

# THE RINGING WORLD

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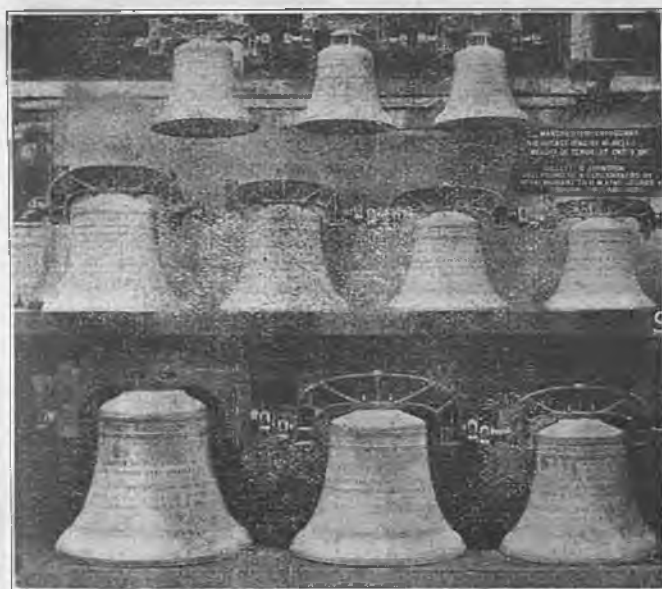
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 1926.

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## GILLETT AND JOHNSTON CROYDON

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The Recast Ring of 10 (Tenor 28 cwt.) for  
MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, Nov., 1925

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### COVENTRY BELLS' FATE.

The fate of Coventry bells will be decided early in the new year. The hearing of the petition for the faculty to recast the existing bells and to add four others to make a carillon of fourteen is fixed for January 4th, and the scheme is likely to meet with strenuous opposition. It is the unanimous opinion of those who heard the old bells rung—it is forty years since that was done—that this peal was one of the finest rings of ten in the country, and it is for that reason that no effort has been spared to save them from the melting pot. On the other hand, those who are anxious to see the carillon erected are arguing that the bells are overrated, and we have heard the view expressed that they could not even be tuned up to form the nucleus of a respectable carillon. These are vastly divergent opinions, and the case, when it comes to be heard, is likely to be the most interesting of its kind that has ever had to be settled. While ringers are often only too glad to use all their influence to get bells recast, this is, so far we know, the first instance where they have taken steps to save a peal of bells in the face of an official desire for a wholesale melting up.

When we commented previously upon this matter we made a protest against the scheme to recast the ten bells into fourteen smaller ones, and we are glad to learn that the intention now appears to be that the other four bells shall be cast of additional metal, for, apart from the preservation of the existing ring, it would have set an extremely unpleasant precedent to have heavy ringing bells melted down for a more numerous but lighter carillon. That point, at any rate, seems to have been gained at Coventry, and it now remains to see if the existing bells can be saved. The Central Council's action in the matter has been officially recognised, for the secretary has received formal notice of the hearing of the petition, and Mr. J. S. Pritchett (Recorder of Lincoln and a member of the Central Council) will appear as counsel in the case. This is the first occasion upon which any such intervention has taken place, and from that point of view alone the inquiry will be of importance to the Exercise. Whatever happens to the old bells, and all who heard them in the past hope they will be saved, we trust the spirit of the people of Coventry will lead them to erect the campanile, for which plans have long been in existence, so that the bells may not only be mechanically chimed, but also properly rung—it is rather ominous that the petition refers to the provision of 'a chime' and not a 'ring' or 'peal' of twelve bells. The bolder and finer scheme ought not to be beyond the financial power of a city like Coventry, and courage and enterprise would, we feel sure, see such a project carried to a successful conclusion.

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## MEMORIAL PEALS.

The following Memorial Peals were rung for the death and funeral of the beloved Queen-Mother.

### TEN BELL PEAL.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Friday, November 27, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5008 CHANGES;**

Tenor 30½ cwt.

WILLIAM SMITH ... .. Treble	PRYCE TAYLOR ... .. 6
JOHN SADDINGTON ... .. 2	HORACE F. STUBBS ... .. 7
ERNEST LESLIE ... .. 3	JAMES HUTCHBY ... .. 8
ERNEST CARTWRIGHT ... .. 4	EDWARD READER ... .. 9
JOHN GRUNDY ... .. 5	WILLIAM THORLEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by W. WILLSON.

Conducted by E. READER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled.

### EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 27, 1925, in Three Hours,

At the Parish Church,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 13 cwt.

RALPH JACKSON ... .. Treble	SIDNEY TUNNELL ... .. 5
JOHN G. HALL ... .. 2	WILLIAM ELLERINGTON ... .. 6
*MISS LAURA LANCASTER ... .. 3	THOMAS LANCASTER ... .. 7
THOMAS METCALFE ... .. 4	JOHN W. PASSMAN, JUN. ... .. Tenor

Composed by the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES. Conducted by J. G. HALL

\* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

MISS NOEL CAWTHORNE ... Treble	J. GARTH ... .. 5
F. CARDWELL ... .. 2	W. H. TAYLOR ... .. 6
H. BOWER ... .. 3	F. WATKINSON ... .. 7
A. HILL ... .. 4	H. TAYLOR ... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. WATKINSON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. First peal of Stedman by all except ringers of 3rd and 7th. The ringer of 3rd hails from Sheffield, and 4th from Tickhill. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

LEWISHAM, LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

GEORGE R. SIMMONDS ... Treble	WILLIAM W. FOX ... .. 5
CHARLES H. WALKER ... .. 2	ISAAC EMERY ... .. 6
GEORGE DEERLING ... .. 3	HARRY WARNETT, SEN. ... .. 7
ALBERT E. DARVILL ... .. 4	HERBERT G. GOODWIN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. WARNETT, SEN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled.

BRIDSTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;**

Tenor 9 cwt.

*ROBERT SUMMERS ... .. Treble	WALTER T. BENNETT ... .. 5
ROBERT E. SUMMERS ... .. 2	ALFRED T. POULTON ... .. 6
*THOMAS BEVAN ... .. 3	*FRANK VOYCE ... .. 7
†WALTER A. POSTON ... .. 4	WILLIAM POSTON ... .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by W. POSTON.

Rung half-muffled. \* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major on inside bell.

NORTHLEACH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.  
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION  
On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours,

At the Parish Church,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOHN SLY ... .. Treble	WILLIAM CLAYTON ... .. 5
JAMES MUSTON ... .. 2	DENNIS HILLS ... .. 6
ROBERT WESTMACOTT ... 3	CHARLES WESTMACOTT ... 7
JOHN C. ACOCK ... .. 4	JOHN COOK ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES WESTMACOTT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. This was the first peal rung by an entirely local band, and the first peal by all except the ringers of 4th and 5th. First peal as conductor.

IRETHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.  
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*NORMAN THOMAS ... .. Treble	ALPHRUS PERKINS ... .. 5
*CLIFTON NEWMAN ... .. 2	JAMES S. WARD ... .. 6
*ARTHUR BIGLEY ... .. 3	†WALTER PERKINS ... .. 7
JOHN J. MAWBY ... .. 4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER ... Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by A. Y. TYLER.

Rung with the bells fully muffled. \* First peal in the method. † 60th peal in the method.

MILES PLATTING, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH H. HAYDOCK, Secretary Rossendale Branch...	... .. Treble
JOSEPH HALL .. Manchester ..	... .. 2
JAMES W. GROUNDS .. Wigan ..	... .. 3
CHARLES SHARPLES .. Fylde ..	... .. 4
*FRED RIGBY .. Preston ..	... .. 5
WALTER HUGHES .. Liverpool ..	... .. 6
WILLIAM H. SHUKER, Association General Sec. ...	... .. 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON, .. Ringing Sec. ...	... .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Queen-Mother. \* First peal in the method.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.  
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

**PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt. 42 lb. in E flat.

*H. BERNARD WELLS ... .. Treble	ALFRED J. TRAPPITT ... .. 5
MISS FREDA E. ORR ... .. 2	FRANK E. DARBY ... .. 6
FREDERICK G. WOODISS ... 3	DANIEL COOPER ... .. 7
*JOHN F. GALVER ... .. 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... .. Tenor

Composed by the late Sir ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

Rung with the bells fully muffled. \* First peal in the method.

EDMONTON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

MISS PHOEBE UPSHER ... .. Treble	JOHN THOMAS ... .. 5
WILBY J. HAZELL ... .. 2	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 6
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... 3	JAMES PARKER ... .. 7
WALTER J. BOWDEN ... .. 4	GEORGE PAICE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 17½ cwt.

GEORGE R. HOLMES ... .. Treble	STEPHEN W. STRATFORD ... 5
RICHARD A. GOFTON ... .. 2	ADAM DEAS ... .. 6
JAMES E. GOFTON ... .. 3	THOMAS T. GOFTON ... .. 7
WILLIAM L. GOFTON ... .. 4	WILLIAM H. BARBER ... .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by T. T. GOFTON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Queen Mother, and also as a token of esteem and respect for the late Mr. R. Hudson, of Sunderland, who lost his life on November 26th, 1925. The band take this opportunity of conveying to the bereaved relatives their deepest sympathy.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

F. MORGAN ... .. Treble	C. CREASEY ... .. 5
*G. KING ... .. 2	W. HOAD ... .. 6
E. MILLS ... .. 3	T. HOAD ... .. 7
T. BOOTH ... .. 4	J. GOODSSELL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. HOAD.

Rung with the bells muffled. \* First peal with 'inside' bell.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours & Twenty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 23 cwt.

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... .. Treble	THOMAS CHINERY ... .. 5
SAMUEL EVANS ... .. 2	ARTHUR MAXIM ... .. 6
*GRANVILLE C. BIXBY ... 3	ROBERT GOWERS ... .. 7
ARTHUR SYMONDS ... .. 4	FREDK. A. POULSON ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.  
Rung with deeply muffled clappers. \* First peal. Messrs. Bixby, Chinery and Gowers hail from Long Melford; Evans and Maxim from Foxearth, Essex; the rest are local men.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*HARRY HOLDEN ... .. Treble	JOHN KENDALL ... .. 5
*WALTER MASTERS ... .. 2	*CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 6
WILLIAM POTTER ... .. 3	JOHN LLOYD ... .. 7
JAMES WHATMORE ... .. 4	CHARLES E. PERKINS ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. BARBER.

