LONDON.—St. Clement's Youths. — At St. Clement Danes, Strand, for evening service, on Sunday, Dec. 16th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Miss D. Bryant (first quarter-peal on ten) 1, W. Rushton 2, Mrs. R. F. Deal 3, Miss E. E. Chapman 4, H. Dyas 5, Miss F. Orr 6, R. F. Deal 7, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 8, Challis P. Winney 9, E. Davies (first quarter-peal on ten) 10.

LONDON.—At All Saints', Wandsworth, for evening service, on Sunday, December 16th, in 40 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): J. Rumley 1, E. Bish 2, L. Attwater 3, E. R. Pasmore 4, W. H. Pasmore 5, H. N. Pitslow (conductor) 6, W. S. Langdon 7, T. I. Holloway 8.

GRAVESEND.—On Sunday, December 9th, at the Parish Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 42 mins.: R. Smith 1, H. E. Audsley (conductor) 2, A. Constant 3, J. Constant 4, R. J. Tall 5, R. Constant 6, J. H. Cheesman 7, E. Hadlow 8. First quarter Stedman Triples on the new bells which were dedicated May 30th last.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, December 9th, at the Church of SS. Thomas and Edmund, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: T. Ward 1, P. Plumley 2, W. Stringer 3, F. F. Stringer 4, A. Wilkerson 5, J. W. Pemberton (conductor) 6, B. Wicheil 7, J. Seaborn 8.

SIMPSON, BUCKS.—On Sunday, December 9th, for evening service, in 40 mins., a quarter-peal of Doubles in seven methods, being 240 each of new Doubles, Stedman's Slow Course, and St. Simon's, 120 each of Canterbury Pleasure, Old Doubles and Plain Bob, and 180 of Grandsire: J. H. Clare 1, R. C. Underwood 2, A. E. Hanks (first quarter-peal inside) 3, W. E. Coles 4, C. W. Smith (conductor) 5. First quarter-peal in seven methods on the bells, and by all the band.

—On Sunday, November 18th, for evening service, 720 New Doubles: J. H. Clare 1, R. C. Underwood 2, A. E. Hanks 3, G. Guest 4, C. W. Smith (conductor) 5. First 720 in the method on the bells, and by all the band.

PORTMADOC, N. WALES.—On Sunday evening, December 9th, in 45 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Reggie McMillan (first quarter) 1, J. V. Humphreys 2, H. Wakefield 3, H. Roberts (1st as conductor) 4, F. J. Williams 5, John Owen 6, P. Roberts 7, E. Brown 8. Rung with half-muffled clappers as a last tribute of respect to Mr. David Breese.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKS.—On Sunday, December 9th, for evensong, 720 Wath Delight: A. Gill 1, A. E. Bacon 2, A. Panther 3, A. Nash (conductor) 4, J. E. Sykes 5, C. Walsh 6.

STANTON, SHROPSHIRE.—On Sunday, December 9th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor: H. Edwards (first 720 of Minor) 1, R. Turner 2, H. Clay (first 720 of Minor on a bob bell) 3, S. France 4, W. Clay 5, E. V. Rodenhurst (conductor) 6.

BRAINTREE.—For evensong, on Sunday, Dec. 9th, 768 Kent Treble Bob: W. J. Sadler 1, Miss E. Pettitt 2, C. H. Howard (conductor) 3, W. G. Melbourne 4, G. Lindridge 5, H. E. Hammond 6, G. Wiffen 7, W. H. Hammond 8. — On Sunday, Nov. 11th, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: C. H. Howard 1, W. J. Sadler 2, G. Wiffen 3, G. Lindridge 4, L. W. Wiffen 5, H. J. Collins 6, W. A. Cave (Bristol, composer and conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

SHENFIELD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, Dec. 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 34 mins.: C. J. Brackley 1, A. E. Rainbird 2, H. Turner (first quarter as conductor) 3, E. Furbank 4, W. Leggett 5, W. H. Poole 6.

EALING.—At Christ Church, for Sunday service, on Dec. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. S. Palmer, junr., 1, A. Brookland 2, G. Harbour 3, J. A. Trollope 4, C. Edwards 5, E. J. Walsom 6, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 7, F. S. Palmer, senr., 8.

LEICESTER.—At the Church of the Holy Saviour, for Matins, 672 Grandsire Triples: L. Whitehead 1, J. S. Needham 2, W. Whitehead 3, G. Straw 4, J. Vernon 5, W. H. Clarke (conductor) 6, A. Briggs 7, T. Drury 8. — For evensong, 742 (from Holt's Original): T. Drury 1, J. S. Needham 2, W. Whitehead (conductor) 3, G. Straw 4, J. Vernon 5, W. H. Clarke 6, W. Tanser 7, L. Whitehead 8.

STAFFORD.—At St. Mary's Church, Stafford, on Sunday afternoons, for confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins.: R. Warrilow (first quarter-peal) 1, J. Warrilow 2, F. P. Haggis 3, G. Booth 4, W. G. Curtiss (first quarter-peal inside) 5, W. H. Jones 6, J. J. Taylor (conductor) 7, A. E. Garbett (first quarter-peal) 8.

