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THE PARTING OF THE WAYS.

There is always a touch of sadness at parting with old and well tried servants, and there must have been such a feeling among the members of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, when, at their annual meeting, both the Master (the Rev. Prebendary C. C. Parker) and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. E. E. Burgess) resigned their respective offices. They have each served the association for nineteen years, having been appointed at the same meeting, and now they are going out of office together. They have seen the association through some of its most difficult years—the years of the war—and they have the satisfaction of knowing that they are leaving it not only re-established on a solid foundation, but in as sound a position as it has ever been at any time. The Bath and Wells Association has 142 towers in union, and a total membership of over 1,600, while its funds amount to more than £140. This is an eminently satisfactory condition, especially when it is remembered that Somerset, from the ringers' standpoint, labours under the same difficulty that handicaps other South-Western counties, namely, lack of means of ready inter-communication. Thanks, however, to the system of well organised branches, the association has been able to reach the ringers of the diocese in a very effective manner, and the Master and Hon. Secretary go out of office knowing that they leave to their successors an association strongly welded by a spirit of loyalty, and one which is making headway in method ringing.

It is often difficult to find suitable men to fill with competence vacancies such as those which have now arisen in the Bath and Wells Diocese, but the members can, we believe, look forward with confidence to the future under the guidance of the two men they have selected to follow the Rev. Preb. C. C. Parker and Mr. Burgess. In their new Master they have a practical ringing-parson, and in Mr. J. T. Dyke, as hon. secretary, they have one of the most enthusiastic and capable ringers in the West. They are fortunate in having at their service a man so well fitted in every respect for the task, and are to be congratulated upon making such an excellent choice. If, as the retiring Master said, he believed the introduction of new blood would be beneficial to the association, then, with the two men elected, the association ought to rise to a high pinnacle among the ringing organisations of the country. Beginning from an already satisfactory position, the new officers have an excellent foundation to build on, and we are certain that the new secretary, on whom the bulk of the work must necessarily fall, will not fail to leave his mark on the future of the association.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

AT THE CAMPANILE OF THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES Treble	GEORGE L. BRUNSDON ... 6
JESSE GILLET 2	WILLIAM BOLTON 7
THOMAS BALDWIN 3	GEORGE CONDOCK 8
WILLIAM H. HARRIS 4	ERNEST E. DAVIS 9
JOHN AUSTIN 5	JOHN W. DAVIS Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

First peal of Stedman Caters on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

THURCASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes.

AT THE LATIMER CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

F. H. DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

*LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD Treble	WILLIAM COPE 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 2	†C. ARTHUR MANNING ... 6
ALBAN DISNEY 3	WILLIAM H. CLARKE ... 7
†PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM ... 4	JOHN GRANT Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Stedman on tower bells, and first peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal in the method, and first peal of Triples on an 'inside' bell. ‡ First peal in the method.

NORWICH.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, July 27, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-DE-SEPOLCHERE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES RAMPLEY Treble	GEORGE MAYERS 5
ERNEST J. NEWELL 2	ERNEST G. HIBBINS ... 6
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 3	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... 7
CHARLES E. BORRETT 4	GEORGE H. CROSS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEO. H. CROSS.

First peal in the method by Mr. E. G. Hibbins, for whom this peal was arranged, he being elected a member of the Guild previous to starting for the peal.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST WHITING Treble	FREDERICK J. ROOPE ... 5
FREDERICK R. BORRETT ... 2	*CHARLES CLARKE 6
CHARLES CUTTING 3	JOHN SNELLING 7
*WALTER BARRETT 4	FREDERICK SEAGER Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN.

Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

JOHN A. COLE Treble	GEORGE W. STEERE ... 5
CHARLES E. BURDOCK 2	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 6
HENRY HUTTON 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON, JUN. 7
OLIVER SIFFERTS 4	*ALFRED H. PULLING ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

* 800th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Hutton and G. W. Steere.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER Treble	ALFRED PYE 5
ALBERT W. COLES 2	WILLIAM PYE 6
CHARLES T. COLES 3	HAROLD W. CLARK 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	*REDBEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. J. Butler. * 500th peal.

NETHERSEALE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 29, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. W. PARKER'S SIX-PART NO. 1. Tenor 11½ cwt.

JAMES PAGETT Treble	JOHN CURTIS 5
THOMAS MERIDETH 2	JOSEPH LORD 6
MAURICE SWINFELD 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
JOHN H. SWINFELD 4	JOSEPH COTTON Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

WYRARDISBURY, BUCKS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, July 30, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt.

*EDWIN BORLEY Treble	WILLIAM WELLING 5
HUBERT J. CHAFFEY 2	JOHN B. HESSEY 6
*HERBERT WORSFOLD 3	SIDNEY G. ARMSTRONG 7
†ARTHUR CROSS 4	*WILLIAM PERRY Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM WELLING.

* First peal. † Proposed a life member of the above Guild previous to starting.

GRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 30, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINE'S,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. Treble	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL 5
C.-S.-M. JAMES BENNETT 2	ALFRED G. HILL 6
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. 3	HERBERT HOLDEN 7
ISAAC G. SHADE 4	GEORGE H. DAYNES Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER (No. 7). Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.
Rung as a welcome to Canon E. L. Gedge, late Rector of Gravesend, on his induction as Rector of Grayford.

DEANE, BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 31, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

TITUS BARLOW Treble	CANON H. J. ELSEE 5
FRED F. RIGBY 2	THOMAS HENSHER 6
ERNEST COTSFORTH 3	FRED PAGE 7
*ARTHUR HEYWOOD 4	THOMAS B. WORSLEY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

* First peal in the method.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb. in G.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR 5
FREDERICK A. BURNETT 2	*RICHARD J. STONE 6
MISS BERIMA M. MILLS 3	WILLIAM E. CHEATER 7
FREDERICK E. COLLINS 4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method and first attempt.

WHITCHURCH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

THOMAS BUTLER, SEN. Treble	WILLIAM B. KYNASTON 5
ROBERT T. EVANS 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 6
*FREDERICK R. EVANS 3	THOMAS R. BUTLER 7
WILLIAM S. HIGGINSON 4	WILLIAM HIGGINSON, SEN. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

* First peal in the method, and elected a member before starting the peal.

DUNSTABLE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

Tenor 24 cwt.

*FREDERICK VICKERS Treble	EDMUND J. HOBBS 5
*HAROLD J. HAZELL 2	GEORGE T. CROFT 6
CLIFFORD ROLLINGS 3	HORACE H. SMITH 7
MISS EVELYN STEEL 4	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN Tenor

Composed by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by A. E. SHARMAN.

* First peal in the method. Arranged and rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. A. G. Matthews, an enthusiastic member of the local company, who was married earlier in the day in the above church.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

JOHN HALL Treble	GEORGE BAILEY 5
ALFRED KEEBLE 2	JAMES M. BAILEY 6
LEONARD P. BAILEY 3	JAMES G. ROMSEY 7
*CHARLES E. FISHER 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

* First peal of London Surprise.

COLESHILL, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

BERNARD W. WITCHELL Treble	JAMES F. CLARKE 5
*GEORGE E. LARGE 2	FREDERICK CLAYTON 6
*CHARLES WATHEMAN 3	WILLIAM DAVIES 7
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by BERNARD W. WITCHELL.

* First peal in the method. First in the method on the bells. Rung to celebrate the first anniversary of the marriage of the Rev. Canon G. E. Badger, M.A., and Mrs. Badger, which occurred on July 31st; also in honour of the birth of a son on that date. Illness prevented the peal being rung at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, where the Canon is Vicar.

GET YOUR
RINGING
FRIENDS
TO SUPPORTTHE RINGING
WORLDBY
TAKING
A COPY
EVERY
WEEK

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	FREDERICK A. COLEY ... 5
FREDERICK J. CULLUM, SEN. ... 2	JOHN S. MORTON ... 6
ROBERT THOMPSON ... 3	HERBERT HOLDEN ... 7
ALFRED G. HILL ... 4	FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN. Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER (No. 11).

Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 3, 1925, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary, Portsea,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

JOSIAH D. HARRIS ... Treble	CHARLES W. CLARKE ... 5
GEORGE WILLIAMS ... 2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 6
TOWER R. TAYLOR ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS ... 7
EDWIN F. PIKE ... 4	KEITH HART ... Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by KEITH HART.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 3, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

ERNEST W. FURBANK ... Treble	CHARLES T. COLES ... 5
WILLIAM H. HEWLETT ... 2	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 6
GEORGE R. PYE ... 3	HENRY T. WILSON ... 7
ALBERT W. COLES ... 4	WILLIAM PYE ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

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

BOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 3, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Helena,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

YORK GREEN ... Treble	*FRANK WARRINGTON ... 5
†CHRISTOPHER WOOLLEY ... 2	WILFRED HOOTON ... 6
*MISS C. FIELDS ... 3	*H. FIELDS ... 7
*WILFRED C. IBBETT ... 4	T. REGINALD DENNIS ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

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

† First peal in the method on tower bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ASPLEY GUISE, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 25, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, Lancashire, Stamford, Durham, York and Cambridge. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*WALTER CHIBNALL ... Treble	EDMUND J. HOBBS ... 4
CHARLES W. CLARKE ... 2	HORACE H. SMITH ... 5
MISS E. STEELE ... 3	W. STAPLETON ... Tenor

* First peal in seven Surprise methods.

NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 19th, for Matins, 720 Cambridge Surprise. Also for evensong, 240 each of London, Wells and York Surprise.—On Sunday, July 26th, for evensong, 720 Milton Surprise: H. Wibberley 1, C. S. Ryles 2, G. E. Lawrence 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, P. Triner 5, J. W. Walker (first 720 Milton Surprise) 6, J. F. Ryles 7, J. Walley 8, W. P. Deane 9, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 10, W. Wheeldon (Bucknall) 11.

OLD WARDEN, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILFRED C. IBBITT ... Treble	WILLIAM A. TACK ... 4
MISS KITTY WILLERS ... 2	ALBERT E. AUSTIN ... 5
*MISS CATHERINE FIELDS ... 3	ROBERT HOWARD ... Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise. The ringers of the 4th and 5th were elected life members of the association before starting the peal.
† 50th peal. The band wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

COMBE FLOREY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Oxford and three of Kent.

WILLIAM H. LLOYD ... Treble	WILLIAM H. COLES ... 4
ALFRED J. WYATT ... 2	PERCY MERSON ... 5
*WILLIAM UNDERHILL ... 3	JAMES HUNT ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal of Minor. First of Minor on the bells.