Conducted by C. E. PERKINS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. \* First peal of Bob Major. First peal of Bob Major as conductor. All are members of the local band of service ringers. This same peal was lost in the last course on Nov. 14th, for Armistice, by the same band, after 3 hrs. 20 mins.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, November 30, 1925, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... .. Treble	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 5
*GEORGE BENNETT ... .. 2	LESLIE G. BRETT ... .. 6
GEORGE WHITING ... .. 3	T. WILLIAM LAST ... .. 7
GEORGE PRYSE ... .. 4	ERNEST E. LANHAM ... .. Tenor

Composed by the late J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by T. W. LAST

Rung with bells half-muffled. \* First peal of London Surprise.

**SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.**

SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE.

(THE ST. CHAD'S SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, November 26, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Comprising 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Court, Grandsire Minor and Plain Bob.

Tenor 7 cwt. in B.

*FRANK LYCETT ... .. Treble	WILLIAM SHORT ... .. 4
CHARLES LEE ... .. 2	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... .. 5
†JAMES EVANS ... .. 3	WILLIAM B. KYNASTON ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. \* First peal of Minor in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods on an inside bell.

SPOUGHTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, November 26, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

Tenor 10 cwt.

*SIDNEY C. MOSS ... .. Treble	H. J. MEE ... .. 4
G. W. MEE ... .. 2	C. H. MEE ... .. 5
L. E. RIVERS ... .. 3	E. RIVERS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by E. RIVERS.

Rung with half-muffled clappers for the late Queen Alexandra, and Mr. F. Hope, an old parishioner, who was interred that day at Sproughton. \* First peal.

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 26, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-DE-MERTON,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Double Court, Oxford Bob, Woodbine, Oxford Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob.

KENNETH BOWYER ... .. Treble	MISS EVELYN STEEL ... .. 4
MISS ELSIE K. KNIGHT ... 2	HARRY TYSOE ... .. 5
WILLIAM STAPLETON ... .. 3	HERBERT L. HARLOW ... Tenor

Conducted by W. STAPLETON.

Rung with the bells muffled.

BREDON NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, November 27, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being two 720's of Grandsire, two of Canterbury Pleasure, and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*ARTHUR CARTER ... .. Treble	JAMES ATTWOOD ... .. 4
CHARLES TRAPP ... .. 2	FRANCIS MILES ... .. 5
*JOHN MILES ... .. 3	OLIVER ATTWOOD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by O. ATTWOOD.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. \* First peal. First peal on the bells by a local band.

BUXTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, November 27, 1925, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

HAROLD BARTON ... .. Treble	EDWARD J. BARTON ... .. 4
EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 2	ARTHUR W. RUMP ... .. 5
EDWARD HOWES ... .. 3	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD P. DUFFIELD.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. First peal by the ringers of the treble, 3rd, 4th and 5th, who are to be congratulated on doing so well at their first attempt.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 27, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

CHARLES LAYTON, JUN. ... Treble	CHRIS. BOWERS ... .. 4
WILLIAM RANFORD ... .. 2	DAVID HORNE ... .. 5
CHARLES LAYTON, SEN. ... 3	GEORGE JORDON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by D. HORNE.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

*FREDERICK SEABRIGHT ... Treble	JOHN BURLS ... .. 4
*FREDERICK A. MITCHELL ... 2	GEORGE MORRAD ... .. 5
HARRY ARGENT ... .. 3	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK M. MITCHELL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. It was at the Royal Terrace Pier in this parish that Queen Alexandra first landed on British soil in 1863. \* First peal. † 25th peal.

FLAMSTEAD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 22 cwt. (approx.)

FREDERICK JEFFS ... .. Treble	JOHN MALYAN ... .. 4
CHARLES JEFFS ... .. 2	HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH 5
BEN JARMAN ... .. 3	WALTER AYRE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

Rung half-muffled. The first peal on the bells. The back five are by Chandler, 1664, and the treble is 1709. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar, the Rev. F. C. Clare, for permission to ring, and also the local ringers for their splendid preparations.

BRINDLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Consisting of seven 720's called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*ALFRED BLOGG ... .. Treble	HERBERT BLACKLIDGE ... 4
FRED BLACKLIDGE ... .. 2	WILLIAM SHARPLES ... .. 5
*BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... 3	WILLIAM FOWLER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

\* First peal of Oxford Minor. Rung with the bells half-muffled for the late Queen Alexandra. Also in memory of Sir Charles Brown, an hon. freeman of the borough of Preston.

STEVENTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTH BERKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

With ten different callings.

*WILLIAM BOSHER, JUN. ... Treble	FRANK W. BONCE ... .. 4
JOHN NOBES ... .. 2	ALBERT P. W. FLETCHER ... 5
DANIEL H. WOODLEY ... .. 3	ALFRED BREAKSPEAR ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN NOBES.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. \* First peal. The ringer of treble bails from West Hendred, and 3rd from Milton.

At St. Albans, Herts, on Wednesday, Nov. 18th, at 105, Fishpool Street, on handbells, in 1 hour and 20 minutes, a half-peal of Bob Major, 2,512 changes: J. Malyan 1-2, W. Ayre (conductor) 3-4, H. E. C. Goodenough 5-6, Charles Jeffs 7-8.



## MILLOM, CUMBERLAND.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS &amp; LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

JOHN P. BARKER ... ..	Treble	* WILLIAM CAMPBELL ... ..	4
EDMUND THOMPSON ... ..	2	WILLIAM ROBINSON ... ..	5
WILLIAM T. CLARK ... ..	3	GEORGE SLATER ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Rung with the bells muffled. First peal on the bells. \* First peal of Minor, and elected a member of the association before starting for the peal.

## FARMBOROUGH, SOMERSET.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

* A. GOULD ... ..	Treble	W. T. SHORE ... ..	4
R. T. CLARK ... ..	2	W. ROSEWELL ... ..	5
REV. L. G. KETCHLEY ... ..	3	* A. CONDUCT ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by R. T. CLARK.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. \* First peal.

## MARKET DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

## THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GUTHLAC.

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's as follows: College Single, Double and Single Oxford, Double and Single Bob, Double and Single Court, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN LUNN ... ..	Treble	WILLIAM TILLEY ... ..	4
* WILLIAM NEAL ... ..	2	JOSEPH LONDON ... ..	5
HORACE M. DAY ... ..	3	GEORGE H. WELLS ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

Rung half-muffled for the late Queen Alexandra. \* First peal in 10 methods.

## BARLEY, HERTS.

## THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BARLEY SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, December 3, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Plain Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

FRANK HAYES ... ..	Treble	WALTER MANSFIELD ... ..	4
ALBERT HOWARD ... ..	2	WALTER F. SERMONS ... ..	5
HARRY HOWARD ... ..	3	ROBERT HOWARD ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

Rung with the bells muffled in memory of Queen Alexandra; also as a tribute of respect to Mrs. J. C. Wilkerson, whose interment took place on the day previous.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

## NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

## THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours &amp; Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. WOOLOS,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt, 2 qr. 20 lb.

HARRY PAGE ... ..	Treble	FREDERICK LASBURY ... ..	6
* JOHN W. JONES ... ..	2	SIDNEY DAVE ... ..	7
* HERBERT DAVIES ... ..	3	FREDERICK CHAMBERLAIN ... ..	8
FREDERICK J. BAILEY ... ..	4	WILLIAM PAGE ... ..	9
GEORGE LARGE ... ..	5	* WILLIAM BOLTON ... ..	Tenor

Composed by JAMES WOOD.

Conducted by HARRY PAGE.

The band was arranged specially by Mr. Harry Page, of Pentre, and the peal rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Jones, the hon. secretary of the association, who on this day reached his 60th birthday. \* First peal of Kent Royal, and first peal on ten bells for the ringer of the 3rd. First peal of Royal on the bells.

## SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours &amp; Twenty-Seven Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5031 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt, 1 qr. 20 lb.

KEITH HART ... ..	Treble	* HORACE WHITEHEAD ... ..	6
JOHN T. RICKMAN ... ..	2	JOHN DEARLOVE ... ..	7
EDWARD C. MERRETT ... ..	3	ROBERT J. DAVE ... ..	8
ALFRED W. GROVES ... ..	4	ALFRED J. TURNER ... ..	9
FRANK BENNETT ... ..	5	JAMES A. HART ... ..	Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

\* First peal of Stedman Caters with an inside bell.

## BRADFORD.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5151 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

GEORGE LEWIS ... ..	Treble	FREDERICK W. DIXON ... ..	6
JAMES COTTERILL ... ..	2	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... ..	7
THOMAS B. KENDALL ... ..	3	SIDNEY F. PALMER ... ..	8
JOHN HOLMAN ... ..	4	JOHN THORPE ... ..	9
PERCY J. JOHNSON ... ..	5	FRANCIS BARKER ... ..	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE LEWIS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James Barraclough, of Huddersfield, on his 78th birthday. Each ringer has rung upwards of one hundred peals for the Yorkshire Association, with an aggregate of 1,740 peals, and this is the first band to establish such a record in the county of Yorkshire.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

## FRITTENDEN, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 24, 1925, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

CHARLES TRIBE ... ..	Treble	BEN. F. BAKER ... ..	5
MRS. H. BAKER ... ..	2	* CHARLES BAKER ... ..	6
CHARLES W. PLAYER ... ..	3	CHARLES H. SONE ... ..	7
HARRY BAKER ... ..	4	HARRY PARKES ... ..	Tenor

Composed by JOHN HOMES.

Conducted by C. H. SONE.

Rung in honour of the wedding of the Rector (the Rev. Cecil Sumner Stooks) and Miss Edith May Homewood. This is the first peal on the bells since 1891. \* First peal.

