

No. 803. Vol. XXI.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18th, 1926.

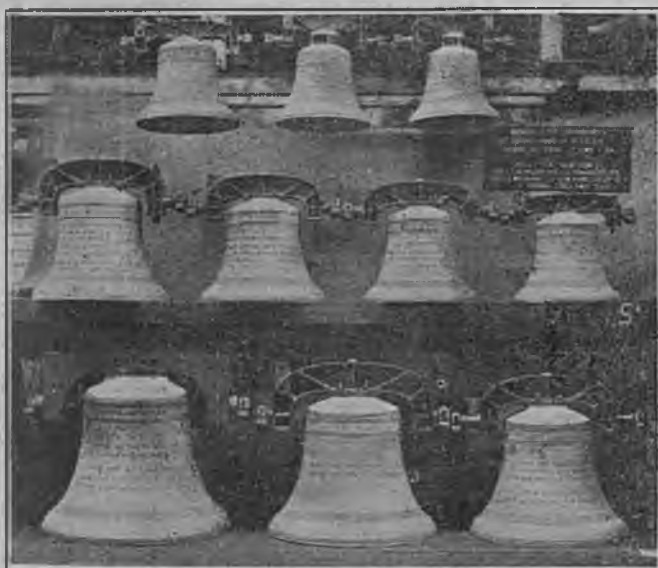
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A SPEEDING-UP REQUIRED.

A general review of the position of the Exercise at the present moment leads one to the almost inevitable conclusion that, in the last two or three years, there has hardly been the progress which might have been expected. The most encouraging feature of this period has been the amount of bell restoration carried out practically all over the country, but apart from this there have been few indications of any real forward movement. We have had societies, like the Norfolk Guild, lamenting the lack of interest in their organisation and their meetings; we have had men like the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild calling for a greater display of local enthusiasm; we have seen among some associations a net decrease in effective membership, and what must have been apparent to all, an all round falling off in keenness, if keenness in ringing is to be measured by the number of peals recorded. There is nothing at the moment to be alarmed about; it is probably only a passing phase, but it is well that a warning note should be sounded.

For a few years after the war ringing rapidly made good; but there seems to have come a lull in the progress, and it corresponds to some extent with the trade depression which has settled on the country. It is possible that there may be some relation between the two; for partial or complete unemployment would be almost certain to affect the activities of many ringers, who, as a whole, are members of the wage-earning class, and consequently are suffering from the present economic conditions. Be this as it may, we think the various Associations and Guilds should seriously consider what steps they can take to deal with a situation which, while being at present no menace to the art, might, if allowed to develop, cause a serious set-back to the Exercise.

We seldom read of any society even discussing ways and means of increasing either membership, interest or knowledge. They are, for the most part, content to let those join who will; to leave individuals to work up their own enthusiasm and educate themselves in the art. Pretentious lists of instructors may appear in reports; but it is seldom that any of them are employed. The work of many of our associations wants overhauling, and, in not a few cases, speeding up. In this the members will look to their officials, but this is not entirely the officials' job. There will be work for the rank and file; they must not only do the 'gingering up,' but shoulder some of the task themselves. Officials with initiative and enterprise are essential, but a handful of men cannot do all the detailed work. They can and should organise, but every member of an association should realise that he, too, has some responsibility; that it is his task to bring in new

(Continued on page 498.)

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members; to encourage the beginner; to disseminate the knowledge which he has gained; to improve the standard of his own ringing, and to raise the efficiency of his own band. If everyone would do this, the association officials would find that encouragement which is now so often lacking, and the art itself would be in no danger of suffering that species of paralysis which, from a broad view of the situation, now seems to threaten it.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 31, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 6007 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE 1	...Treble	H. CHARLES GILLINGHAM ... 7
WILLIAM P. GARRETT 2		HARRY R. ROPER 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3		CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ... 9
GEORGE E. SYMONDS 4		WILLIAM PYE 10
GEORGE A. FLEMING 5		EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 11
JAMES BENNETT 6		FREDERICK J. TILLET ...Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

TEN BELL PEAL.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, August 2, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6093 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES ...Treble	ALBERT HILL 6
WILLIAM NIBLETT 2	WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	WILLIAM LEWIS 8
WILLIAM RANFORD 4	JOHN J. JEFFERIES 9
*CYRIL TANSELL 5	CHARLES CAMMTenor

Composed by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT

* First peal on ten bells. First peal on ten bells as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

OVERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 29, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFELD ...Treble	JOSEPH SLADE 5
WILLIAM E. CLAYFIELD ... 2	JOHN CURTIS 6
JOSEPH W. COTTON 3	JOHN HOPE 7
JOHN HOUGH 4	*PERCY GRICETenor

Conducted by JOHN HOPE.