ROOLE, CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, three 720's of Kent Treble Bob, and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WALTER THOMAS ... Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY ... 4
SAM JONES, JUN. ... 2	ALBERT J. HUGHES ... 5
GEORGE R. JONES ... 3	JAMES H. RIDING ... Tenor

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

First peal of Minor on the bells.

SHENFIELD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1925, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's.

*W. H. POOLE ... Treble	G. MILES ... 4
A. RAINBIRD ... 2	H. TURNER ... 5
E. FURBANK ... 3	W. LEGGATT ... Tenor

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal. First peal of Minor as conductor.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

The July meeting was held at Tring on the 25th, but, although the weather was perfect, it would have been a failure had it not been for the presence of members outside the district. Only five district members attended, plus the local band and the secretary. The others, who received a cordial welcome, came from Dunstable, Houghton Regis, Clifton, St. Albans, Hitchin and Oxhey. These were supplemented in the evening by the Linslade (Bucks) band, who had arranged their outing in order to visit this association.

The methods rung during the day were: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Duffield Major. A short service was held at 5 p.m., conducted by the Rev. S. Meade, who gave a very instructive address.

After tea the business meeting took place, the Rev. Meade kindly taking the chair. One new member from Tring was elected. The motion, 'as announced for the opinion of the district' in 'The Ringing World,' was carried, after a slight verbal alteration. Aspley End was chosen as the next meeting-place on the second Saturday in September. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, the Rev. Meade for his splendid address, the organist for her services, and Mr. F. Reeve for making all preparations concluded the meeting. Four members then rang two courses of Plain Bob on handbells, after which the gathering adjourned to the tower for more ringing.

The Western District members are urged to support their own district and county association.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

YOUNG ASSOCIATION MAKES HEADWAY.

The Guild's second annual meeting was held on Saturday, July 11th, in the parish of Sketty, Glamorgan, when the tower of St. Paul's Church (eight bells) was open for ringing from 10 a.m. The towers of St. Mary's, Swansea, and St. Catherine's, Gorseinon, were also open for ringing, and full advantage was taken of the opportunity. The towers represented at the meeting were Brecon, Cadoxton, Llanstephan, Aberavon, Morriston, Neath, Llanelly, Gorseinon, Talgarth, and Swansea.

A short service was held in St. Paul's Church at 3.30 p.m., when the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (Dr. E. L. Bevan) preached to the ringers present. The local branch of the Mothers' Union was also present at the service. The Archdeacon of Gower read the lesson, and the Rev. Canon R. J. Stewart intoned the service, the surpliced choir being also in attendance. During the course of his address, the Bishop said the Guild of Ringers represented those who were making a free contribution to the church life of their diocese. The work was not by any means new, and they had only to see some of the bells in their towers—for instance, that bell which was no longer in use at Llanillo, Breconshire—to realise the work to which they had contributed for a long period of time. Nothing was more encouraging to the devotional life of the church than the cheerful sound of the bells. In the exercise of their high privilege, ringers were making a vital contribution towards the devotional life of the people of the land.

The company afterwards adjourned to the Church Hall, where they were entertained to tea by Canon and Mrs. H. J. Stewart, the members of the Mothers' Union (local branch) being also entertained. The Lord Bishop proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Canon and Mrs. Stewart for the sumptuous repast, and this was seconded by the Ven. Archdeacon of Gower, and the applause which followed showed the ringers' appreciation of the good things which had been provided for them.—Mrs. Stewart suitably responded.

The general meeting was afterwards held in a field adjoining the church, where the ringers sat down under some magnificent specimens of oak trees. The Lord Bishop presided, and he was supported by the Ven. Archdeacon of Gower, Canon H. J. Stewart, the Rev. W. J. Thomas, Gorseinon; the Rev. J. Rowland Thomas, Llanstephan; the Rev. T. R. J. Jones, Brecon, and other clergy. The minutes of the last annual meeting were read, and after approval, were duly signed by the Bishop. The Lord Bishop was unanimously re-elected president, and the vice-presidents (the Rev. Canon E. A. T. Roberts, Sub-Dean, Canon H. J. Stewart, the Archdeacon of Gower, the Archdeacon of Brecon, and the Rev. R. M. Cole-Hamilton) were also re-elected. Mr. J. Hammond (Neath) was elected Master of the Guild, and Messrs. W. R. Howells and Charles Powell were re-elected hon. secretary and hon. treasurer respectively. The committee elected consisted of Messrs. W. T. Hargest (Brecon), W. H. Bicknell (Builth Wells), Chas. Powell (Llangatock), W. D. Griffiths (Talgarth), C. Morse (Sketty), D. J. Williams (Gorseinon), E. Stith (Aberavon), J. P. Hyett (Glasbury), George Morris (Llanstephan), George Lewis (Morriston), D. J. Lewis (Cadoxton), S. T. Rackham (Llanelly), Rev. T. R. J. Jones (Brecon) and Mrs. E. G. Bellringer (Baglan).

The Hon. Treasurer presented his report for the year ending 31st December last, and this was adopted by the Guild. It was encouraging to note that there was a decided increase in the membership of the Guild, as well as in the honorary and life members.

The Hon. Secretary presented his report, dealing with the number of peals rung during the year and various other matters.

Washbrook Memorial.—The Hon. Secretary read a circular he had received from the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and it was unanimously carried that a contribution of 10s. be made from the funds of the Guild in addition to a collection to be taken at the end of the meeting. This collection realised £1 5s. 9d., and the secretary was asked to forward the money to the proper quarter.

Central Council representative.—The Master of the Guild (Mr. J. Hammond) was elected the Guild's representative on the Central Council, and in the event of his being unable to attend, the hon. secretary was asked to deputise.

The next annual meeting was fixed to take place at Brecon on the first Saturday in July, 1926.

The next ringing competition is to take place at Baglan on the 22nd May, 1926, and the preliminary arrangements with regard to methods, etc., were left in the hands of the committee.

The Master of the Guild undertook the secretarial duties for the Southern District, and Mr. E. G. Matthews was elected as Northern District secretary.

Upon a vote being taken, it was resolved that two-thirds of the balance in the hands of district secretaries, after paying all their expenses, etc., during the year, be handed over to the funds of the Guild.

Messrs. W. H. Fussell (Slough) and A. Hatton (Neath) were elected life members of the Guild, and the Rev. Canon Griffith Thomas, Morriston, the Rev. J. L. Thomas and Mr. A. L. David were elected hon. members.

A vote of thanks to the Lord Bishop for his address at the service,

and for presiding over the meeting, was unanimously carried, and the company then dispersed to the towers, where touches of Grandsire, Kent, Stedman, Double Norwich and Plain Bob were well rung.

A committee meeting of the Guild afterwards considered designs of a membership card which had been submitted by Mr. W. H. Fussell, and the hon. secretary was requested to communicate the committee's wishes thereon to the donor.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

EASTERN BRANCH.

The quarterly meeting of the above was held on July 25th at Tattershall. Members were present from Benington, Boston, Butterwick, Frampton, Skirbeck, Stickney, Old Leake, Wigtoft, and friends from Spalding, Surfleet, Grimsby and Heckington. Ringing commenced about 3.30 p.m., and at 4.15 p.m. a short service was conducted by the President (Rev. J. R. Trotter, Vicar of Freiston-with-Butterwick). The address at this service was given by the Rev. H. Law James, Master of the Lincoln Guild. Tea was partaken of by 30 members and friends.

The business meeting was held immediately after tea, the President (Rev. J. R. Trotter) being in the chair. One new member was elected. Kilton was unanimously selected as the place for the next meeting, to be held in October. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to which one of the churchwardens responded, owing to the Vicar's absence. The tower was again visited, but the ringing could not be made enjoyable on account of the bad 'go' of the bells. The Rector of Coningsby met the ringers during the afternoon, and invited them to visit Coningsby tower. At 6.30 p.m. the bells at Tattershall were lowered in peal, and all repaired to Coningsby. Here the bells were found in better 'going' condition than at Tattershall, with the exception of the treble, and touches of Cambridge, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor were successfully brought round.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A party of ringers of the above from Gravesend, Northfleet and Milton towers paid a visit to Faversham tower on Sunday, July 26th. Leaving Gravesend at 8 a.m., the journey was made by charabanc, arriving at Faversham Church at 9.50 a.m. The local band met the party, and the bells, being ready, a start for a quarter-peal of Grandsire was made and well rung in 45 minutes for morning service.

After ringing the ringers and friends were very kindly entertained to a light lunch by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph, which was much appreciated. Mr. J. Avis, in thanking them on behalf of the ringers, asked Mr. and Mrs. Ralph to accept a small present as a token of appreciation. To Mrs. Ralph a pair of photo frames, Mr. Ralph tobacco and Tommy some chocolate. Mrs. Ralph stating it had been a pleasure, and hoped to see all again at some future date. Gravesend was safely reached at 1.45.

Ringers of quarter-peal, 1260 changes: 1 John Avis, 2 Edward Beer, junr., 3 Wm. Beer, 4 Richard Smith, 5 Guy Ambrose (cond.), 6 William Ware, 7 George Morrad, 8 Edward Hadlow. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the local band for their kindness.

RINGING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

On June 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, near Capetown, by the following: 1 I. Wright, 2 L. Green, 3 J. Wood, 4 N. Foster, 5 E. Gustafson (conductor), 6 H. Wright. This, writes Mr. Ernest Gustafson, is the first time for many years that change ringing has been done at the above church, and it was arranged as a birthday compliment to the Rector (the Rev. S. B. Hirdliff) and on the occasion of the diamond jubilee of the church.

The writer has for many years tried to raise a band of ringers, but met with poor success, and great credit is due to the young men, who worked hard to master ringing, and who are all local residents.

Thanks are due to Mr. F. Heywood May, who, on passing through Capetown on his way to Durban, very kindly explained the calling to the conductor; also Mr. Green, who is an old ringer, and has given unsparingly of his time.

I should like very much to say through you, that if any ringers leaving England to settle in or near Capetown, would kindly call on us and give us their assistance, it will be very highly appreciated.

We are very anxious to commence on Grandsire Triples, but are unable to do so on account of lack of members; but, in the meantime, we are plodding along at Bob Minor, and trust, with a certain amount of luck, to ring full 720s shortly.

We are so proud of our performance that we must let you know what we are doing and what we hope to do. Our ambition is to ring a full peal.