## KING'S LYNN, NORFOLK.

## THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 2, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHAPEL OF EASE OF ST. NICHOLAS,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5440 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED E. BACON ... ..	Treble	† TOM GREENACRE ... ..	5
† WALTER J. CURSTON ... ..	2	† JAMES H. RAPER ... ..	6
* ROBERT E. GREENACRE ... ..	3	WALTER N. ASHBY ... ..	7
† ROLAND NEWSON ... ..	4	JOSEPH E. SYKES ... ..	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 264). Conducted by J. E. SYKES.

This composition is now rung for the first time, and the peal was to welcome the conductor home from Manchuria. \* First peal of Major. † First peal of Treble Bob Major.

## MARTOCK, SOMERSET.

## THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 4, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5030 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

* P. J. FARRANT ... ..	Treble	* A. E. WORNER ... ..	5
* T. GALE ... ..	2	J. T. DYKE ... ..	6
* F. STRICKLAND ... ..	3	* F. SWEET ... ..	7
† F. FARRANT ... ..	4	* A. ALEXANDER ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

\* First peal. † First since 1907. This tower is the 50th Somerset tower in which the conductor has rung a peal.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 2, 1925, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes.  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MODWEN.

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

REV. H. EARLE BOLWER'S IRREGULAR TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.	
JOHN H. SWINFIELD ... .. Treble	JAMES PAGETT ... .. 5
MAURICE SWINFIELD ... .. 2	E. HARRY STONELEY ... .. 6
CHARLES DRAPER ... .. 3	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 7
JOSEPH BAILEY ... .. 4	GEORGE F. NEWMAN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

This composition has all the 6-7's at backstroke, and is now rung for the first time by the M.C.A. It was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James George.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr.	
EDGAR HUMFREY ... .. Treble	ARTHUR BAILEY ... .. 5
LEONARD OSBORNE ... .. 2	*ALFRED JEFFRIES ... .. 6
AMBROSE W. OSBORNE ... .. 3	HORACE OSBORNE ... .. 7
JAMES ABERY ... .. 4	REUBEN SAWYER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDGAR HUMFREY.

\* First peal. Ringer of 4th from Englefield, remainder from Reading.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS.

**A PEAL OF 'REAL' DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12½ cwt.	
WILLIAM BOND ... .. Treble	*HERBERT E. ADSLEY ... .. 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... .. 2	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... .. 6
*C.S.M. J. BENNETT ... .. 3	*FREDERICK J. COLLUM, JUN. ... .. 7
*ISAAC G. SHADE ... .. 4	EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

\* First peal of 'Real' Double Norwich. E. Barnett, sen.'s 660th peal.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in E flat.

JOHN LEE ... .. Treble	FRANK E. DARBY ... .. 5
DANIEL COOPER ... .. 2	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... .. 6
ALFRED J. BULL ... .. 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... .. 7
WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... .. 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON. Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.

Rung after meeting short for Royal, Mr. J. W. Chapman kindly standing out. Quickest peal of Major on the bells.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.  
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. in F.

THOMAS BUTLER, SEN. ... .. Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... .. 5
RICHARD T. HOLDING ... .. 2	WILLIAM WEATHERBY ... .. 6
WILLIAM S. HIGGINSON ... .. 3	THOMAS R. BUTLER ... .. 7
HARRY OVERTON ... .. 4	WILLIAM HIGGINSON, SEN. ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

**SIX BELL PEALS.**

GAYWOOD, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, December 3, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH.

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

JOSEPH E. SYKES ... .. Treble	JAMES H. RAPER ... .. 4
ROBERT E. GREENACRE ... .. 2	WALTER N. ASHBY ... .. 5
*EDWARD GREENACRE ... .. 3	GEORGE HAWES ... .. Tenor

Arranged by the REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by J. E. SYKES.

\* First peal. First peal of Cambridge on the bells, and by all except the conductor.

GRANFORD, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(KETTERING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven different compositions. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.	
MISS KITTY MOORE ... .. Treble	CYRIL D. NICHOLS ... .. 4
C. ARTHUR MANNING ... .. 2	HARRY BAXTER ... .. 5
FRANK LEWIN ... .. 3	ROBERT G. BLACK ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT G. BLACK.

Rung as a birthday compliment to C. D. Nichols, it also being his first peal away from the treble.

BRETTFORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD.

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven extents. Tenor 11½ cwt.	
JOHN C. PERKINS ... .. Treble	LEONARD J. JEFFS ... .. 4
THOMAS HANDS ... .. 2	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... .. 5
*JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... .. 3	JOHN HALL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

First peal of Surprise by all the band except the conductor. \* First peal of Surprise Minor, and first peal of Surprise as conductor. First peal of Surprise in the branch. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. C. Perkins, the popular towerkeeper.

ASPLEY GUISE, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

HORACE H. SMITH ... .. Treble	EDMUND J. HOBBS ... .. 4
ALBERT FLEET ... .. 2	LEONARD TURNER ... .. 5
CHARLES W. CLARKE ... .. 3	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

**HANDBELL PEAL.**

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 3, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT 26, KIRKMANSHULME LANE.

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;**

†ALFRED BARNES ... .. 1—2	*ALLAN F. BAILEY ... .. 5—6
†HAROLD JACKSON ... .. 3—4	†FREDERICK PAGE ... .. 7—8
HARRY CHAPMAN ... .. 9—10	

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by F. PAGE.

\* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † First peal of Grandsire Caters 'in hand.' Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. A. Barnes.

[Other Peal Reports are unavoidably held over.]

CHIPPENHAM.—At St. Andrew's Church, for evening service (Eve of St. Andrew's), on Nov. 29th, by St. Andrew's Juniors, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: A. Dale 1, E. Truman 2, R. Pearce 3, E. Perry 4, S. Wiltshire 5, L. Ambrose 6, W. Hulburt 7, F. Lambeth (conductor) 8.

EDGBASTON.—At the Old Church, on Sunday, Nov. 8th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: R. Russell 1, L. Griffiths 2, G. Pigott 3, T. Heavers 4, G. Lodge (conductor) 5, E. Rase 6.

### MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. MEETING AT HACKNEY.

The last meeting of the year in the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday last at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, and, being attended by nearly 40 members, was voted a success. Divine service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. T. McLean), and the address was given by the Rev. J. O. Vince, Vicar of St. Mark's, Dalston. Subsequently the party sat down to tea in the Rectory as the guests of Mrs. McLean, who was, however, unfortunately prevented from being present to welcome the members. The Rector presided, and was supported by the Rev. J. O. Vince, Mr. F. A. Milne (president), Mr. W. Pickworth (vice-president), Mr. N. A. Tomlinson (District Master), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary), Mr. W. I'ye (Master), and many others.

At the usual business meeting, five new members were elected, and St. Giles'-in-the-Fields announced as the place of the next meeting on January 23rd, this being the annual meeting of the district.

The Hon. Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and Mrs. McLean for their hospitality, and to all others concerned in making the meeting a success, including Mr. Riley (towerkeeper), Mr. Alleyway, etc.—This was seconded by Mr. F. A. Milne, and carried unanimously.—The Rev. G. T. McLean, in acknowledging the thanks of the members, welcomed them to South Hackney, and proceeded to amuse the company with quite a number of humorous anecdotes, but to relate them all would occupy too much space. Here is one, however:—

Johnny had swallowed a penny, and Tommy was sent by his mother for the doctor. As the local parson was also known by that title, Tommy went to the Rectory and knocked, asking for the doctor. The Rector said, 'Well, Tommy, and what do you require?' 'Oh, sir, Johnny has swallowed a penny, and mother wants you to come and get it out of his inside.' 'Oh!' said the clergyman, 'you have made a mistake. It is the medical doctor you want.' 'No,' said Tommy, 'it must be you, as I heard father say the other day that you were the best man he knew for getting money out of people!'

Some Stedman Caters having been rung on the handbells, the tower was again visited, quite a large number of methods being practised, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and London, Bristol, Superlative, Cambridge and Norfolk Surprise.

### LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. PRESTON BRANCH.

A well-attended meeting of the above branch was held at Hoghton on Saturday, November 14th, when over thirty ringers were present, amongst whom were visitors from the Blackburn and Wigan branches, as well as representatives from eleven of the Preston branch towers. During the day, touches in the standard methods, as well as Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, were rung.

Tea was partaken of in the Parish School, where the members' wants were well attended to by the local ringers' wives and friends, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was given for their services. One of the ladies responded.

The business meeting was held in the ringing chamber, at which Mr. J. R. Taylor presided, and welcomed the members from the neighbouring branches.—Mr. Wilson, of Blackburn, replied, on behalf of the visitors, saying that he had pleasant recollections of coming to Hoghton, as it was there that he rang his first touch.

The Chairman then said he had, with regret, to move a vote of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. Wm. Nelson, of Leyland, who was interred that afternoon. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor had been rung, as a last token of respect to one who had been connected with St. James', Leyland, as a ringer, chorister, sidesman and warden, for nearly fifty years.

Mr. E. R. Martin, in seconding, said he would like to extend the vote also to the relatives of the late Mr. Edwin Horrex, of London, who died on the previous Saturday. He added, that although most of the members would not know Mr. Horrex personally, his doings as 'the grand old man' of the Exercise were well known to most of them.—The vote was then passed, with the members standing in silence.

Among other items of business was the confirmation by the meeting of the election of four new members, these being Mr. H. Foster, of Chorley; Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough; Mr. W. J. Nevard, and Mr. Cecil Mayne, of Bucks, the last three having been proposed as life members previous to ringing a peal at Samlesbury.

The meeting also congratulated three branch members on ringing their first peal of Cambridge Surprise, but the writer is sorry to say that congratulations to Mr. B. A. Knights, on his having rung peals of Kent Treble Bob on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells, were omitted, and would like to offer them to him, on behalf of the branch, through the medium of this report.