ERITH, KENT.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): L. Cullum 1, W. Smith 2, E. Iloft 3, D. Harvey 4, G. Cullum 5, A. Moreton 6, J. Moreton (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, R. Middleton 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the father of the ringer of the 5th. Mr. Cullum, senr., is 93 years of age, and has been for 50 years a Sunday service ringer at this church.

SWANAGE.—At St. Mary's Church, for morning service, 400 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: C. Turner 1, R. S. Bastable 2, C. Tonnes 3, D. Hill Brown 4, G. E. Haysom 5, W. Bastable 6, G. J. Williams 7, W. Bishop (conductor) 8.

WEST EALING, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Stephen's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 43 mins.: A. R. Macdonald 1, H. Folkard 2, F. S. Palmer, junr., 3, W. H. Hollier 4, C. Edwards 5, E. J. Walsom (conductor) 6, P. E. Clark 7, F. S. Palmer, senr., 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

SALTBURN-BY-THE-SEA.—On Sunday, November 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Stedman Triples: A. Bolton 1, J. Appleton 2, G. Kembal 3, G. A. Peck 4, G. Duncan 5, C. Pollard 6, R. Laughton (conductor) 7, J. Wedgewood 8. First quarter-peal by local band, and ringers of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7.

ISLEWORTH.—On Sunday morning, Oct. 21st, at All Saints' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Norton 1, F. Goddard 2, J. Beadle 3, T. Beadle 4, J. Milner 5, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 6, A. Beckensale 7, H. Brooks 8.

WITHAM, ESSEX.—On Sunday, Oct. 21st, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 720 New London Pleasure: W. S. Butler 1, W. Butler 2, W. Mellin 3, H. Dorking 4, A. Evers 5, E. Bright (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by all. — For evening service 720 Cambridge Surprise by the same band.

COWFOLD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday Oct. 14th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob: W. Weaver 1, T. Adams 2, G. Warnett 3, H. Turrell 4, A. Feist 5, W. Denman (conductor) 6; 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: A. Feist 1, T. Adams 2, W. Denman 3, H. Turrell 4, A. White 5, R. Strudwick (conductor) 6. Also 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Oxford Single Bob and 240 Plain Bob.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday, October 14th, at St. Peter-at-Arches Church, for harvest festival, evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 46 mins.: D. Skelton 1, C. McGuinness 2, I. Vickers 3, G. Chester 4, C. Chester 5, L. Pask 6, L. Snell (conductor) 7, J. L. Hobbins 8.

FRYERNING, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, before Matins, on October 14th, 720 Double Oxford and 360 Woodbine Treble Bob; before evensong 720 Cambridge Surprise and 120 Oxford Treble Bob: L. Camp 1, G. Camp 2, C. Harrington 3, H. Wright 4, E. Sitch 5, A. Bradley (conductor) 6.

ALDERSHOT.—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, at the Old Parish Church for harvest festival, evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes), in 43 mins.: Sapper R. Hammond R.E. (first quarter-peal) 1, Miss A. Fisher 2, Miss E. M. Mills 3, Miss H. F. Mills 4, F. Croucher 5, Alb. J. Croucher 6, H. Tinsey 7, C.Q.M.S. G. Gilbert R.E. (conductor) 8. First in the method by ringer of the 7th who hails from Seale. Remainder belong to local band.

REMEMBRANCE DAY TOUCHES.

PORTISHEAD.—At the Parish Church, on November 11th for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: C. O. Grieves 1, Miss A. Stokes (conductor) 2, Mrs. Edwards 3, Miss Dobbs 4, R. Williams 5, J. Nisbet 6, W. Gillingham 1, A. Colbourne 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of the 64 men of this parish who gave their lives during the war. The tenor was also tolled 64 times.

RATBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.—At the Parish Church, 1,260 Minor (Kent, Oxford Bob and Bob Minor), half-muffled: C. Priestall 1, V. Wade 2, W. Ball 3, P. Ingram 4, J. H. Spencer 5, C. Allsop (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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LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, December 22nd, at Liversedge Parish Church. Usual arrangements.—H. Lolphouse, Hon. Sec., 6, Laurel Grove, Armley, Leeds.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Shoreham on Saturday, December 22nd. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at Street's Restaurant at 5 o'clock.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—The next social evening will take place at the St. Martin's Hotel, City, at 7 p.m., on Saturday, December 22nd. Ringing at the Cathedral (10) from 4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., 6 p.m. to 6.45 p.m.—Albert Walker, 81, Baker Street, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday, December 22nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 p.m.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

TICKHILL, YORKS.—These bells will be re-opened for ringers on Saturday, December 22nd. Ringing from 2.30 to 7 p.m. Tea, 1/6 per head.—J. E. Cawser, Doncaster Road, Tickhill.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society). Established 1824.—Meetings for December, 1923: St. Clement Danes, Monday, 24th, 7.30 p.m.—J. Bullock, Hon. Sec., pro tem.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Newport on December 26th (Boxing Day). Service in All Saints' Church at 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting to follow in Lyne Road Mission Room. All Saints' bells available from 12 o'clock. Also St. Woolos' bells from 12 o'clock till 3.30 and after the meeting.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—The annual meeting will be held at Newport on Boxing Day. St. Thomas' bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, 5, followed by business meetings. Outstanding subscriptions should be forwarded to W. Upton, Dist. Sec., 10, Elm Grove, Newport, I.W.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The bells of East Retford (10) and West Retford (6) will be available for ringing at 1.30 p.m. on Boxing Day, 26th inst., to all concerned, and a good attendance is desired.