CHARING, KENT.—On Sunday morning, August 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) was rung in 47 mins.: A. V. Good 1, W. Henniker 2, W. Good 3, J. Edwards 4, F. Good (conductor) 5, J. Colbreay 6.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

MANCROFT TENOR—THOMAS HURRY—NORWICH TOWERS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

It was something of a shock to be told that Mancroft tenor is now only thirty-seven hundredweights and a bit. That is a big drop from the forty-three hundredweights we thought she was, and even from the forty-one hundredweights which it seems she actually was before the recent rehangings. And the decline in her position among the big ringing bells is still more striking. Thirty years ago the Norwich ring ranked fifth among the twelve bell peals; only St. Paul's Cathedral, St. Saviour's, Southwark; Bow, Cheapside; in London; and York and Worcester Cathedrals were heavier. Exeter and Wells Cathedrals and Manchester Town Hall had weightier ten bell peals, and Sherborne Abbey a weightier eight bell peal. Now there are somewhere about a score ringing peals with heavier tenors.

This difference has been brought about partly by the casting of new bells, but almost as much by the reduction of the weight of the bell, through tuning and having her cannons cut off. I believe she is the only bell in the tower that has been tuned; and it is worthy of remark that she is the only one that does not belong to the original ring of twelve. They were cast by Pack and Chapman in 1775, and were at once universally acknowledged as the finest ringing peal in England. It is quite a matter of opinion whether they have been equalled by any of the modern and heavier peals.

On July 13th, 1814, the old tenor was broken during ringing, by the clapper coming out, and was recast by Thomas Mears. The new bell was always considered not quite as good as the others, but I hear that retuning has improved her. That is all to the good, but it is a great relief to know that the other eleven have not been touched.

Everyone knows that the old Norwich Scholars were for more than a century almost, if not quite, the leading band in England. But though they had plenty of good ringers and plenty of heavy-bell ringers, only one single-handed peal was rung on the bells from 1775 to 1892. Heavy-bell ringing in the old days was a different thing from what it is now. Nowadays frames are put together in the foundry and properly levelled up, gudgeons are turned up true on the stock in a lathe, and ball or roller bearings are fitted. Then, everything was done by hand, and in the tower. Often a bell would not go at all well until she had been rung a lot, and had worn the bearings, or until the brasses had worked loose on the frame, and so formed a sort of 'self-aligning bearings.' The actual physical strength required to ring a big bell was usually far greater than at present. With modern hanging the bell runs much freer, and is much more responsive to slight alterations in the amount of pull. Far less strength is required, but probably more skill and brain work. You have to know not only the exact amount of pull to give her, but also the exact time when to check her. This last is, perhaps, the more important of the two.

It was not for want of trying that Norwich tenor was never rung single-handed. Several attempts were made, and early in the nineteenth century a certain John Trowse nearly rang her to a peal of Bob Major, but became exhausted, and had to stop. Trowse with his brother's help, had already rung her to 6,240 of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus.

The first man who did ring her was Thomas Hurry, who turned her in to a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. This was considered a marvellous performance in heavy bell ringing, as no doubt it was, and Hurry took steps to prevent its ever being beaten by forbidding anyone even to make the attempt. Years afterwards, so the tale goes, a man of the name of Smith wished to try and ring her single-handed to a peal. Hurry apparently could not be left out, and was induced to start by the pretence that they were going for a long touch. All went well for a time, and the end seemed in sight, till the old man woke up to what they were about. He set his bell, and, turning to the tenorman, said: 'Never as long as I live!' And it was never as long as he lived.

Smith was one of a family of ringers, all fine heavy-bell men. His son George, had, I think, the best and easiest style of any big bell ringer I have ever known. He was the first man who rang Mancroft tenor to a 5,000 of Major, but the peal was not completed, or was false for some reason or other—calling or shift of course—and could not stand.

Thomas Hurry was for years the leading man in Mancroft tower, and among Norwich ringers. He was no conductor, though he called a peal or two, and no composer, though you will find a few compositions of his in Hubbard's book, but he seems to have been rather better to do than the rest, and to have been of a very masterful disposition—a man who intended and managed to get his own way. Mr. Henry Hains told me that he remembered, when a young man, Hurry, who was of big, heavy build, and then very old and broken, ringing the second at Mancroft half sitting on a high chair, which he used to support himself when ringing.

He was by trade a weaver. Weaving was then the staple industry of Norwich, and the Norwich Weavers the best in England. But, he

had other activities, including bell hanging. Among others, he hung the two trebles at St. Andrew's, Norwich. The bell frame at that church is about as weird a one as you will find anywhere. First there was a five-bell frame, set corner-wise in the tower. On that a frame was built up to make the ring into eight. And on the top of this Hurry perched his two trebles. The ropes came down just anyhow. The ninth was opposite the tenor; the treble opposite the second, and generally in ringing rounds you had to follow someone on the other side of the tower. It was here that the first peal of London Surprise Major was rung. Of course, in ringing London you would not notice the ropes being out of regular order so much as you would if you were ringing Bob Major or Treble Bob. But it would make the conductor's job a hard one if he were trying to do anything more than bob-calling.

Hurry had some trouble over the two trebles. He was steep-keeper at the tower, and the idea of making the bells a ring of ten was his own. It seems he approached the church authorities on the matter, and having got what he thought was their consent ordered and then hung the bells. But when he sent in his bill they repudiated the whole affair. They were quite ready to thank him for his generous gift, but as to paying, not a bit of it! That is how I heard the tale, but if you ask me how much of it is true, all I can say is that, in these notes, I am not on my oath.

The bells are still in St. Andrew's tower, and the frame is still there, and the visitor to Norwich who is sufficiently curious may see it; but the bells have long since been totally unringable. I don't think they have been rung since, in my young days, I and one or two more got together a band to try them.

What struck me very forcibly when I was last in Norwich was the disgraceful and filthy condition of so many of the towers. The condition of Mancroft, both bells and belfry, is all it should be, and so is that of the eights at St. John's and St. Miles. But the others, the eight at St. Giles' and the sixes and fives are in a shocking condition.

Once was the time when on a Sunday morning every bell in Norwich was chimed. There are nearly forty churches in the old city, a goodly proportion of them with rings of three and upwards, and the general effect was striking and pleasing. Now, unless I am mistaken, they do not seem even to chime the threes and fives and sixes. Yet the churches themselves seem better cared for than ever they were.

The old Norwich Scholars were a curious, and, from our point of view, not very attractive lot. They certainly drank too much, but we have no right to judge them hardly for that. Excessive drinking was the vice of all classes in England during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and there is not the slightest reason, notwithstanding the many hard things that have been said of them, to think that the old ringers were any worse than others. They certainly were very uncouth and rough to visitors. If you were a skilled ringer, and known to be such, well and good. Otherwise you did not get much chance of a pull. And young ringers did not get much chance. They could go to practice after practice, and sit on the benches and look on. It was only when there was a short meeting that they had any opportunity.

Two old customs show something of the state of affairs. On old year's night it was the custom for the parson, churchwardens, and leading parishioners, to pay for the filling of a big earthenware jug with a potent and subtle compound called 'hot pot,' and to join the ringers in drinking it in the belfry.

Assize week was the great ringing time. The bells were rung on the arrival of the judge, and off and on during the whole time he was in the city. Ringers would come up from different parts of Norfolk, and the time would be spent partly in the tower, and the rest in the public-house. There were no closing times then. The ringers would sleep and eat where they could, some not taking off their clothes the whole time.

The worst of the old traditions died out with the last of the old school, nearly fifty years ago. The best of the old traditions, good ringing, and especially good striking, survived for many years.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

The ringers of North Notts held their first meeting at Laxton on Saturday, July 11th. The gathering was largely attended, 16 towers being represented, there being 43 ringers and friends present. The bells of St. Michael's were at the disposal of ringers from 2 p.m. to 8.30 p.m., and Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Oxford and Kent and Cambridge and London Surprise were rung. Tea, presided over by the Vicar of Laxton, was served to 43. The business meeting followed, the Vicar in the chair. The Rev. F. W. J. Daniels, Rector of North Wheatley, was elected a vice-president and honorary member. The next meeting will be held at East Markham on Saturday, September 19th, and will be advertised in this paper. A vote of thanks, to which the Vicar suitably replied, was accorded to him for use of the bells and presiding over the tea and meeting.

Further ringing was enjoyed until the rope of the second bell broke, cutting short a touch of Cambridge Surprise.

NOMENCLATURE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Surely Mr. Trollope must have felt that he has a bad case, before he allowed his usual judicial discretion to leave him, as in his last letter. Most of the things he abuses us for doing, are similar to what the Council has been doing ever since it existed, and Mr. Trollope himself has been foremost in the practices he now abuses.

The only accusation peculiar to us, is that we propose to invest a committee with autocratic powers over the names of all methods, past, present, and to come.

As for past and present methods, we are asking the Council, and not any committee, to decide. As for the future we have made a proposal which we ask the Council to discuss; and this is what we were asked to do. Why abuse us for doing what a majority of the Council elected us to do?

He suggests that we should get evidence as to whether the Exercise as a whole want floral names, and he denies that there is any confusion. Now, we cannot go beyond our terms of reference, nor is it necessary. Our existence as a committee is ample evidence. I had letters from strangers from all over the country—and chiefly from six-bell ringers—begging me to bring the matter before the Council at its meeting last year, in order to end both the existing confusion and the floral names. So that it was quite clear the Exercise as a whole did not agree with Mr. Trollope. It was not then certain whether those who wanted the confusion cleared up, were in the majority or not (at any rate, there were enough of them to make it evident that the floral names would not meet with the necessary unanimity to make them of any use). But at the London meeting we were elected by a clear majority, so that until that majority has disappeared we must be guided by it.

So far from desiring to have 'autocratic powers,' or wanting to settle any matter 'once for all' ourselves, we did not publish our report beforehand, with necessarily only a week or so for it to be considered in, but we agreed to its being left a whole year for full consideration.

Now, if Mr. Trollope wants to help the Exercise, let him give us some reasoned suggestions for improving on our proposals. As long as he merely abuses them, he is allowing them to hold the field.

August 1st, 1925

HERBERT DRAKE.

GEORGE STEDMAN MORRIS'S 100 PEALS.