The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE

# LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

**Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1570**  
(12th year  
of reign of  
Elizabeth).

**Bellfounders and  
Bellhangers,**

**32 & 34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD  
LONDON, E.1.**



**ESTIMATES SUBMITTED**

for

**Recasting, Retuning and Rehanging.**

**HANDBELLS**  
In Sets of any number.

**BELL ROPES. MUFFLES. &c**

## BELFRY GOSSIP.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor on the light six at Loughborough Bell Foundry, the tenor being only 2 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lbs., and 22 inches in diameter, constitutes a record for light weight. It was also the quickest tower bell peal yet rung. By this peal, G. Stedman Morris, who is not yet 18, has now rung in peals of Cambridge Minor, Major, Royal and Maximus, and is the youngest to do so. The lightest tenor previously rung to a peal was Lye, Worcestershire, where the weight is just over 3 cwt. It would be interesting to know how the weights of the two trebles compare.

It is good news to learn that the people of Camberwell are inquiring what has become of the bells at St. Giles' Church, which have not been heard in peal for a considerable time. The cause of their silence is the want of overhaul, and now that the public are becoming interested the church authorities may think it an opportune moment to raise a restoration fund.

The Taunton band, who rang last Saturday the first seven-method Surprise Minor peal in Somerset, are to be congratulated upon their success, which is the reward of their continued perseverance.

The bells of Blackawton, Devon, have been silent for ten years, and the parishioners are now anxious to hear them again. Their silence is stated to be due to the fact that the ringers would not regularly attend church, and therefore the Vicar debarred them from ringing. Another attempt is now to be made to organise a band of ringers in the parish.

One of the earliest peals rung at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, was a peal of Grandsire Triples on December 12th, 1735, so that to-morrow is the 190th anniversary. It was recorded in the 'Ipswich Gazette,' and it is curious to note that the names of the ringers are given in reverse order, that is, beginning with the tenorman. He was James Kieridge, and his age was 61.

A peal of 6,400 Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung at Isleworth, Middlesex, on December 11th, 1770.

On December 12th, 1848, 7,392 Stedman Cinques was rung at Birmingham. Henry Johnson composed and conducted the peal, which was the longest in the method at that date.

In the year 1806, the week from Dec. 13th to Dec. 20th was productive of a great deal of ringing at Christ Church, Spitalfields, where at that time there was a ring of twelve bells. On Dec. 13th, the Senior Cumberland Youths rang over 5,500 changes in a fruitless attempt for a peal of Stedman Cinques, but were successful on the following Saturday, Dec. 20th, when they brought round a 6,334 in 4 hrs. 55 mins.

Between these two bouts of ringing, viz., on Dec. 15th, the Junior Cumberlands rang a peal of 5,886 in the same method. What would the inhabitants say to-day to such a 'feast' of ringing?

'Uncle' Joe Sykes has landed safely in England, after his adventures in the wilds of Manchuria. He had not been long on his native soil before he was busy with 'Yorkshire Glory,' and would probably have scored a peal before this had not a forgetful verger turned off the electric light at the main switch, in the twelfth course. In another attempt, however, he landed his peal of 'welcome,' and is now getting down to ringing business.

**READY SHORTLY.**

## METHOD-SPLICING

A reprint of the Articles

**'HINTS ON "SPLICING" AND  
RINGING MINOR METHODS.'**

By JOHN P. FIDLER,

with an INTRODUCTION  
by JOSEPH W. PARKER,

**And a number of Minor Extents in Six,  
Eight and Ten Methods.**



## THE WASHBROOK MEMORIAL. DEDICATION OF BELLS AT OXFORD.

A congregation of about two hundred people, mostly ringers, assembled at St. Ebbe's Church, Oxford, on Saturday afternoon, for the dedication of the Washbrook Memorial. Among those present were: Canon Stansfeld (Rector of St. Ebbe's), the Master of the Oxford Guild (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), Canon G. F. Coleridge (president of the Central Council), the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (Master of the Salisbury Guild), the Rev. R. L. C. Newhouse, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Barker, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lock, Misses S. Davis and M. M. Webb, Messrs. A. A. Hughes (College Youths), G. H. Phillott (Cheltenham), H. Chapman, Councillor Trippier, J. W. Washbrook (Manchester), G. A. Smith, R. T. Hibbert (general secretary, Oxford Guild), A. J. Wright (treasurer, Oxford Guild), R. White, G. Holfield, J. F. Barlow, W. J. Nevard, D. Napper, and representatives from eleven of the branches, including the following towers: Chipping Norton, Shipton, Chalgrove, Witney, Benson, Ardington, Eynsham, Goring, Stanton Harcourt, Chilton, Abingdon, Newbury, Appleton, Tackley, Yarnton, and St. Giles', St. Ebbe's, and All Saints', Oxford.

The memorial, as is well known, takes the form of the addition of two trebles to the six bells of St. Ebbe's, the existing six having been cleaned, tuned and rehung. In addition a bronze tablet has been placed near the entrance to the ringing chamber, bearing the following inscription:—

A.D. 1925.

The bells in this tower were repaired and rehung, and the two trebles added by the Oxford Diocesan Guild and ringers of the British Empire, in memory of James William Washbrook, a highly skilled ringer and talented composer, able conductor, and for many years instructor in the Guild.

Born 27th April, 1864. Died Christmas Day, 1923.

The ceremony, which took the form of the dedication service from the Oxford Diocesan Service Book, was conducted by the Master of the Oxford Guild, and the address was given by the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge. Led by the St. Ebbe's choir, the singing of such a large body of men was very hearty and inspiring.

In the middle of the service, the clergy, the choir, and a band of ringers chosen for the purpose, went in procession to the ringing chamber, where the new bells were consecrated and dedicated by Canon Coleridge, after which a few rounds were rung by the following: Canon Coleridge, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Messrs. R. T. Hibbert, H. Chapman, R. White, W. H. B. Wilkins, J. Monk, and H. Miles.

In the course of his address, Canon Coleridge said that the ringers there assembled had just joined together in dedicating a memorial to James William Washbrook, one of the most noted ringers, if not the most noted, of all time. They had given these bells into the care of the parishioners of St. Ebbe's to be used in his memory, and for the honour and glory of the church. Canon Coleridge said that there were three reasons why he had been specially asked to undertake the dedication ceremony, and to address the ringers: (1) Because the Bishop of the Diocese was unable to come, as he had two Confirmation services that afternoon; (2) because as President of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers he represented in a sense all the associations and individuals who had contributed to the erection of the memorial; and (3) because he was the only living ringing cleric who knew James W. Washbrook from his youth upwards, and the only one among the ringing clergy who had rung 87 peals with him, including a number of long peals, one of which was the 15,000 of Stedman Caters at Appleton. The preacher said he had visited many counties in company with Mr. Washbrook on ringing tours, and thus had had many opportunities of noting and admiring the character of this veritable prince among ringers.

Speaking of his recollections of Mr. Washbrook, Canon Coleridge said that he had first come into contact with him nearly fifty years ago, when he (Canon Coleridge) was an undergraduate member of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers. Every Wednesday afternoon in term at 4.30, the society used to meet at St. Thomas's Church to ring on open bells. Young Washbrook took every possible opportunity, and made every possible excuse to be in the ringing chamber when this ringing took place, creeping up to watch the undergraduates painfully endeavouring to ring six-scores, and as he watched he wondered when he, too, would be able to do the like. When only about eight or nine years old, Washbrook was able to ring a bell, and chime three bells for the daily services, and whenever possible he would carry out the duty of tolling the death-bell for a death in the parish. Washbrook and his great friend, John Jagger, would often climb the ivy on the tower walls at night, effect an entrance, tie some bells, and practice on them until the small hours of the morning. When Washbrook was about 16 years of age, one of the clergy of St. Thomas's Church gave him Troyte's book, and soon he was able to instruct others in Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and in Minor (probably Grandsire). About two years later (1881) he rang his first peal of Grandsire, and soon afterwards took part in a peal for the first time as conductor. In 1884 he conducted a peal of Stedman Triples from a non-observation bell, and from that time his ringing records grew apace. The year 1888 stands out as a most conspicuous example of his great feats in ringing a number of long peals,

including 10,080 Double Norwich, 13,265 Grandsire Caters, and 12,041 and 15,041 of Stedman Caters. Later on he had to give up his work as instructor to the Oxford Diocesan Guild owing to the pressing claims of an increasing family, and he went to Hereford, where he did a great deal to promote the art of change ringing.

From Hereford he went to take up a post at Arklow Church in Ireland, where, out of very unpromising material, he formed a good band of ringers, and after a time astonished the ringing world by the wonderful feat of ringing two tower bells in a peal.

After some years in Ireland, domestic reasons caused his return to England, first to Staffordshire, and afterwards to Lancashire, where he rang many peals, and where he spent the last part of his life. Canon Coleridge suggested that it would be of great benefit to the Exercise at large if someone who had the necessary leisure and ability would study the available documents (such as the 'Bell News' and 'Ringing World'), and compile a complete record of Washbrook's peals.

The preacher emphasised the fact that Mr. Washbrook was an all-round man being distinguished not only for his wonderful knowledge of the science and art of change ringing, but by his general ability and knowledge. To this knowledge he was always adding, so that he became a many-sided man. He was, too, a man who was appreciative of his religion. He was fondest of all of going to the Cowley Fathers' Church, 'for there,' he used to say, 'you can always hear the best sermons by the best men in the church.' In conclusion, Canon Coleridge said, 'Two years ago this great ringer passed away. May that life go on in the Paradise of God, and may this peal keep alive his memory.'

Immediately after the service, the first touch on the bells (Stedman Triples) was rung by the same eight ringers who rang during the service. Many other visiting ringers then took the opportunity of ringing in touches of Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, and Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, while those who were not actually ringing strolled about for a while to hear the bells from different parts of the parish. All agreed that the bell founders (Messrs. Mears and Stainbank) had effected an excellent blend, and that the bells went remarkably well.

By the kindness of Canon Stansfeld, tea was served at 4.30 in St. Ebbe's Parish Hall, and more than one hundred ringers participated.