A Happy Christmas and a Bright New Year to all Ringers in the British Isles and beyond the Seas is the sincere wish of H. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity on Saturday, December 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meet-

ing 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Stockton-on-Tees, on Wednesday, January 2nd. Bells (10) available from 1.30 p.m. All ringers welcome. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Newton, 19, Londonderry Road, Stockton-on-Tees, as early as possible?—A. Hunter, Dist. Sec., 22, Dickinson Street, Darlington.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—Coleshill Branch.—An invitation is given to members of the above Guild to ring on the augmented peal of 8 from 3 p.m. on Saturday, January 5th, 1924. Tea provided free to members sending in their names before Thursday, January 3rd, to C. Dale, High Street, Coleshill, Birmingham. The dedication of the new bells takes place on New Year's Eve at the watchnight service.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE SOCIETY.—Owing to Rotherham Parish Church bells not being available, the next meeting will probably be held at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, Rotherham, on Saturday, January 5th. Details next week.—T. W. Chown, Hon. Sec., 68, Canada Street, Sheffield.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A meeting will be held at Linton on Saturday, January 12th, 1924. Tower open at 3 o'clock. A short service at 5 o'clock. Tea given by the Vicar at the Institute (opposite the Church) after the service. Will all those intending being at the tea please let me know not later than Tuesday, January 8th?—S. Hayzelden, Hon. Dist. Sec., Lower Street, East Farleigh.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be at Ilkeston on Saturday, January 12th, 1924. Belfry open from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Committee meeting at 3.45. Tea at 4.30. General meeting to follow tea. Will those requiring tea kindly advise Mr. C. J. Baker, 28, Station Road, Ilkeston, not later than Friday, January 11th?—A. C. Wright, Hon. Sec., Strathallan, Darley Dale.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.—The third annual dinner of the Bristol United Guilds will be held at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, on Saturday, January 12th, 1924. Commence 6 p.m. Full details will be given later. Tickets, 6/-, may be obtained now from any of the Bristol Towers, Stewards, or direct from the Hon. Sec., Mr. E. Guise, 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The William Doubleday Crofts' memorial dinner will be held at the Albert Hotel, Derby Road, Nottingham, on Saturday, January 26th, at 6.45 p.m. A first-class musical programme will be given. All ringers and ringers' friends heartily welcome. All applications for tickets (3/9 each) to be made not later than Tuesday, January 22nd, to W. A. Janes, 52, Castle Gate, Nottingham.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society). Established 1824.—A Centenary Dinner will be held at "The Bell," Holborn, on Saturday, February 23rd, 1924. Tickets may be obtained at 5/- each from the dinner committee, whose names will be published in later issue.—J. Bullock, Hon. Sec., pro tem., 56, Halliford Street, Essex Road.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.

To all Members of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, South and West District, and all ringing Friends near and far, please accept our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.—R. Holloway, Ringing Master; W. H. Hollier, Hon. Secretary.

PUBLICATION.

'AMONG THE BELLS.' — THE RINGING CAREER OF LATE REV. F. E. ROBINSON, M.A., Vicar of Drayton, Berks, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Part I. to XX may be had singly at 6d. net. Unbound numbers I to XX complete, 8s. 6d. Or the whole work bound in cloth for 10s. 6d. net. From MRS. ROBINSON, Fair Home, Wokingham.

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MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BISHOPSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE. — On Saturday, Dec. 8th, at the Church of St. Mary, 1,120 London Surprise Major: O. H. Giles 1, P. W. Cave 2, G. Pullinger 3, W. G. Rowe 4, F. S. Bayley 5, F. W. Rogers 6, D. C. Williams 7, G. Williams (conductor) 8.

HODNET, SALOP.—On Monday, Oct. 29th, at the residence of Mr. E. V. Rodenhurst, at Kenstone, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), ten different callings, in 33 mins., on handbells: J. Perry (conductor) 1, 2, 3, 4, E. V. Rodenhurst 5-6. Believed to be the first quarter-peal in Hodnet parish; also 180 Bob Minor and 360 Stedman Doubles.

CARSHALTON.—On Wednesday, Oct. 31st, for evensong (eve of the festival of All Saints), at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 40 mins.: W. Buck 1, G. W. Heather 2, C. H. Kippin junr., 3, A. H. Bundle 4, F. E. Darby 5, T. G. Bannister 6, P. Holder (conductor) 7, S. W. Holdaway 8.

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COLLECTION OF PEALS—SECTION II (Plain Bob and Double Oxford Bob)	1 0
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