That young Leicester ringer, George Stedman Morris, son of Mr. Josiah Morris, the respected ringer and verger of St. Margaret's, and brother of Mr. Ernest Morris, the new honorary secretary of the Midland Counties Association, has just completed his first century of peals. He was born on December 20th, 1907, and is thus but 17½ years old. He is believed to be the youngest ringer to score 100 peals. Commencing with a peal on handbells on his 12th birthday, when he rang 5-6 to Grandsire Doubles, he gradually waded through all the standard methods to the Surprise methods, and is a very steady and reliable ringer. Among his performances are peals on 'inside' bells 'in hand' to Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, and all will agree that he holds a very unique and proud record:—

Grandsire Doubles	...	...	1	(Handbells)
Grandsire Triples	...	...	6	(Conducted 1)
Grandsire Caters	...	...	5	
Grandsire Cinques	...	...	1	
Stedman Triples	...	...	13	(Handbells 2)
Stedman Caters	...	...	11	(Handbells 8)
Stedman Cinques	...	...	2	(Handbells 2)
Minor (4 methods)	...	...	1	
Bob Major	...	...	6	(Conducted 1)
Bob Royal	...	...	1	
Little Bob Major	...	...	1	
Forward Major	...	...	1	
Canterbury Pleasure Major	...	...	1	
Double Norwich Major	...	...	1	
Kent T.B. Major	...	...	5	
Kent T.B. Royal	...	...	2	
Spliced T.B. Major	...	...	3	
Superlative Surprise Major	...	...	6	
Real Superlative Surprise Major	...	...	1	
Cambridge Surprise Major	...	...	9	
Cambridge Surprise Royal	...	...	4	
New Cambridge Surprise Royal	...	...	1	
Bristol Surprise Major	...	...	10	
London Surprise Major	...	...	7	
Leicester Surprise Royal	...	...	1	

Total 100

Included in above is 7008 Bob Major and 9120 'Spliced' Treble Bob Major, this being the present record length.

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In Sets of any number.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. John Michael Poyntz, who died recently at Godalming, Surrey, and was buried at Dorchester, Oxon, where he learned to ring, had travelled much as a Marconi expert, South Africa and Siam being among the places to which his profession had taken him. His father was Vicar of Dorchester Abbey for 34 years.

We are asked to state, in reference to the inquiry as to ringing at Edinburgh, that there will be no ringing at St. Mary's Cathedral until September, but if any visitor wishes to see the ringing chamber and the bells he will be welcome to do so.

Although the number of men who have rung five hundred peals is slowly growing, the group is still by no means large. The latest to enter the ranks of this select company is Mr. Reuben Sanders. More than half of his peals have been in Surprise methods, and it is a noteworthy coincidence that the total includes exactly one hundred of Cambridge, made up of one of Minor, 39 of Major, 38 of Royal, and 22 of Maximus.

Coalbrookdale is deserted—the fine octave of 'Darby Bells'—are in London, and now being rejuvenated at the place of their birth—the Whitechapel Foundry—whilst 'Old Bill' is enjoying the sea air at Llandudno. What will happen in the date when the bells and the man return cannot be foretold.

The Surrey company knocking about Guildford district are taking a tour in Somerset, from August 8th to 15th. They will get 'some pulling' on a few Zummer rings on this visit.

The Southern Railway for the first time in its history are granting travelling privileges to its employees this year. Hence a well-known Brighton ringer has gone to South Wales for a holiday, and hopes to add one or two counties to his list, as well as several new towers. The threatened coal strike has not diminished his peal proposals.

The Wiltshire ringing tour is suggested for the week Sept. 5th to 12th inclusive, putting in four days at Devizes, three at Trowbridge, and finishing up at Swindon.

John Holt took part in a peal of Bob Triples at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, on August 8th, 1749.

A peal of 6,012 Grandsire Caters was rung at Leicester on August 12th, 1776.

The first peal of Double Norwich in Wales was rung at Rhyl on August 13th, 1883. This was by the Burton-on-Trent band.

A 'silent' peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Drayton, the late Rev. F. E. Robinson's church, on August 7th, 1899, by the Oxford Guild. The first such peal was rung at Burton in 1886.

'Belfry Reform' in 1793.—Found during the alterations made to the belfry at Bourton-on-the-Water.

Whosoever will practice to play on these Strings,
Must these orders observe amongst other things;
He that rings with his hat, boots, spurs on likewise,
To the Sexton shall pay a twopence excise:
For smoking tobacco, and drinking of drink,
To the Sexton shall pay a sixpence in chink:
He that is heard to curse, or to swear,
Shall twopence among the company share:
He also that doth a Bell overthrow,
A Groat to the Sexton shall pay ere he go.
And he that will not to these orders attain,
Let him never come hither to practice again.

MULTI-METHOD PEALS.

The first of the series of articles, by Mr. J. P. Fidler, giving hints on how to ring Spliced Minor Methods will appear in our next issue.

Those who wish to follow this valuable series should secure a copy of the Central Council's 'Collection of Methods' from the Hon. Librarian (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), Broadlands, Caversham, Reading, price 1/2.

'WYCLIFFE' SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am sorry that I am compelled to write you on the above subject. I pointed out to Mr. Tipler three weeks ago that his figures were hopelessly false when the treble was working in 7-8 up and down. He, instead of pointing out his mistake to you (for the safety of the Exercise) simply backs out of the responsibility by saying he has used three-parts of the material of one of my methods, and finds he has no claim to them. The inference is that they are mine. I have, therefore, now no other course than to call the attention of the Exercise to the fact that the figures published as Wycliffe are worthless and false, and for true methods on this plan I refer them to 'Rutland' and 'Chesterfield' Surprise. The figures of the latter were published in the 'Ringing World' as No. 1, December 28th, 1923.

—Yours truly,
Sheffield.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION MASTER AND SECRETARY RETIRE.

The annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Minehead, Somerset, on July 18, when representatives attended from some twenty-three towers in the diocese. Ringing took place during the day at Minehead, Old Cleve, Carhampton and Dunster, and at the business meeting nearly 70 members were present. The towers represented were Bath Abbey, Bath (St. Andrew's), Bath (Twerton), Bath (Weston), Bridgwater, Bristol, Carhampton, Corston, Ilminster, Langport, Midsomer Norton, Milverton, Minehead, Norton Fitzwarren, Old Cleve, St. Decuman's, Selworthy, Staplegrove, Taunton (St. Mary's and St. James'), Timberscombe, Trull, and Wilton. The Rev. Preb. C. C. Parker, of Corston Rectory, Master of the association, presided, and among those present were the Rev. E. Parry Eddon (Vicar of Minehead), Preb. A. C. Harman (Old Cleve), and Rev. T. S. Dawson (president of the Dunster Deanery branch of the association). Apologies for absence were received from the Bishop of Bath and Wells (president), Rev. H. G. McTaggart (Monksilver), Preb. Reeder (Dunster), Rev. R. Acland Troyle (Taunton), Mr. A. Capel (Chipstable), Preb. Porcher (Weston-super-Mare), Preb. Palmer (Cheddar), Rev. J. E. W. Honniwell (Leigh-on-Mendip), Rev. D. M. Ross (Castle Cary), Rev. E. de St. Croix (Bridgwater), and Mr. A. E. Coles (Bridgwater).

THE MASTER'S REPORT.

'This is the last report which I shall have the honour of writing on your behalf,' was the opening sentence of the report for the year ending June 1st last, presented by the Master. He stated that he had had a long innings as Master of the Association, and had it not been for the war he would have retired earlier, but he wished to see the finances and the general prosperity of the association re-established before laying down his office. This he could now say was honestly the case; they were in a satisfactory condition financially and numerically: also the number of peals last year showed that the association was going ahead in the art of change ringing. He had intended, with their permission, to continue for one more year for the following reason: 'The Bishop, in offering me the honour of a prebendal stall in Wells Cathedral, wrote as follows: "Quite apart from your other qualifications I wish to pay a compliment to the Bell Ringing Association of the Diocese, to which I attach so great importance." In view of these words, which he felt they would appreciate as much as he did, showing the lively interest their president, the Bishop, took in the association, he felt that it might be more becoming to temporarily defer his resignation, but when, owing to ill-health, he found that this could not be done, he explained the matter to the Bishop, who quite understood the position. "In laying down the office of Master," he added, "I should like to say that I have always considered it a great honour and privilege to serve the association in this capacity, and I wish to express my gratitude for the hearty support that I have received from every quarter and for the kindly welcome offered me in every part of the diocese, making the duties of the Master a real pleasure." Mr. Burgess had also resolved to resign the secretaryship. They were elected on the same day, and now they went out of office together. During the nineteen years they had been in office they had worked together without hitch of any kind. It would be impossible to have a more loyal and dependable co-operator than Mr. Burgess. The work of a Master was, after all, comparatively little, but that of the secretary was considerable, and at certain times arduous. Mr. Burgess had devoted himself heart and soul to the welfare of the association, and its present prosperity was largely due to his self-sacrificing labours. He (the Master) believed a change of officers would be beneficial to the association, bringing new ideas, fresh ways, and so on, but while having high hopes for those who succeeded them he ventured to claim, on behalf of Mr. Burgess and himself, that their successors would not have a more earnest desire than they had to serve the association faithfully, and to secure it that recognition and consideration to which it was undoubtedly entitled by its useful and successful work throughout the diocese.

SOME STATISTICS.

They had lost a vice-president by the lamented death of Archdeacon Fish. Archdeacon Boyd, his successor, was already a vice-president, and, as they all knew, a very keen supporter of the association. They had also lost a well-known ringer in Mr. T. Doble, who was one of the first to join the association when it was founded in 1890. He had rung forty-five peals, but this did not tally with the amount of spade-work he did in the early years of the association. The services he rendered many young hands were invaluable, and his efforts had borne good fruit. Passing to details of the year's work, the report stated that the towers associated numbered 142. Five towers had been lost and eight gained. The members were: Hon. life members, 6; hon. members, 95; performing members, 1,286; non-resident members, 11; non-resident life members, 179; unattached, 38; total, 1,625. The number of peals rung during the year was 62. The peal list was most satisfactory, the best, he thought, they had ever had in numbers and variety of methods. The finances were in very good order, and there

was a slight increase in affiliation fees. This was a good source of income, and it could be doubled. It rested with the members to see that it came out of church funds, and not from their own pockets. 'This concludes my report,' stated the Master, 'and it only remains for me to wish the new Master and secretary godspeed and the association God's blessing in the good work which it is attempting to carry out in the diocese.'