After tea, the Master of the Oxford Guild said how tremendously he had been looking forward to that day, and how much he hoped that the bells had proved to all present that the Washbrook Memorial Committee had not betrayed their trust. The committee had to consider the work that could be done with the money likely to be placed at their disposal. They then took steps to get the opinions of experts, who advised the committee that the work of augmenting the six bells of St. Ebbe's could be undertaken with confidence. He and the Oxford Diocesan Guild were very glad to welcome the ringers from other associations who were present that day, and to be the hosts at the tea-table of those who had come from far-off districts. He was especially glad to welcome there young James W. Washbrook. He was very pleased to hand over the bells to Canon Stansfeld, because the people who lived in this rather drab parish enjoyed the sound of the bells, and he sincerely hoped that the present ring of bells would bring to these parishioners the message of peace and joy. The speaker then suggested that the bells should be rung slowly in order that their beauty might be brought out, and he concluded by remarking what a splendid opportunity the young Oxford ringers now had of a step between six and ten bells.

Canon Stansfeld, in a few heartfelt words, voiced his own pleasure and that of his parishioners in welcoming them all that day, and said how very grateful they were for the generous and unexpected gift of the beautiful ring of bells.

Mr. A. J. Wright gave a brief account of the financial side of the undertaking, during which he stated that £232 9s. 4d. had been subscribed in all, of which £92 12s. 9d. came from outside the Oxford Diocesan Guild, Lancashire having sent a donation of £20. He estimated that there were some 600 subscribers to the memorial, and he wished to take the opportunity of thanking the ringers throughout the country for their generosity.

Mr. A. A. Hughes (Mears and Stainbank) said that he considered it a great honour and privilege to have been asked to make the new bells. The old six, although very light bells, were unusually deep in pitch for their weight, and it was, therefore, decided that two trebles could be added to them successfully if the old six went to the foundry and were adjusted in tune. Upon weighing the tenor bell, it was found to be but a few pounds over 4½ cwt.

Mr. R. White, who undertook the work of hanging the bells, expressed his thanks for having had the honour of hanging this light ring, and his pleasure that everything proved so satisfactory.

Mr. H. Chapman (Manchester) said that he was delighted with the two trebles, and that he would be able to take back to the north a very satisfactory account of the Washbrook Memorial.

Mr. G. H. Phillott (Cheltenham) expressed it as his opinion that the result of the work was most satisfactory.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert said that he spoke with a full heart, and that he was very proud that there were now eight bells in St. Ebbe's, put

there to the memory of Will Washbrook, who was one of the finest of men.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn thanked Canon Coleridge for dedicating the bells, and for addressing the congregation, and also expressed the thanks of all to Canon Stansfeld, the organist, and the choir for their help that day.

In responding, Canon Coleridge indulged in a number of reminiscences of his association with J. W. Washbrook, some of which had a distinctly humorous side.

Mr. G. Hollifield, senr., made a few remarks about the long peal of Stedman Caters at Appleton in 1888, after which Mr. J. W. Washbrook said how proud he was to know how much his father's memory was esteemed by so many ringers, and he expressed his most sincere and grateful thanks for what had been said and done.

After a few words about the wisdom of the choice of the memorial from Mr. H. Miles, the proceedings terminated, and the members of the assembly made their way to St. Ebbo's and other city towers for further ringing.

The following members of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers were present: Mr. G. H. Phillott (one of the original members of the society when it was founded in 1872), Canon G. F. Coleridge (Master in 1881-2), the Rev. R. L. C. Newhouse (sometime hon. secretary), Mr. H. Miles (Master, 1921-2), Mr. W. E. Collier (present Master), Miss C. W. M. Small (late hon. secretary), and Mr. T. E. Green (present hon. secretary).

Four ringers who took part in the Rev. F. E. Robinson's 1,000th peal twenty years ago (1905) were present, namely, Canon Coleridge, and Messrs. J. W. Washbrook, G. A. Smith and H. Miles.

## HISTORY OF SURPRISE MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It would be a kindness, for which I should be exceedingly grateful, if any of your readers could supply me with a list and particulars as far as possible of peals in the three Major Surprise methods of Superlative, Cambridge, and London, to and including the year 1900, i.e., to the end of last century. By the goodness of Mr. Trollope, Mr. Burton, Mr. Samuel Page, and one or two other friends, I have the following:—

Superlative.—Norwich, 6th February, 1835

Cambridge.—Benington, 11th February, 1875.

London.—Norwich, 17th November, 1835.

" Woolwich, 1849.

" Benington, 26th December, 1870.

" Burton-on-Trent, 1st September, 1887.

" Burton-on-Trent, 1st October, 1888.

" Burton-on-Trent, 8th October, 1888.

" Fulham, 8th December, 1888.

" Burton-on-Trent, 20th December, 1888.

Beyond this I cannot as yet get, and should be very thankful if anyone can help me to complete the list. I should imagine that hon. secretaries of Diocesan and County Associations would have them at hand, and easily accessible in their records. All that I require is the reference to 'Church Bells' or 'Bell News,' if later than 1874 or 1875. If earlier than that I should be glad of full particulars as far as possible.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

## DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

### EXETER BRANCH MEETING.

The sixth annual meeting of the Exeter branch was held on Saturday at St. Sidwell's, Exeter. A hearty service in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. Lanyon Owen), who gave an interesting address on the origin and antiquity of bells generally, and those of that church in particular, was followed by a tea at the Institute, at which about 130 members assembled.

At the subsequent meeting, Mr. E. Shepherd, chairman of the branch, presided, among those present being the Revs. Canon McLaren, B. C. Bennett, C. W. Bates, E. A. Julian and F. Knight, Sir Robt. Newman, Bart., M.P., the president and general secretary of the Guild, Mr. P. G. Bartlett, treasurer, and Mr. F. J. Laxton.—Nineteen affiliated bands were represented, and apologies for absence were announced from the Bishop of Exeter, the Archdeacon of Exeter, the Revs. C. E. Burditt, H. B. Clark and H. C. Onslow, and Mr. S. Hull.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Topsham on February 13th, 1926.—Three honorary and two associate performing members were elected.

Mr. E. Shepherd was re-elected chairman; Mr. J. C. Oke elected secretary and treasurer; and Mr. T. J. Stokes assistant secretary for the ensuing year.

Canon McLaren, in returning thanks, on behalf of the hon. members present, gave an amusing description of his early experiences in bell ringing, and Sir Robert Newman, who also spoke, declared his resolve to stand by his church, and oppose any attempt to interfere with its rights and privileges.

## CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

### INTERESTING DISCUSSIONS.

The last meeting of the year of the Stockport Branch was held at Hyde on Saturday, November 28th, and those who braved the wintry elements were amply rewarded for their trouble. As a mark of respect for the late Queen-Mother, the bells were fully muffled, and ringing commenced on this fine-toned ring soon after 3 p.m. The usual Guild form of service was taken by the Vicar of Hyde, who also gave the address. Those present afterwards made their way to the cosy parish room, which was well warmed, and supplied with one of the chief features of a ringers' gathering, viz., 'a gradely tea,' to which about 25 sat down. This disposed of, the business of the day was transacted under the chairmanship of Mr. J. H. Jackson, and at his request all stood for a moment to honour the memory of the late Queen.

Mr. George Gorringe was elected a ringing member, and Stockport (St. Mary) was selected as the place of the annual meeting, to be held on the last Saturday of January, 1926.

Mr. T. Wilde then commented upon the leading article of the 'Ringing World,' published the previous day, on 'Noisy Bells and Fast Ringing.' In the opinion of the speaker, it was a pity such a one had not been written much sooner, and he hoped that it would have good effect. He said it behoved all to try and get the best out of the bells.—Several other members voiced their opinion and approval.

Eventually the topic turned into a most interesting and entertaining debate; first on the correct way of teaching a learner, in order that he may ring his bell to the best advantage, the primary object, of course, being striking, and it was unanimously agreed he should first be put on a light bell, and only be permitted to go into changes when he could ring rounds correctly. Afterwards, the discourse moved on to the ringing of the more difficult methods. Mr. J. P. Fidler suggested that a band who could ring Kent Treble Bob Major well, and who desired to make good progress, should commence to practise the Minor methods which had been detailed by him in the 'Ringing World,' and which would shortly appear in book form. In them they would find a good stepping-stone to higher things, and eventually the Surprise methods would appear less formidable.

Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft supported this view. In his own personal experience he had found that the knowledge of Minor methods obtained at Norbury had thrown a new light on the higher methods, and he had found them much easier to ring, through possessing a good knowledge of six-bell work.

Mr. A. Barnes took up the opposite view, stating that a six-bell band would find the two extra ropes an obstacle to good Major ringing without a vast amount of practise, and that the chief thing was ample study at home, not leaving it until arrival in the ringing-room, and relying on someone else to pull them through. This was agreed upon, but the argument had been on a band conversant with eight-bell ringing, and who desired to master the more intricate work. Therefore, being used to eight bells, once they had acquired a good knowledge of Minor methods, the two extra ropes would cause no trouble.

Eventually the Rev. A. T. Beeston was prevailed upon to express his opinion, and stated that if a band desired to make progress they must stoop to conquer. Many eight-bell ringers thought they were lowering their dignity if they came down to six-bell ringing, but if only they would lose that mistaken idea, then they had a much better chance of attaining the desired object, and he hoped that those who were so prejudiced would remove the bias, get down to work, and practise Minor methods. The work would be hard and slow, yet nevertheless, sure, with much better results when it came to ringing Surprise Major, etc.

The Hon. Secretary gave notice that at the annual meeting he proposed to bring forward a resolution, which he hoped would be passed on to the Central Council for their consideration and action. Knowing full well that many bells are almost inaccessible to Rural Deans, and even when they can get at them their lack of experience makes it a difficult task to report on the condition of the bells, etc., and, as it is the duty of Rural Deans to inspect bellfries periodically, as with other church property, it is unfortunate that the bells are too often overlooked. He suggested, therefore, knowing the condition of many bells and bellfries, that the Central Council, through Diocesan or other channels, draw attention to the advisability of Rural Deans, when they have no personal technical knowledge of bells, to appoint as their deputy for the purpose of inspection, some person with the requisite qualifications. A leading article bearing upon this subject appeared in the 'Ringing World' of July 10th, and the subject was one which ought not to be pushed in the background.—The Vicar of Hyde said he thought that Rural Deans would welcome the idea, and this was also the opinion of several clergy with whom the matter has been discussed.