Mr. E. E. Burgess (hon. secretary and treasurer) presented the balance sheet for the twelve months ending December 31st last. This showed that the receipts were £199 11s. 5d., including balance at beginning of year of £124 19s. 3d.; and local secretaries' balances, £49 11s. 8d.; and the expenditure amounted to £56 12s. 4d. There was a total credit balance of £142 19s. 1d., made up of balance in bank, £86 18s. 1d.; on deposit, £35; and War Loan, £21 1s.

On the motion of Mr. J. Burge (Taunton), seconded by Mr. C. Evans (Bridgwater), the report and balance sheet were accepted.

It was further resolved, on the proposition of Mr. G. Taylor (Ilminster), seconded by Mr. A. Prince (Bath), that an honorarium be granted to the hon. secretary and treasurer.

RESIGNATIONS ACCEPTED WITH REGRET.

The next business on the agenda was to accept the resignations of the Master and the hon. secretary.

The Chairman stated that the reasons for both of them resigning were simply this, that they had both had a long enough innings, and they thought that fresh blood would do the association good. They felt also that they were leaving at a good moment, because the association at the present time was in a particularly prosperous condition, so they could not say about them that they were leaving it in a bad condition. 'I do not say it is due to us,' added the Chairman, 'it just happens to be so.'

Mr. J. Hunt (Taunton), in proposing that the resignations be accepted with regret, remarked that after the statements which had been made he thought they could not do other than accept them.

Mr. W. J. Prescott (Twerton) said he would second the resolution with very much regret, and he felt that he spoke the feelings of all from the Bath district in saying this. He (the speaker) remembered at the election of Mr. Parker as Master nearly twenty years ago. Mr. Parker came up to him afterwards and said, 'I have you to blame for electing me to this post' (laughter), but whether he (Mr. Prescott) was to blame or not he did not think they made a bad selection then. With regard to Mr. Burgess he could say what a pleasure it was to work under him, and he regretted very much that both the Master and Secretary had seen fit to resign, especially as it was owing to health circumstances that the Master had to take the step (applause).

The resolution having been carried, Mr. Hunt moved that both the retiring Master and secretary be elected life members of the association in recognition of the good work which they had done in the last nineteen years.—Mr. Taylor seconded, and the motion was carried with applause.

The Chairman, in acknowledging the appreciation on behalf of Mr. Burgess and himself, said he thought he should have been a life member in any case, as he would have continued his interest in the association, and so would Mr. Burgess. At the same time it was a handsome present to them because a life membership was supposed to be worth £10, and they both appreciated the great honour which they had done them (applause).

It was agreed that the Master and hon. secretary should carry on in these capacities for the meeting.

When the meeting proceeded to the election of officers another compliment was paid to the chairman by adding him, on the motion of Mr. Burge, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to the list of vice-presidents, the previous vice-presidents being all re-elected.

The name of the Rev. E. C. S. Lock, of West Pennard, was proposed for the office of Master in succession to Mr. Parker, Mr. Taylor, who moved this resolution, speaking of Mr. Lock as a practical ringer who was willing to act as Master.—Mr. Rich seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. Hunt proposed as the new secretary Mr. J. T. Dyke, of Midsomer Norton, who, he said, was 'the very man for the job.'

Mr. Burge seconded, and Mr. Prescott supported the proposition, which was also carried without a dissentient.

Mr. D. G. Taylor was re-elected hon. auditor, with a cordial expression of thanks from the chairman for his past services to the association.

A number of new members were elected.

THE INTEREST OF THE CLERGY.

The Chairman proposed that a vote of thanks be accorded to Preb. Harman, the Rev. T. S. Dawson, and Preb. Reeder for allowing the use of the bells to the visitors that day, which they all appreciated. It was a great pleasure to visit other towers. In addition to them he had to thank the Vicar of Minehead, who had so kindly received them that day, in whose church they would shortly have service. He (the chairman) did not think there was a more beautifully-placed church than that at Minehead, and they thanked the Vicar most

heartily for receiving them, and for allowing them to use the bells, and also for conducting the service which they were to attend (applause). It was always a great pleasure to thank the clergy, added the speaker, but he sometimes wished that the clergy generally would take more interest in the association than they did. It would be to their own advantage if they did so, and also to the advantage of the association (hear, hear, and applause). All those whom he had mentioned did take a keen interest in their ringers, and he wished to thank them most heartily for their interest in the association.

The motion having been seconded with applause, Preb. Harman, in acknowledgment, said how pleased he was to put Old Cleeve tower at their disposal. He was not a ringer himself, but he was very keenly interested in ringing, and only too glad to do anything he could to help on the good work they were doing so well. They at Old Cleeve were very proud to have eight bells now, and it was a great privilege and honour to have had visits from some of the members. Preb. Harman concluded by saying how pleased he was to see their good Master in so much better health than when he came to Old Cleeve at the consecration of the two new bells (applause).

The Rev. E. P. Liddon also acknowledged the vote of thanks. They were very pleased, he said, to have the members at Minehead. He was also delighted to see that the association was in such a healthy and lively condition. It was a treat to come to a meeting so full of life (applause).

THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING.

The fixing of the date of the next annual meeting was the subject of some discussion initiated by Mr. J. Hunt, who said he should like to see a definite date fixed from annual meeting to annual meeting. He ventured to say that if this was done they would have double the number of members or more at the meetings (hear, hear), and he moved that the date of the next annual meeting should be the first Saturday in July.

The Chairman stated that each branch had been asked their opinion on a proposal that the annual meeting should be altered to Whit Monday, and he had a resolution from the Dunster Deanery which was against that suggestion.

In some further discussion, Mr. J. Maddock (Taunton) expressed the opinion that the annual meeting might be more widely distributed over the county.

The matter was eventually referred to the committee for consideration.

A resolution passed at a meeting held at Wiveliscombe that the quarterly meetings should be deleted from the association's activities was discussed, Mr. Hunt who brought the matter forward stating that the grounds of the resolution were that more good could be done by the deanery meetings in the way of education in change ringing at a quarter of the cost of the quarterly meetings.

The Chairman said that the committee had considered the matter, and they felt that the quarterly meetings did a great deal of good in keeping the association going, and decided that they should not be dropped, but that they should be held as far as possible in places where interest in ringing was very low.

At the instance of Mr. Taylor, it was decided that the association should support representations being made to the G.W.R. company by other associations to obtain similar travelling facilities for ringers as for anglers, who, travelling singly, could get a return ticket for the single fare.

A motion by Mr. Hunt, seconded by Mr. G. Stacey, that a grant of £2 2s. should be made to the J. W. Washbrook Memorial Fund, was carried. Mr. Hunt reminded the meeting that Mr. Washbrook was a leader of change ringing for thirty-five years, and what he (Mr. Hunt) had read about him was an inspiration to anyone engaged in change ringing.

THE RINGERS' MOTIVE.

After the meeting, most of the members proceeded to the parish church, where choral evensong was held, conducted by the Vicar, whose address was adapted to the occasion. Taking as his text the words, 'God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments,' he said that in this text St. Paul gave a list of the different offices of the Church, and it was about the last two words—helps and governments—that he wanted them to think. If they got at their true meaning they would find that they unfolded to them a beautiful idea of the work which the ringers should try to do. The word 'governments' had been defined as meaning those who directed or led people, and what was the purpose which brought the ringers Sunday after Sunday into the tower but to direct people, to show them that they should worship and serve God? That surely was the meaning of all their ringing. That should be the great motive underlying all they did in the tower, and all other reasons that led them to ring should be subordinated to this one great reason. But if they would truly summon people to the House of God to worship and to serve Him they needed to do more than ring the bells. They needed themselves individually to do their utmost to help people to enter into the

worship and the service of God by their own fellowship in worship and by their help in trying to lead a Christian life all through the week, by showing that what they professed on Sundays carried weight with them all through the week. If they only did that the message which they gave on the bells would be tremendously strengthened and backed up.

SCOTLAND'S NEW PEAL OF EIGHT.

TWO TREBLES DEDICATED AT ALLOA.

A peal of bells is more of a rarity in Scotland than south of the border, and ringers will be all the more pleased, therefore, to hear of an addition to their numbers. Alloa, in Clackmannanshire, the smallest county in Scotland, is the latest to contribute to the list, with the lightest ring of eight north of the Tweed.

The peal of six bells in St. John's Episcopal Church in that town, which was opened in 1871, was found to be out of tune, and the wooden framework decayed. They have been recast and two trebles have been added (the gift of Viscount Younger of Leckie), and the eight have been rehung in a steel frame, with ball bearings. The weight of the tenor is 13½ cwt.

The new peal was dedicated on July 25th, by the Bishop of Edinburgh, the service being conducted by the Rector, the Rev. L. A. Wheatley, M.A.

The opening touch, of 168 Grandsire Triples, was rung by the following band of ringers from Edinburgh: W. C. S. Heathcote 1, Miss A. I. Whitson 2, J. Lothian 3, W. B. Sampson 4, A. G. Collinson 5, W. Jenkins 6, J. Marshall 7, C. Raine 8. Ringers of 4th, 5th, 7th and 8th are members of the St. Mary's Cathedral Society, Edinburgh, the remainder belonging to the corresponding society of St. Cuthbert's Parish Church.

After an interval for tea, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, the ringers standing in the same order. This was rung in 52 minutes. The opening touch was conducted by W. B. Sampson, the quarter-peal by W. C. S. Heathcote.

The work of reconstruction has been carried out by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., and the peal is a great success, both as regards sweetness of tone and ease of ringing.

COVENTRY'S NEW BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your leading article of the 19th June last has struck a note which has resounded far and wide in defence of your contention that 'the Central Council might with justification endeavour to induce the Coventry people to hold their hand until further investigation has been made.'

This boiling up of peals is becoming an insidious disease, sentiment is giving place, it is greatly feared, to commercialism. Such proceedings cannot be too highly condemned by those who, by close connection with such peals, have any regard for the memory of those who have passed away in the pious hope that their lives' work would be regarded as a sacred trust by succeeding generations.

To the ordinary mind there does not appear to be any difficulty for the bells to be rehung for ringing on a specially designed frame to suit the tower.

This point, however, remains. Are these famous bells, one of the finest peals in this country, to be smashed up just to please a passing craze for a carillon, a combination of rattling wires and hideous overtones impelled by machinery, which has neither soul nor sentiment? The answer from thousands of scientific church bell ringers would be an emphatic 'No!'

During the past few years several renowned peals of bells have been overhauled, retuned and rehung, and thus made as perfect as when first cast, and what is more to be recognised, continuing to carry on their tidings in the way originally intended by their pious founders, as, for instance, the bells of Billingshurst, Horsham, Leatherhead, Stafford, St. Clement Danes, etc., etc. The boiling down of such peals as these would have been sheer vandalism.

No one can complain of carillons being placed in public buildings or clockmakers' frontages, the latter being, it is thought, a more suitable place, but to have machine controlled bell tapping in our church steeples is, to say the least, a scandal. Why not introduce a gramophone or loud speaker in the reading desk or pulpit?

Coventry, stick to your bells, keep them in perpetuity, and thus revere the memories of those who first placed them there to the glory of God and of His Church.

If the plea of those who have the interest of these famous bells at heart is successful in preventing their destruction, they will join in the words of the poet, and say to the bells of Coventry—

'Now rise accordant. Pull the pendant ropes. Bid every bell strike true, the noble touch rouses the lethargy that clogs my mind, and prompts me on to action. Swell my heart, and dance without control! For sweeter far these lofty sounds than those dead, languid airs, that tremble on an instrument of wire! As far superior as the expressive notes of Beard and Lowe are to the Eunuch's trills. Britons! arise—resume the reins of taste, and let the natives of your Isle receive your amplest tribute of deserved applause; for whilst 'tis yours to boast an Arne or Boyce, no skill is wanted from a foreign land.'—Yours truly, ANGLOPHIL.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND TOUR.

(Continued from page 484.)

By way of contrast to the previous day, we had luncheon at The Crown, a Trust house—and two clergymen took lunch there at the same time, little knowing what kind of 'hornets' were browsing at the other end of the room.

Our next stage was far into the Durham hills, among the collieries, where wheels, shaft heads, tramways and slack heaps mottled the whole countryside, and spread a veil of smoke and steam which drifted across the fields for miles. Mr. H. Tyson met us at the church of Tanfield, erected some 35 years since, and the bells have only known one steeplekeeper. The population of the village is about 5,000, and half are unemployed—nearly all are mine hands in one way or another, if the industry was prosperous? Harry was as proud as the peacock when he took us to tea, after our peal, and we went home in good style by the same route we left, via Gateshead high-level bridge spanning the Tyne, a grand engineering structure which has separate thoroughfares for foot passengers, vehicles, cycles, and railway trains.

THE WIZARD OF THE NORTH.

Sunderland is a city of about 170,000 population, and returns two Members of Parliament, but of the whole of this vast number of residents there is only one man, so far as permutation is concerned, the 'Wizard of the North,' who can give us the Alpha and Omega of method building and peal composition. He is one of the three men in England with the same surname who have done so much for change ringing ever since I first began to read the ringing journals:—Parker Major, Crawley, Sussex; Parker Royal, Farnham Royal; Parker Maximus, Sunderland. After lunch on Friday we had the pleasure of ringing a peal at St. Ignatius' with the last-named gentleman. It was here he learnt to ring on the peal of five bells that were put in at the time this modern church was erected. A tablet below the belfry records: 'In the year 1899 the original peal of bells in this tower was increased to six by the addition of a treble bell, the gift of the Rev. Edgar Boddington, first Vicar of this parish, and founder and first president of the Bell Ringers' Guild, as a thankoffering for God's mercies to him during his Vicariate, 1889 to 1899.'

It was due to the gentle persuasion of Capt. Hudson (Bishopwearmouth) that Mr. Parker was encouraged to look up 'method,' by being asked to call six-scores, the novice of that day being supplied with the necessary figures. During our peal the Vicar and the curate came round to welcome us, and afterwards we enjoyed a very homely tea at 'Amberley,' with Mrs. and Miss Parker kindly attending to our needs. Mr. Parker also showed us round the beautiful Marlborough Park, and from an eminence pointed out the chief buildings and churches in every direction, and the memorial to Jack Cornwall, the boy hero of the battle of Jutland.

This public park has also an assembly room—fully licensed—a boon to men who want fresh air after a hard day's work, and here we, who had made hard work of pleasure, toasted 'Success to the Diocesan Guild and the ringers of Sunderland,' before leaving by the 8.57 train. There are three rings of eight in this city. Holy Trinity are managed by a team of ladies—who were included in our toast—the remaining tower is St. Michael's, Bishopwearmouth, where we lost a peal of Stedman in the morning through no fault of Conductor Parkes. Several of the local ringers on the Wear met us on coming down, including Messrs. Hudson and Patterson, and we were able to thank the Sunderland men for their sporting welcome in retiring from Hexham on Wednesday in our favour, after previously booking the tower with Allendale for their annual outing.

One cannot leave out reference to a dear little church with six bells—tenor 5½ cwt.—but not hung for ringing, full of antiquarian interest, with actual portions of the original holy structure still in evidence—the west wall tower. It is situated a few hundred yards from the River Wear, through the mouth of which stream Benedict Biscop sailed to land here in the year 674, and found a monastery. Egfrith gave 70 hides of land out of his own estates, and ordered a monastery to be built thereon, and here came the Venerable Bede, then an orphan boy of seven years of age, to be educated, and to become one of the earliest authors with a knowledge of bells and founding. Bede was buried at Jarrow in the eleventh century, and his bones were removed to Durham, where, in 1541, they were scattered; but the stone bearing his name, and which formerly covered them, is still to be seen.

A DOUBLE EVENT.

With a double event, our final day, Saturday, was spent at Hartlepool, famous for its tirab yards. We saw the devastated area, burnt out last spring, when some £100,000 worth of timber was destroyed. At All Saints', Stranton, the mother church of the town, we rang through a wedding ceremony in the morning, and finished the peal in time to toll for a funeral—'life and death' ever with us. Messrs. Metcalf and Hall from Middlesborough, and Messrs. J. and T. Gofton joined us at Stranton, making up the Cater band for our

last attempt. The Parish Church of St. Oswald is situated on the west side of the Pool, a beautiful decorated Gothic structure erected in 1907, with richly carved stonework, and, internally, oak tracery and fittings that showed there was no lack of funds. It was the last work of three craftsmen engaged upon the building, who died soon after its dedication—the architect, clerk of works, and the bell hanger. The bells and hanging are a good example of the work of Warner and Sons, London. It is a very fine belfry, but, marred by the clock put in over the heads of the tenormen and furnished with wooden shoots for the two ropes, easily touched by tall ringers such as our tenormen were. Our permission to ring was subject to a '7 o'clock restriction,' and Treble Ten was abandoned for Stedman, the 'finale' coming with only five minutes to spare.

Returning to Whitley Bay for the last time, our ranks were thinned by calls for the 'home position' from Metcalf and Jenkins—calls that we were to obey on the morrow. Our last look at the North Sea, from the rocky parade of the bay, was subject to the noise and battle of carnival, the paved walk being completely obscured with a layer of confetti and sundry ragged tawdries strewn by the revellers in a final attempt to outdo one another. We left the 'madding crowd' in their high revelry at eleven o'clock to seek the enjoyment of contented sleep.

MONKSEATON MEMORIES.

Before we left St. Paul's Church I was able to take a few notes which will add to my 'story,' and, like the 'barber,' I will cut it as short as possible. The headstones in the churchyard—and bells in the tower—all speak of the long association this parish has enjoyed with the D. and N. Association. The original peal of six bells was the gift of Sir Charles Mark Palmer in 1865, and the first 720 of Minor rung by an entirely local band on July 23rd, 1890, conducted by J. T. Gofton, with the late R. S. Story, who had previously removed into the parish from Newcastle, on the tenor. This was not accomplished without years of patience, during which the older hands dropped out, and the 'boys' progressed with their tutor, Mr. Story, who died in 1911, at the early age of 52 years, and is buried near the chancel east window.

The new ring of eight bells, dedicated January 25th, 1913, were made up by new bells given and the old ones recast, the back six having the coat of arms of their former donor cast upon them. The tenor is a Coronation bell, King George V., 22nd June, 1911, diameter 3ft. 10in., recast in 1912. 4th, 5th and 6th, given by the local ringers. 3rd: 'In grateful memory of Robert Spencer Story, 22 years President of the Durham and Newcastle Association.' 2nd: Given by Thomas T. Gofton, in memory of his father, Richard A. Gofton, who died 25th December, 1891.

A strong friendship existed between Story and Gofton; both died at an early age, but the change ringing seeds sown had sprung up in their later days, to be crowned after they had gone to rest by a peal London Surprise Major on the new octave, March 24th, 1913, conducted by Thomas Gofton, whose father is buried on the spot he chose, as near the belfry door as possible. A grandfather (on the mother's side) is also sleeping near, a memorial obelisk recording:—

'To perpetuate the memory of Thomas Thompson, Farmer, Whitley Bay, by his friends and admirers, universally loved and affectionately known as Father of Whitley. He died October 5th, 1911, in his 87th year.'

So we go backwards a century, when the farmhouses and cottages could be counted on the fingers of one's hand, but now the rows of corn are rapidly being replaced by rows of houses over the fields of North Farm.

Sunday morning the return was safely effected by the 10.10 a.m. express out of Newcastle, which took an alternative route, occupying one hour longer, but giving a glimpse of more cathedrals and abbeys. With a carriage (part of) to ourselves the time passed pleasantly, although it turned out to be the first day of another heat wave, and two doors away the 'Little Willie' Concert Party gave us a number of musical pieces by four performers who happened to be returning to town.

Mr. Thomas Gofton saw us off the premises at Monkseaton, and our 'Little Willie' at Whitley Station. I could not help noticing the sad look upon his face as our train pulled out, his letter to me a week later confirming it: 'I spent two miserable days at work after you all went away, couldn't settle down at all, but I am all right now.'

When reporting my notes of the tour to 'The Ringing World' I was asked to be sure and thank the friends up North for giving us such a right good time. We—the half-dozen survivors—parted in London some 50 feet underground, where the King's Cross subways join, each to his own little belfry, like rabbits in a warren.

W. H. F.

MARKET DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on Sunday, August 2nd, 648 Cambridge Surprise Minor: F. Other 1, H. Hayes 2, H. M. Day (conductor) 3, H. Holmes 4, W. A. Day 5, G. H. Wells 6.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

ROTHERHAM.—On Sunday, August 2nd, for evening service, by a Sheffield and Rotherham united company, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,289 changes), in 50 mins.: A. Craven 1, H. Bower 2, J. W. J. Cottam 3, W. Burgar 4, A. Firth 5, C. Ryder 6, J. Brothwell 7, S. Briggs 8, J. Thorpe (conductor) 9, M. E. Wilson 10. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells, and first in the method by the ringer of the 5th. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Ralph Long (of the Sheffield Cathedral company) and Miss May Robinson.