The meeting terminated with the usual votes of thanks for the use of the bells, Church and Parish Room, and to the local ringers and their leaders for their efforts in attending to the comfort of the visitors; also to the chairman for his services.

Further ringing, notable for its good striking, took place.—J. P. F.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

HISTORY—AS WRITTEN BY MR. DRAKE.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Really, I cannot congratulate the Rev. H. Drake on his history.

He tells us that 'besides Plain Changes and Cross Peals, there were, before Stedman's time, also Bob methods. Now, these were not at first methods with one dodge in them, but methods which were all dodging, or at least as nearly so as possible. A method was not considered a true Bob method unless one bell at least dodged all the time after the Hunt left it until it returned to it again.'

There is not the slightest foundation for this statement.

All we know of the beginning and early development of ringing comes from Stedman's book, the 'Tintinnalogia,' published in 1668. Stedman was an accurate, thorough and accomplished writer, and can safely be trusted. He describes ringing under two distinct heads. The first is Plain Changes, which occupies roughly the first half of his book; the second is Cross Peals, which occupies the other and rather larger half. As these terms, no doubt, mean nothing to a good many readers of 'The Ringing World,' let me explain that the distinctive feature of Plain Changes was that only one pair of bells changed at a time. Plain Changes were like modern 'stoneys,' with the following important exceptions. They were composed on a highly scientific plan, and with as much skill as any modern peal. The truth of the changes was scrupulously adhered to. The bells changed at every blow; the conductor was dispensed with, every man himself knowing when to make a change. It will easily be seen that to ring a 720 under these conditions would require a skilled band, and we must not suppose that these conditions obtained everywhere. In some places the ringing was by whole pulls, and in others the changes were 'walked.' 'By walking them is meant that the bells go round four, six, eight or more in one change, which is commonly used by young practisers.' And when the bells were 'walked,' we may assume that there was a conductor.

It was not till a good many years after the birth of ringing that Plain Changes reached this stage. We may safely conclude that they were fully developed somewhere about 1680. Mr. Drake tells us that it is so unlikely that Stedman developed Plain Changes that one can safely say that it is impossible. I can only ask in astonishment, does he know who Fabian Stedman was, when he lived, and what he wrote? Perhaps the explanation is that he thinks I meant that Stedman invented Plain Changes. I said nothing of the sort. I said that he and other seventeenth century ringers developed them with great skill.

But Plain Changes had scarcely been brought to perfection before they were superseded by Cross Peals. The feature of Cross Peals was that instead of only one pair of bells changing at a time, general movement of all the bells was introduced. Our modern Change Ringing would have ranked as Cross Peals, but it was some time before methods in the present meaning of the term appeared. The first Cross Peals pretty obviously were variations of Plain Changes, but with the invention of 'Doubles and Singles on four Bells,' and 'Grandsire on Five Bells,' an entirely new thing was introduced into ringing composition, which made modern method ringing possible. By 1700 the distinction between the method and touches and peals produced by bobs was recognised in London. Previously everything was a 'peal.' Thus Stedman gives as Grandsire Bob on Six Bells a particular 720; but a man (whose name I do not know) who wrote on ringing in a book called 'The School of Recreation' in 1701 gives as Grandsire Bob what we now call Bob Minor, with Plain Course and touches produced by bobs. This writer says, 'There are two kinds of changes, viz., Plain Changes and Cross Peals.'

It is thus clear, both from direct testimony and from the nature of the case, that there was no room for a third kind of changes (the Bob methods), which Mr. Drake so confidently tells us existed before Stedman's time. Stedman only once used the word Bob as the equivalent of method, or in connection with methods, and that is in the case of Grandsire Bob, which is the exact opposite of what Mr. Drake says these Bob methods were. I have no means of consulting his second book, 'The Campanalogia,' to see if there are any developments shown there. The unknown man I just now quoted gives what he tells us are the methods rung in London in 1701. Eight of them are on six bells. Two of them have the sub-title 'Bob,' viz., Grandsire Bob and College Bob, and while the second might come under Mr. Drake's definition, the first certainly would not.

But we should not, I think, have heard anything about this phantom class of Bob methods if it were not for what I hold to be the gem of Mr. Drake's letter. Court Bob is not really (so we are told) the name of that method. It is a corruption of Curt Bob, and was given to methods (apparently more than one), because the long dodging of the Bob methods was shortened. A likely tale to tell anyone who has rung both Bob Minor and Double Court Minor (the old Court Bob Minor). Since there are no facts to warrant this statement, I suppose Mr. Drake will say that he arrived at it by a process of logical deduction. A rude person would call it reckless guessing.

Nor can it be said that Mr. Drake shows any understanding of history in his hysterical references to the London Scholars. To say that

their change of name was an 'act of sycophantic adulation' is utterly unfair and utterly absurd. We may now think it not a good change, but that is another matter. To understand the situation you must realise that in the early years of the eighteenth century England was divided into two great parties, one of which, the Jacobites, favoured the restoration of the exiled Stuarts, the other who stood by the Hanoverian kings. Beside the question of the personality of the rival claimants to the English throne, there were some very big principles involved. The return of the Stuarts would have meant (or was believed to have meant) the establishment of personal autocratic government by the Sovereign, the favouring of Roman Catholicism, and the lapse of England to a position of dependence on France. The other side stood for Parliamentary Government, the Protestant religion (which meant the religion of the Church of England) and personal liberty. No doubt in practice it did not work out quite like that, but that was how it appeared to the majority of Englishmen at that time. In 1745 Charles Edward Stuart landed in Scotland, raised an army of Highlanders, defeated an English army at Prestonpans, and invaded England. He reached Derby, but receiving no support from any English rising, retreated to Scotland, where his hopes and those of his cause were finally crushed at the battle of Culloden Moor by an army commanded by the Duke of Cumberland, second son of George II. All this time England was at war with France, and as London was solid for the Hanoverians and the Protestant Succession, you can understand the panic when the Highlanders were in full march on the city, and the relief and joy when they were finally defeated. When the Duke returned to London he was received by everyone as the deliverer from a national catastrophe, and why should the London Scholars be blamed because they shared the general feeling? In later years the Duke became very unpopular, mainly for political reasons, and hard things were said about the cruelty and brutality with which the Northern rising was suppressed. There was cruelty, and there was brutality, but of that no one, least of all the London Scholars, knew at the time. There was no more 'sycophantic adulation' in the London Scholars welcoming the patronage of their king's son than there would be if a modern society welcomed the patronage of the present Duke of York.

If one had time and space there are quite a number of questions that one would like to ask Mr. Drake, and among them would be: Does he seriously say that Double Norwich has shortened 'dodging'? When have I made any 'strictures' on him, and where? What grounds are there for saying that belfries in olden times were noisier than they are now? Or that coarse and offensive names would have appealed to the old conductors? Or that I and others have not read the report of his committee?

## COVENTRY BELLS.

## RECASTING SCHEME TO BE OPPOSED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you be good enough to state, in regard to the action of the Central Council taken to help save these bells, that I am notified by the registrar that the hearing of the petition is down for January 4th, 1926, at Palace Yard, Coventry.

In view of the hope which you recently expressed, viz., that the original proposal would be modified, you will regret to observe that the application still reads thus:—

'For the recasting of the existing peal of bells on the five-tone principle with the addition of four bells, thus completing a chime of twelve bells and a carillon of fourteen, and providing a new electrically-driven machine in connection therewith.'

A caveat having been entered against this by Mr. R. Caldicott, of 29, High Street, Coventry; those who desire to help in any way, and are in a position to do so, should communicate with that gentleman.

The Exercise will be interested and grateful to know that Ald. J. S. Pritchett has kindly offered to act as counsel at the hearing, and also to do so without fee.—Yours faithfully,

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Central Council.

## SHILLINGTON BELLS RESTORED.

The bells at Shillington, Beds, have been overhauled and rehung by Mr. A. Bowell, of Ipswich, and the 'go' of them is perfect. The first quarter-peal was rung on them on Saturday, Nov. 21st, when 1,263 Grandsire Doubles was brought round in 47 minutes: W. G. Church 1, H. L. Harlow (conductor) 2, J. W. Stock 3, J. Church 4, H. Stapleton 5. Tenor 20 cwt.

One hundred and ninety years ago next Tuesday, the College Youths rang a peal of 8,008 Grandsire Cinques at Southwark. This peal was called by Benjamin Annable, and for over a hundred and fifty years remained the record length in the method. It was beaten in 1887 by the 9,020 conducted by Mr. John Buffery, who has recently passed to his rest.



**MUFFLED TOUCHES FOR QUEEN ALEXANDRA**

The following were among the touches rung with muffled bells on the death of Queen Alexandra:—

**HILLINGDON WEST.**—On Sunday, Nov. 29th, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled: H. Lucas 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, J. H. Lucas 3, Miss P. Moss (conductor) 4, P. Jones 5, R. Carter 6, F. Corke 7, C. Nicholls (first quarter-peal) 8.—On Nov. 28th, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled: A. Smith 1, H. H. Chandler 2, Miss P. Moss 3, J. J. Pratt 4, J. Bacon 5, W. Honor 6, F. Corke (conductor) 7, F. Smith 8.

**BROOMFIELD, ESSEX.**—On Saturday, Nov. 28th, with bells half-muffled, a half-peal of Minor (2,520 changes), being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise and Double Court, and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob: L. Ainger 1, W. Bradley 2, H. Warn 3, E. Clark 4, H. Devonish 5, H. Bradley (conductor) 6. Longest length by ringers of treble and second.

**TOTTENHAM.**—At All Hallows', on Saturday, Nov. 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, half-muffled: A. Racher 1, H. W. H. Strickland 2, H. Ellis 3, S. W. Crabb 4, W. Dickinson 5, C. Button (conductor) 6, E. A. Hull 7, W. Patmore 8.