STAMFORD HILL.—On Sunday, August 2nd, at St. Ann's Church, for morning service, and as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer, 720 Bob Minor: T. Ringrose 1, Miss M. Ringrose 2, A. Putland 3, T. Deal 4, W. Ringrose 5, F. Ringrose 6. First 720 in the method as conductor by F. Ringrose.

HORNSEY.—On Sunday, August 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Blee 1, Miss M. Ringrose 2, W. Ringrose 3, H. Blee 4, A. Putland 5, C. Ross (conductor) 6.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, August 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 50 mins.: E. Jones 1, J. A. Howard 2, W. E. Oakley 3, E. Mounter (Bromley) 4, W. Norris 5, W. J. Norris 6, F. Edwards (conductor) 7, W. Hewitt 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—At St. Peter's Church, for evensong, on Sunday, August 2nd, 1,287 Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: * Miss G. Norris 1, H. Markell 2, W. Collison 3, S. H. Green 4, W. Latter (conductor) 5, T. Groombridge (seur.) 6, F. White 7, A. Mayo 8. * First quarter-peal.

WITHYCOMBE, DEVON.—On Sunday, July 26th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: R. G. C. Manley 1, W. Hibbert (Reading) 2, W. J. Manley 3, F. Dimond 4, E. Pook 5, J. M. Skinner 6, J. R. Hayman (conductor) 7, G. Rendell 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, July 26th, 1,344 Cambridge Surprise Major, in 47 mins.: W. Latter 1, H. Markwell 2, W. Collison 3, F. White 4, R. T. Lambert 5, R. E. Lambert 6, F. J. Lambert, seur. (first 'inside') 7, S. H. Green 8.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday, July 26th, at Holy Trinity Church, for evensong, 960 Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 32 mins.: Roland Park 1, W. H. Thomas 2, W. H. Porter 3, W. N. Park 4, F. W. Lupson 5, G. W. Park (conductor) 6.

EDMONTON.—On Sunday, July 19th, for evensong, 1,218 Grandsire Triples: W. G. A. Edmunds (longest length) 1, Mrs. J. Thomas 2, W. J. Hazell 3, J. Thomas 4, Miss E. K. Parker (conductor) 6, A. Cutler 6, G. W. Fletcher 7, G. Paice 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday evening, at the Church of St. Thomas, Canterbury, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins.: F. A. Burnett (conductor) 1, Mrs. F. Burnett 2, E. C. Martin 3, P. Giles 4, C. A. J. Aitken 5, J. H. Blake 6, H. L. W. Aitken 7, L. P. Cook 8.

CANON ELLACOMBE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Absence from home has prevented me seeing your issue of July 17th until now. I should like to correct the opening paragraph under the heading of 'Notes by the Way' on page 454, and I am sure my old friend J. A. T. will forgive my doing so.

The late Canon Ellacombe could ring, and ring 'scientific' too, as they say in Devon.

In 'Church Bells' for May 19th, 1877, are copies of peal tablets hanging in the tower of Clyst St. George, recording the fact that on December 26th, 1873, and December 26th, 1874, the Rector rang a working bell to Grandsire Doubles.—Yours truly, C. E. B.

DEATH OF MR. J. M. POYNTZ.

We much regret to announce the death of Mr. John Michael Poyntz, a Marconi technical engineer, son of the late Nathaniel C. S. Poyntz, Vicar of Dorchester Abbey, Oxon, from 1886 to 1920, who died at his mother's home in Godalming on Sunday, July 5th. He was a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild. Bells seemed to inspire in him a very deep enthusiasm, and he was able to impart this enthusiasm to others.

As a tribute to his memory a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Godalming, with the bells half-muffled, by the following: W. Moorey 1, W. Clissold 2, C. Bish 3, V. H. Smith 4, C. Childs 5, J. A. Cole 6, C. Hazelden 7, R. Pamment 8. Mr. Hazelden, Ringing Master of the Guildford district, conducted. The following took part in a short touch before the quarter-peal: W. Mills, W. Balchin, F. Mills, J. Pugsley and E. Mills.

At the same time a muffled peal was being rung at Dorchester Abbey, on the fine old bells that Mr. Poyntz had learnt to ring on as a boy.

He was laid to rest at Dorchester near his father, and as his body reached the village the great tenor—over 600 years old—tollled solemnly, and large numbers of parishioners were gathered by the lych gate.

LONDON SURPRISE.

By GEORGE BAKER.

In the 'Ringing World' of 19th August, 1921, I gave the first leads of London Surprise Royal and Maximus respectively, and I pointed out that the Royal was a seven-part irregular touch, the Maximus a five-part touch with Grandsire coursing order.

These statements can be verified by 'proof of construction' (I can find no better term), but as they are touches only, and the Royal irregular at that, I do not propose taking up valuable space in these columns in explaining them.

My object in this article is to prove beyond any possible doubt by the round blocks and transpositions that London Surprise Minor and London Surprise Major are one and the same method, and as mathematical progression has been the sheet anchor of the mathematicians, I think that even they will be convinced when they have scanned the following figures.

In this article, as in my last, to economise space as much as possible, I intend giving only the half leads, and will start as usual with the Minor.

LONDON SURPRISE MINOR.

	Rd. Blocks.	Transpositions.
123456 x 142635 =	142635	142635
213546 x 412365 =	521364	341256
125364 x 143256 =	164235	362415
215634 x 413526 =	625314	561234
251643 x 431562 =	563241	341625
526134 x 345128 =	561423	253641
521643 x 341562 =	653142	143265
256134 x 435126 =	652413	564213
526314 x 345216 =	461253	235614
562341 x 354261 =	415326	621534
653214 x 532416 =	234651	215436
635241 x 523461 =	342516	541326
365421 x 253941 =	531246	215436

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

	Rd. Blocks.	Transpositions.
12345678 x 14263857 =	14263857	14263857
21354768 x 41236587 =	52137486	34125678
12537486 x 14325678 =	16423857	36241857
21573846 x 41352768 =	72531486	56123478
25178364 x 43157286 =	86324157	84162537
52713846 x 34512768 =	57142386	23864175
52178364 x 34157286 =	68314257	15826347
25713846 x 43512768 =	75241386	46521873
52731486 x 34521678 =	46125837	28461357
57234168 x 35426187 =	41537682	62145378
75321486 x 53241678 =	23465817	21435867
73524168 x 52346187 =	34257681	43156872
37254618 x 25436817 =	34516872	15648273
32745681 x 24563871 =	24561738	54821763
23476518 x 42658371 =	31568274	85173462
24367581 x 46285371 =	24176358	57864132
42637851 x 64825731 =	31627548	85173462

The half-way transposition rows are:—

Minor 54132
Major 57864132

The 6th's place bell in Minor has returned to its own position, so it can be struck out to give a better comparison of the progression, but a clearer comparison can be obtained if we add 678 to the Minor row as follows, and then strike out all the bells that are lying still, i.e.:—

Minor prog. plus 678 = 56784132
Major progression 57864132

by striking out the five fixed bells we have left 678x786, which is equivalent to a progression of 231.

If the method would extend with coursing order to the higher numbers, the extra pairs of bells from Major upwards would have to be added on the front, and the progression would then be:—

54132 Minor
57864132 Major
5907864132 Royal
561907864132 Maximus

Now that we know what the progression row on ten bells should be, we will compare it with the progression row of the seven-part touch of Royal to try if we can find any resemblance.

Seven-part touch progression 54x79621830
Proper progression 59078641x32

By striking out the five fixed bells we have residue of 90842 x 49280, which is equivalent to a progression of 41532.

We will now compare this with the Minor progression, which is possible because the 5th is the pivot bell in Minor, and the 3rd is the pivot bell in the seven-part touch of Royal.

London Minor progression is 54132
 London Royal 7-pt. touch progression is 41532

By striking out the two fixed bells we have left 541 x 415, which is equivalent to a progression of 231 between Minor and Royal, and as we have previously seen this is also the progression between Minor and Major.

It will be useless trying to compare the progression of the five-part touch of Maximus, because the 2nd is the pivot bell throughout the touch.

There is nothing haphazard about pivot bells, and where we have a fresh pivot bell for every pair of bells added, in regular methods, they will always be in coursing order, either forward or backward, i.e., forward as in Plain Bob 4; 6; 8; 0; 6; etc., or backward, as in Bristol Surprise 4; 2; 3; 5; 7; etc., and this rule also applies to any other sequence of coursing bells that may happen to be pivot bells.

I feel certain that I am right in stating that no two separate methods can possibly have the same mathematical progression, so when anyone is clever enough to find a Royal and Maximus with the progression that London Surprise Royal and Maximus should have, they will not only have found the correct extensions, but they will have found what I firmly believe to be impossible.

THE OXFORD GUILD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—You appear, according to your letter last week, re the Oxford Guild annual meeting, to be under some misapprehension. I should like to inform you that no one, as far as I know, has ever claimed that we were swamped by the Oxfordshire members. What we claim, and I think rightly, is that we are swamped by the members living close around Oxford. The show of hands proves that, if it proves anything, for of the 75 members from Bucks, 55 must have come from the North Bucks branch—Oxford suits them—therefore, they vote for it.

We other members are trying to make it fair for all the members, not only one branch, but all the branches. I also claim that if a vote was to be taken of all the members, there would be a large majority for a movable annual meeting.

One of the speakers at the meeting enlarged on democracy, yet he is willing to be governed by a few that can attend at Oxford. I personally think that as long as the meeting is held at Oxford the result will be the same, and the turmoil and bickerings, which I very much regret, will go on indefinitely. I also think that when this question was first suggested a meeting was arranged, and was met with strong opposition for Oxford by a manoeuvre. Some of the members, relying on the fact that it was not in the rules, but only a custom to visit the three counties in rotation, arranged the meeting at Oxford, and then relied on the members that could attend there with little trouble, continually to vote the others down.

This, to my mind, is very selfish, and as far as I am able I shall try to win them over to my way of thinking on the question.—Yours truly,

F. W. HOPGOOD.

Reading Branch Secretary.

Dear Sir,—There is another side to this Oxford Guild trouble. How well the late Master, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, knew it! Nothing would induce him even to discuss the question, 'You must have the annual meeting in different parts of the diocese to keep the Guild alive, and get all branches interested.' I have never forgotten the 'rap' he gave me for proposing that the annual meeting should be held at Oxford, Reading and High Wycombe, in rotation. Remembering this, I was not a little astonished when his daughter, Miss Robinson, the other day, proposed that the annual festival should be held in four towns in rotation.

In your leading article last week you say, 'there were 75 members present from Bucks and 57 from Berks, out of a total of 157; that showed it was not decided by the Oxford members alone, and this should remove one of the grounds of discontent.' To me it plainly shows how few members in Oxfordshire take an interest in the festival when held in their city, as they could only muster 25! Seeing that the registered number of ringing members is 1,400, the total of 157 who attended the festival hardly expresses the feeling of the Guild.

There undoubtedly is a strong feeling of discontent which, if not pacified, must do the Guild much harm. I should like this question tested by a vote of all ringing members, to be handed into their branch secretary, who could forward the number of votes to headquarters.

The present Master rightly says he can only go by the rule which says, 'The annual festival shall be held in July at a place selected at the previous festival.' If those wishing for an alteration would make their opinion felt, and it was found they were in a majority, it should not be difficult to change the rule.—Yours faithfully

August 3rd, 1925.

W. POLE ROUTH.

NOTICES.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The annual commemorative dinner to Jasper Whitfield Snowdon will be held at Leeds on Saturday, September 19th.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on August 20th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 11th; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 16th (6 p.m.) and 25th, Southwark Cathedral on the 18th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rainham on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available at 3. The association service will be held at 5, conducted by the Rev. W. A. R. Ball. Tea will be provided, at a charge per head.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

ESSEX AND MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting will be held at Waltham Abbey (12 bells) on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Middlesex Association, E. J. Butler, Essex Association, Hon. Secs.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Sunbury-on-Thames on Saturday, August 8th. Ringing from 3.30. Will arrange tea as usual. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Withington on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (6) available 3.30 to 8.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m.—A. Gwynne, Dis. Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at North Mymms on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available 3 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. Nash, North Mymms, Hatfield.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Seend on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome. Please write early if tea required.—F. Green, Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ilminster (8 bells) on August 8th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., Martock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hale on Saturday, August 8th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting 5.30.—Walter Hughes, Branch Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at Bletchingley (8 bells) on Saturday, August 8th. Tower open 3 p.m. Short service 5.15 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. F. Ewins, Hon. Sec., 27, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined ringing practice will be held at Arborfield on Saturday, August 8th, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. (6 bells).—R. Darvill.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Loxton on Saturday, August 8th. Tea and meeting 6 o'clock. Service after. Those requiring tea kindly let me know soon. Bells afternoon and evening. — G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

KIRKTHORPE.—A meeting will be held at Kirkthorpe on Saturday, August 8th. All those wishing for tea should communicate with the Vicar of Kirkthorpe.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Barnard Castle on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—A. Hunter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, Dickinson Street, Darlington.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Important business meeting to follow. All ringers cordially invited.—W. Cope, Local Sec., Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—Practices are to be held at Canford on Saturday, August 8th, from 3 p.m.; Wimborne Minster on Tuesday, August 11th, at 7 p.m.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting, tea and social will be held at the Parish Church, Burnley, on Saturday, August 15th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Bells of Holy Trinity Church will also be available. Tea (1s. 6d.) 5 p.m., meeting and social following. All ringers and friends cordially invited. Will all intending to be present please send in their names to Mr. D. Campbell, 12, Hurling Lane, Burnley, not later than August 12th? — J. Watson, Branch Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at St. Michael's Church, East Peckham, on Saturday, August 15th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea after service (by kind invitation of the Vicar) at the Vicarage, followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present are requested to notify the District Sec. not later than Wednesday, August 12th.—W. Latter, Hon. Dist. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Dartmouth on Saturday, August 15th. Bells (8 and 6) available 3 p.m. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea, etc., to follow. Will those intending coming for tea please advise me by previous Tuesday?—H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Thurleigh on Saturday, August 15th. Bells at 2.30, tea at 5.—J. L. Turner, Dis. Sec., 7, High Street, Kempston, Beds.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—“List to the music of those village bells, sweetly pealing o'er hill and dale.”—Aldenham, Saturday, Aug. 15th. Ringing from 3.30. Tea (1/3) at Village Club 5.30, meeting after. Names for tea by Wednesday previous.—Charles H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey, Herts.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A monthly meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, August 15th. Bells from 3 p.m.—J. A. Fenton, Gen. Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', Isleworth, on Saturday, August 15th. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Business after. Will those coming to tea let me know before the 12th? Everyone invited.—C. F. Mitchen, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phene Street, S.W.3.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—The meeting for August will be held at Biddulph on August 15th, and not the 22nd, as arranged. Members intending to be present please notify Mr. J. Cottrell, 38, Congleton Road, Biddulph, on or before August 11th. Bells (6) from 3.30 p.m., tea 5.30 p.m.—A. Vaughan, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Eserick on Saturday, August 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5, at 1s. 6d. each, to those who notify Mr. J. Steel, Eserick, near York, not later than August 19th. Further details on circular.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of this Guild will be held at Sedgley on Saturday, August 22nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church 4.30. Business meeting afterwards. — Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wraaxall on Saturday, Aug. 22nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service at 4. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, August 22nd, at Thorpe-le-Soken. Short service at 4.30 p.m. At 5.15 tea will be provided on the Vicarage lawn, by kind invitation of the Vicar. All members wishing to be present will they please notify me by Monday, August 17th, latest?—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Sec., 12, Iretton Road, Colchester.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Please note the secretary of the above association is now Mr. J. T. Dyke, Church Square, Midsomer Norton, Bath.

PUBLICATIONS.

‘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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RINGERS' OUTINGS.

CAERLEON RINGERS.

On Saturday, July 20th, six of the Caerleon ringers accompanied the choir by boat from Newport to Weston-super-Mare. Leaving Newport at 9.30 a.m., and arriving at Weston at 10.50 a.m., Mr. S. Jones and his colleagues visited Mr. F. G. Stuckey, who had made arrangements for them to have a ring at Uphill in the afternoon. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The peal of six, in excellent condition, can easily be reached. The band made their way back for tea, and afterwards visited the park and gardens. The most important pleasure was the company of the churchwarden (Mr. I. Parry), who is well over seventy years of age, whose able assistance was greatly appreciated by all. The day was a most enjoyable one, and the party's best thanks go to the Vicar of Uphill for giving permission for the use of the bells, and Messrs. Stuckey, together with another of the locals, for such an excellent reception.

SWINDON PARISH CHURCH.

On Saturday, June 27th, ringing members, wives and friends of the above Guild, including that ringing pioneer, John Austin, of Gloucester, held their outing over the bracing Berkshire and Wiltshire Downs. The start was made at 8 a.m., Appleton being reached at 9.30, where everything was in readiness at the belfry. This light and melodious peal of ten were soon going to the tune of Stedman and Grandsire Caters. Abingdon, which was reached about 11 a.m., was the next place to be visited. Abingdon has a fine tower, containing a good ring of 10 bells. These were much appreciated. A well-struck touch of Stedman Caters was rung by the following: 1 A. Lawrence, 2 E. Bishop, 3 J. Austin (conductor), 4 A. Bond, 5 H. Bishop, 6 W. Lancaster, 7 C. Gardiner, 8 H. Hearl, 9 S. Palmer, 10 L. Wilson. The bells were then lowered, and the party left for Ilsey, via Drayton, which recalls the name of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson. Ilsey Church contains a most talkative peal of eight, in splendid tone, and of exceptionally good 'go.' Touches of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich were successfully rung. Newbury was the next call, where lunch was served. After luncheon the bells of St. Nicholas were set going to Grandsire, Plain Bob and Double Norwich. Mr. Henry Curtis, the locals' captain, appreciating the visit. The next move was Kimbury, where there hangs a nice ring of six, with a tenor about 16 cwt. Situated close to the River Kennet, they charm the neighbourhood. Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Stedman were rung. Hungerford was reached at 5 p.m., tea being taken here. No ringing took place at this little market town, owing to the bells being out of order. The party then proceeded to Great Bedwyn, and were received by the Vicar. Without doubt these were the finest peal of bells they encountered during the day. A touch of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles were brought round here. The journey was continued to Ramsbury, where there is a splendid belfry, a nice ring of six bells, plenty of room and room for improvement, the bell banger being badly wanted there. A touch of Grandsire Doubles was the only thing accomplished. Aldbourne was the last tower to visit, being reached about 8.30 p.m. The Aldbourne Church has a very fine tower and melodious peal of bells. Stedman Triples and Double Norwich were rung, the locals appreciating the art of change ringing. Swindon was reached about 10 p.m., everyone expressing their enjoyment of the day's outing. Thanks are due to Mr. Ernest Bishop for his excellent organisation, and to all steeplekeepers for their kindness in having things ready.

THE CASTLE CARY RINGERS.

The ringers of All Saints' Church, with their wives, had their annual outing on July 18th. Leaving Cary by charabanc at 8 a.m., they visited South Petherton, where, after a short tour of the church, they had a ring on the bells; going on to Seavington St. Mary, where a light ring of six enabled them to have some touches of Grandsire Doubles. Ilminster was reached about 11 o'clock, where a very pleasant time was spent on the bells, some of the local band being present. The visitors also met a former curate and captain of the Cary ringers, the Rev. Vaughan Jones. At Chard a couple of touches were rung. The last stage of the journey brought the company to Seaton, which provided another light ring of six, which the party soon set going. When the bells were lowered a tour of the town was made and tea served. Leaving Seaton at 6.30, the return journey was made via Crewkerne and West Coker, home being reached at 10 p.m., after spending a most interesting day.

SHAW, NEWBURY, BERKS.—On Monday evening, July 27th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), with ten different callings, in 42 mins.: F. Tilling 1, H. W. Curtis 2, E. W. Smith (conductor) 3, E. Crocker 4, P. C. Robey 5. Ringer of treble from Thatcham, remainder from Newbury.

SCUNTHORPE, Lincs.—On Wednesday, July 29th, after meeting late for a peal attempt, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) Miss N. Grassby 1, C. Chapman (Newark) 2, F. Cousins 3, C. Bird 4, G. Hobbins 5, J. Bray (conductor) 6, J. Almond 7, W. Palmer (Bardsworth, Yorks), 8. First quarter-peal for ringer of tenor, first of Triples for treble and 5th, and first of Triples as conductor.

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