**BRIDGEND, GLAM.**—On Saturday, Nov. 28th, at St. Iltyd's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: W. James 1, T. Petty (first quarter-peal with a bob bell) 2, A. Talbot 3, A. C. Jones 4, C. H. Perry (conductor) 5, R. Evans 6, E. Stith 7, H. Wright 8. Rung half-muffled, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal.

**BECCLES.**—At St. Michael's Church, on Nov. 27th, with the bells deeply muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,316 changes): R. Warman 1, T. Kerridge 2, C. Rush 3, G. Baxter 4, R. J. Goate 5, C. F. Sayer 6, E. R. Goate (conductor) 7, R. Rush 8; and a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes): C. Rush 1, R. Warman 2, T. Kerridge 3, G. Baxter 4, R. J. Goate 5, C. F. Sayer 6, F. A. Finch 7, E. R. Goate (conductor) 8.

**DUNSTABLE, BEDS.**—On Saturday, Nov. 28th, in 49 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): A. E. Sharman (conductor) 1, C. Rollings 2, G. Heley 3, A. V. Good 4, C. E. King 5, F. Ramsay 6, A. G. Matthews 7, C. T. King 8. Rung with the bells deeply muffled.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—On Friday, Nov. 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), rung half-muffled: J. Culley (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Sear (conductor) 2, W. Mead 3, J. Mead 4, H. Morris 5, W. Sear 6, F. Whitehead 7, H. V. Sear 8.

**WALTHAMSTOW.**—At St. Mary's, on Saturday, Nov. 28th, 1,344 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: C. H. Chapman 1, I. G. Shade 2, W. H. Wood 3, J. C. Adams 4, C. T. Coles (conductor) 5, F. C. Maynard 6, H. Rumens 7, G. H. Daynes 8. Rung after meeting short for Kent Treble Bob Royal.

**CAERPHILLY.**—On Saturday, Nov. 28th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, half-muffled, in 50 mins.: S. Addicott 1, E. Dare 2, W. Pike 3, P. Jones 4, H. Broughton 5, G. Cooke 6, A. Addicott (conductor) 7, D. Dare 8.

**STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.**—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, for morning and evening services, touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, with the bells half muffled.—On Friday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with bells fully muffled, excepting the tenor, which was half-muffled. The following ringers took part: T. Sparrow, W. E. Tydeman, C. Alderton, A. Grimwood, W. Souter (conductor), S. Sparrow, F. Allard, H. Copeland, E. E. Draper, E. Pealing (first quarter-peal).

**DERBY.**—At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, Nov. 29th, 1,394 Stedman Caters: A. Braines 1, J. Pagett 2, H. Ince 3, C. Draper 4, W. Wallace 5, S. Maskrey 6, A. H. Ward 7, J. F. Smallwood (conductor) 8, G. H. Robinson (longest length) 9, E. Clarke 10. Rung with muffled bells.

**MERTHYR TYDFIL, GLAM.**—At the Parish Church, on Saturday, Nov. 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: G. Jones 1, W. Fisher 2, F. Sharp 3, F. Chave 4, E. Thomas 5, P. C. J. Coles 6, H. J. Taylor (conductor) 7, F. Stirk 8. Rung with the bells deeply muffled.

**BRADWELL, BUCKS.**—At St. Lawrence's Church, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: T. Walters 1, E. Whitlock (conductor) 2, W. French 3, Eric Whitlock 4, C. Alderman 5, A. Coley 6.

**HAYES, KENT.**—On Nov. 28th, with the bells fully muffled, 2,160 Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 1 hr. 30 mins. (from the Rev. E. Banks James' composition): J. Grandfield 1, H. Reader 2, J. Hack 3, O. Gilbey (conductor) 4, H. Brown 5, F. Keech 6.

**CIRENCESTER, GLOS.**—On Saturday, Nov. 28th at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,277 changes), composed by R. F. Deal: F. W. Bond 1, F. Edwards 2, W. G. Cook 3, F. J. Lewis (conductor) 4, J. C. Eden 5, W. C. Cuss 6, H. C. Bond 7, G. Dore 8, W. H. Hayward 9, J. Hayward 10.

**CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.**—On Friday, Nov. 27th, after the funeral service for Queen Alexandra, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,295 changes), in 63 mins.: S. White 1, A. Heath 2, G. Stone 3, W. Stone 4, Mrs. L. Williams 5, G. Scrang 6, F. Sparshott 7, A. Wooff 8, G. Preston (conductor) 9, B. Kerley 10.

**BREWOOD, STAFFORD.**—On Tuesday, Nov. 24th, on the bells of the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 52 mins.: J. Walford 1, J. W. Perry 2, F. Birks 3, P. Bill 4, H. E. Booth 5, A. G. Hunt 6, J. Perry (conductor) 7, W. J. Baston 8.—On Friday, Nov. 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 54 mins.: J. Walford 1, J. W. Perry 2, F. R. Blewitt 3, G. Warner 4, F. Birks 5, T. Perry 6, J. Perry (conductor) 7, A. G. Hunt 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

**IPSWICH.**—On Friday, Nov. 27th, at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, deeply muffled, touches of Cambridge Surprise, Stedman and Grandsire were rung at intervals throughout the day by C. A. Catchpole, J. Durrant, R. H. Brundle, G. Fleming, A. Fleming, P. May, H. C. Gillingham, C. J. Sedgley, H. Shemming, H. E. Smith, G. E. Symonds.

**PORTISHEAD.**—On Friday, Nov. 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, half-muffled, at St. Peter's Church, Portishead: Mrs. Edwards 1, Miss A. Stokes (conductor) 2, J. Nisbett 3, Mrs. Briggs 4, E. Goldstone 5, Miss Orchard 6, W. Gillingham 7, J. Thomas (first quarter-peal) 8.

**EVERCREECH, SOMERSET.**—On Friday evening, Nov. 27th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with bells half-muffled: A. Stevens 1, Elizabeth E. Emm 2, W. Osment (conductor) 3, H. Sanger 4, W. Tucker 5, R. Whitehead 6, F. Reakes 7, A. White 8.

**GLOSSOP.**—At the Church of St. James, Whitfield, for evensong, on Sunday, Nov. 29th, a quarter-peal of Stedman (1,260 changes), in 46 mins.: James Buckley 1, J. Marsden 2, T. Jackson 3, F. Garside 4, B. Bradley 5, E. Garside 6, H. Bradley (conductor) 7, H. Bradshaw (first quarter-peal in any method) 8. Rung with the bells deeply muffled.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.****WINCHESTER DISTRICT AT ROMSEY ABBEY.**

The annual meeting of the Winchester District was held at Romsey on Saturday, Nov. 7th, when the Abbey bells were kept going during the afternoon to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob, Double Norwich Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise Major. The Guild form of service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. B. Corban). Tea and the business meeting were held in the Church Hall, presided over by the Vicar, supported by the district chairman (the Rev. Canon Braithwaite), the hon. treasurer (the Rev. N. C. Woods), Mr. G. Williams (Master), Mr. G. Pullinger (general secretary), and members from Bournemouth, Stockbridge, Fareham, Southampton, North Stoneham, Ringwood, Romsey, and Winchester. The balance sheet for the year ending October 31st showed receipts £12 11s. 10d.; expenditure, £4 16s. 1d.; balance paid to treasurer, £7; balance in hand, 15s. 9d.—The balance sheet was considered satisfactory, and passed.

All the officers were re-elected, viz.: Chairman, the Rev. Canon Braithwaite; district secretary, Mr. W. T. Tucker; auditor, Mr. G. Smith; and Mr. W. Andrews and Mr. J. W. Faithfull, representatives on the Central Committee.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Southampton on November 6th, 1926, when it is hoped St. Michael's bells will be available. Quarterly meetings were fixed for Bishopstoke first Saturday in February; Fawley and Dibden first Saturday in May; Hursley last Saturday in August.

On the proposition of Mr. G. Williams, seconded by Mr. W. T. Tucker, the Vicar was elected an hon. member of the Guild.—Mr. Williams also moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing the use of the bells, conducting the service, and for presiding, to which the Vicar replied. Further ringing then took place on the Abbey bells.

**YORKTOWN DISTRICT.**

The annual meeting of the Yorktown district was held at Yorktown on Nov. 14th, when the attendance was the smallest experienced for a few years. Bagshot, Chertsey, Egham and Yorktown were the only district towers represented. The presence of the esteemed Ringing Master, Mr. G. Williams, from North Stoneham, and Mr. T. Fairey, of Camberley, was appreciated. The ringing was not very encouraging for such an occasion, Grandsire Doubles on the back five of eight being all that could be done to start with. It is hoped that members will make an endeavour to attend their meetings.

A shortened service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. M. Curwen), who also presided over the business meeting held in the Church Hall.

The membership for the past year has increased, and the balance sheet showed receipts £12 5s. 3d., and expenditure £4 18s. 11d.

The officers for 1926 were elected as follows: Hon. secretary, Mr. J. B. Hessey; Ringing Master, Mr. S. G. Armstrong; representatives on Central Committee, Mr. J. Smith and Mr. S. G. Armstrong; auditor, Mr. J. A. Crocker. The meetings for 1926 will be at Bagshot, February; Horsell, May; Yateley, August; Chertsey, November, annual.—Votes of thanks were given to Mr. H. J. Chaffey for his past valued services, also to the Vicar for readily granting permission for the meeting, and also for presiding.



**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.****NEW DISTRICT FORMED IN NORTHERN BRANCH.**

A general meeting was held at Sleaford on Saturday, Nov. 28th, with the object of attempting to form a district of the Northern Branch, with Sleaford as headquarters. A fairly good number was present from various towers in the Northern Branch, also Mr. J. Phillips (hon. secretary and treasurer of the Eastern Branch).

A service, consisting of shortened evensong, was held in the side chapel of St. Denys' Church, conducted by the Rev. — Chambers (curate-in-charge), who also gave an inspiring address. Mr. N. E. Snow presided at the organ, and the very hearty way in which those present joined in the singing of the hymns and the Magnificat was most impressive.

Tea was provided in the Churchroom, to which 38 ringers and friends sat down, including the preacher and Mr. W. W. Foster (churchwarden). The business meeting followed, at which Mr. F. F. Linley (president of the Northern Branch) presided, and explained the object of the meeting. Apologies of absence were announced from the Dean of Lincoln, Canon Hicks, Messingham; the Rev. C. H. Mylne, Burton Stather; and Mr. C. W. Taylor, Grimsby, who, owing to illness, was unable to be present. It was agreed that the secretary be instructed to write to Mr. Taylor, expressing the sympathy of the members.

The first item on the agenda was as follows: 'That a district of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers be formed, with Sleaford as headquarters, and that the neighbouring towers of the Northern Branch be invited to join the district.'—This was proposed by Mr. G. Chester, and seconded by Mr. C. W. P. Clifton.—In response to an invitation, from the president, for discussion on the matter, Mr. F. W. Stokes (Guild secretary) inquired where the boundary line would be drawn between the Lincoln and newly proposed district.—After some comment, as to whether the members at Timberland would care to remain in the Lincoln district or become attached to the Sleaford district, it was finally agreed to leave the arrangements in the hands of those two districts.

Mr. F. Linley proposed, and Flight-Sergt. F. A. Holden seconded, that Mr. N. E. Snow be invited to become president of the new district.—This was carried, and Mr. Snow kindly accepted the office.—Mr. Linley then vacated the chair, and the president of the new district presided over the remainder of the business.

The meeting then proceeded to elect (pro tem.) a secretary, a Ringing Master, and a representative to serve on the Northern Branch Committee, and the following were appointed: Hon. secretary and Ringing Master, Flight-Sergt. F. A. Holden; representative to serve on the Northern Branch Committee, Mr. W. H. Woods. Saturday, January 16th, was fixed as the date for the first annual meeting of the new district, the place chosen for the purpose being Sleaford.

It was suggested that the under-mentioned towers be invited to become affiliated with this district: Sleaford, Ewerby, Heckington, Great Hale, Ruskington, Ashby-de-la-Loude, Ancaster and Helpringham.—The President expressed a hope that these towers, and others if possible, would be well represented at the annual meeting.

It was reported that, from a ringers' point of view, Heckington bells are at the present moment in a very unsatisfactory condition.

Mr. Snow made reference to the recent death of Canon Langford (Vicar of Sleaford), and, as a token of respect, the members present stood in silence.

One honorary member and ten performing members were elected.

Votes of thanks were passed to the church authorities for the use of the bells; the Rev. — Chambers for conducting the service and for his excellent address; Mr. N. E. Snow for presiding at the organ; and the caterers for the capital tea provided.—These were duly responded to and concluded the business.

The best thanks of the members are also due to Flight-Sergt. Holden for the admirable way in which he made the necessary arrangements.

The bells of St. Denys' were available during the afternoon and evening, and kept going in various methods, including London and Cambridge Surprise Major. As a token of respect to the late Canon Langford and Queen Alexandra, the touches during the afternoon were rung with the bells half-muffled.

**RINGER OFF TO INDIA.**

At Ellesmere, Salop, on November 30th (St. Andrew's Day), a quarter-pearl of Stedman Triples, composed by J. W. Washbrook (1,260 changes), in 49 mins.: R. Biggs 1, G. H. Edwards 2, A. Allen 3, A. Haynes 4, T. Butler, sen. (conductor), 5, W. S. Higginson 6, T. R. Butler 7, W. Higginson, sen., 8. Also on October 19th, a quarter-pearl of Stedman Triples, composed by James Paget, conducted by T. Butler, sen., in 51 mins., with J. F. Sharp taking the place of W. S. Higginson. Rung as a farewell touch to Mr. J. F. Sharp, who has since left to take up an appointment for five years in India, and whose departure is very much regretted by all the band.

**NOTICES.**

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

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**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at \*St. Paul's Cathedral on December 29th, St. Magnus' on the 24th, \*St. Mary-le-Bow on the 15th, all at 7.30; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 17th, at 8 p.m.; St. Michael's, Cornhill, for service, on the 20th, at 6 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not made 20 attendances in the past year to vote on financial matters, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frod-ingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, Dec. 12th. The bells will be available from 2 p.m. Tea at a charge of 1s. 3d. per head. — F. Hutchinson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Weetwood Lane, Headingley, Leeds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The fifth annual social of the above branch will be held at Leyland St. James on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Tickets 2s. 6d. each. Will those who intend going please write for tickets, and state number they require as early as possible, to Mr. J. T. Miller, Oak House, Midge Hall?—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The meeting at East Molesey has been postponed to Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Hampton Court nearest station, 10 minutes' walk. It is hoped as many as possible will attend this meeting.—Miss N. E. Shorter, Hon. Sec., Ferndene, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Central District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Willesden, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Gentlemen specially invited.—Mrs. F. I. Hairs, 17, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. (being provided by the kindness of the Rector). Meeting to follow.—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Christchurch District.—The annual meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea 4.30.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Devizes Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Devizes on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells (St. John's 8, St. Mary's 6, St. James' 6) ready at 3 p.m. Service at St. John's 4.30. Tea at 5. Business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome. — F. Green, Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.** — North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Preacher, Rev. R. E. G. Newman (Vicar). Tea at 5 (6d. for members). Business meeting to follow. Towers available: Gillingham (8), Mere (8), Bourton (6), Buckhorn Weston (6), Kington Magna (5).—R. E. P. Gorringe, Hon. Sec., Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Bedford District.—The annual meeting of the above association will be held at St. Peter's, Bedford, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready 2.30. Tea at 5, in St. Peter's Hall. The secretary regrets to announce his resignation, owing to working duties.—L. Turner, Dis. Sec., 7, High Street, Kempston.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch. — A meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Phillip's, Nelson, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Second anniversary of the opening of the bells.—J. Watson, Branch Sec., 48, Shear Bank Terrace, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch. — A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready at 3.30. Service 5.30. Meeting 6. Members intending being present please send word to secretary. — Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

**DEVON GUILD.** — North-Eastern Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Tiverton, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, 1s. each.—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec., 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Bulwell on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Tower open 4 to 8 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

**NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS** (Established 1672).—A meeting will be held jointly with the M.C.A. at Bulwell on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Business meeting will be held after ringing concludes. A good attendance is desired.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.** — Southern District. — A meeting will be held at St. John's, Redhill (8 bells), on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Tower open 3 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. F. Ewins, Hon. Sec., 27, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

**LADIES' GUILD.** — Western District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Bristol, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome. — N. G. Williams, Weston House, Weston, Bath.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION** (Southern Division) **AND BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A joint meeting of the above-named associations will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready early at St. Mary's, Barnsley, and Monk Bretton. Tea 1s. each. A hearty welcome is offered to all ringers.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., Southern Division, C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec., Barnsley and District Association.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting of the above district will be held at Ardleigh, Essex, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Short service at 4.30 p.m., and tea at the Parish Hall at 5.15 (1s. a head).—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Sec., 12, Ireton Road, Colchester.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.** — A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Jarrow on Saturday, Dec. 12th. The bells of St. Peter's (6) and Christ Church (8) will be available from 2.30. Tea at the Co-operative Cafe at 5.—George S. Taylor, Dis. Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broxbourne on Dec. 12th, when the bells will be ready at 3. A short service in church. Tea at the Welcome. Business meeting after. All will be heartily welcomed, members or otherwise.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Earl Shilton on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. All ringers heartily welcome.—W. Cope, Local Sec., Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Northern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Royston on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at Beales and Son, The Cross. All will be welcomed.—E. W. Day, Hon. Dis. Sec., 117, Nightingale Road, Hitchin.

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Southern Branch.—A Quarterly meeting will be held at Morriston on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—J. Hammond, Branch Sec., St. Mary's Lodge, Newport, Mon.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting 7 o'clock. A good attendance is requested. Business important. Reports to hand.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, South Shore (6 bells), on Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells ready 2.30. Business meeting 6 p.m. — C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at Great Chart on Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — South District.—A business meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 19th, at St. Mary's, Battersea. Tower open from 4 to 8. Tea at 5.30, at 1s. Business after. Everyone invited. Will those coming to tea let me know before the 16th?—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phene Street, Chelsea, S.W.3.

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**RINGER, CHORISTER AND SIDESMAN.****DEATH OF MR. GEORGE DAVIS, OF BUCKLEBURY.**

By the death of Mr. George Davis, at the Royal Berks Hospital, Bucklebury, the Oxford Guild loses a familiar and respected member. He resided in the village of Bucklebury, Berks, all his life, having been born there in 1850. His father, Charles Davis, occupied the same house. 'George,' as he was familiarly called, received his education at the Blue Coat School, Thatcham, and was apprenticed at the Bucklebury Foundry. Here he worked for the long period of 61 years. He was an experienced engine fitter, and was well known over a wide area as a highly skilled mechanic, never flurried, but most thorough in all he undertook. He was a loyal Churchman, and loved the work he did as sidesman, chorister and ringer. In the choir his place was invariably occupied, and he filled it for more than half a century. For over 50 years, too, he was a ringer, and from the time the tower joined the Oxford Guild he was foreman of the ringers. His perfectly straightforward, firm, yet courteous and tactful handling, went a long way towards keeping the band together, and secured loyalty to his every wish. He last rang for the harvest festival on October 4th, the day prior to his entering the hospital. Although 75 years of age, he was physically much younger.

He was laid to rest near the tower he loved so well on Monday, Oct. 26th, the service being conducted by the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Guild), assisted by the Rev. E. M. Thorpe, Vicar of the parish, and although rain was falling heavily, a great number of friends and sympathisers from far and near bore testimony to the great respect in which he was held. At the service, the choir sang 'On the Resurrection Morning,' and afterwards touches of Stedman and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung with the bells half-muffled. These were his favourite methods, among the several in which he was efficient. One touch of Stedman contained one change for each year of his life, namely, 75. He leaves a widow, three sons and two daughters.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows, on Sunday evening, Nov. 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. P. Roe 1, S. W. Crabb 2, W. J. Ellis (conductor) 3, H. W. H. Strickland 4, E. A. Hull 5, C. Butler 6, H. Ellis 7, W. Patmore 8.

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