* First peal. This peal was arranged for Mr. John Hope, of Fairford, Gloucestershire, who was visiting in the neighbourhood.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, August 2, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

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

GEORGE ARCHER ...Treble	*GEORGE GOWER 5
*ALBERT HARRISON 2	CHARLES CLARKE 6
*GEORGE HOWLETT 3	*RUSSELL RICHES 7
WILLIAM DENT 4	FREDERICK BORRETT ...Tenor

Composed by C. LANG.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* First in variation.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN.—On Saturday, July 31st, at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, a quarter peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): R. G. Knowles 1, W. C. Jones 2, J. J. Jefferies 3, F. Lawrence 4, W. Ranford 5, C. Camm 6, S. T. Holt (conductor) 7, W. C. Dowding 8. First quarter in the method by the ringer of the 4th.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 2, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

CHARLES H. PAGE Treble	MAORICE SMITHER 5
JOHN T. RICKMAN 2	KEITH HART 6
ALBERT D. STONE 3	CHARLES W. CLARKE 7
ARTHUR T. VERRELLS 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by H. MIDDLETON. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, August 2, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES GEORGE Treble	*GEORGE E. SYMONDS 5
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 2	GEORGE R. PYE 6
WILLIAM P. GARRETT 3	*FREDERICK J. TILLET 7
JAMES BENNETT 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

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

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, August 2, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 8 cwt.

WILLIAM P. GARRETT ... Treble	JAMES BENNETT 5
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ... 2	WILLIAM PYE 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	FREDERICK J. TILLET ... 7
GEORGE E. SYMONDS ... 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

This was Mr. William Pye's 1,500th peal, and Mr. G. E. Symonds' 200th peal.

OLD CLEEVE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

GEORGE CRIDLAND ... Treble	ALFRED BRYANT 5
FRANK BURNETT 2	CHARLES GREEDY 6
JOHN GRATTON 3	ROBERT EATON 7
NORMAN CHURLEY 4	ALBERT J. STEVEN Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES GREEDY.

First peal by Old Cleeve Guild, and the second peal rung on the bells since they have been augmented to eight.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.

On Thursday, August 5, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt. in A flat.

CHAS. L. ROUTLEDGE ... Treble	WILLIAM H. BARBER 5
RICHARD THOMPSON, JUNR. 2	JOHN FOREMAN 6
JOSEPH POWELL 3	WILLIAM STORY 7
JOSEPH E. R. KEEN 4	ALBERT M. HALL Tenor

Conducted by C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

First peal on the newly recast bells. Mr. Keen's 251st peal.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, August 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... Treble	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 5
RONALD G. BECK 2	THOMAS F. KING 6
FRANK BENNETT 3	ALFRED E. REEVES 7
GILBERT H. HANDING ... 4	REGINALD F. BECK Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

Rung after meeting short for Stedman Caters.

TURVEY, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Three Hours & Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

HORACE H. SMITH ... Treble	ALFRED KING 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 2	ARTHUR E. SEARMAN ... 6
ERNEST C. LAMBERT ... 3	EDMUND J. HOBBS 7
ALBERT FLEET 4	*HENRY STAPLETON Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by E. J. HOBBS.

* First peal of Surprise Major away from the treble, and a member of the local band.

WHITCHURCH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALMOND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

THOMAS BUTLER, SENR. ... Treble	WILLIAM CATHALL 5
CHARLES LEE 2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 6
WILLIAM JONES 3	THOMAS R. BUTLER 7
HAROLD EDWARDS 4	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

Arranged for Mr. Wallater, of Willenhall, Staffordshire. This is the first peal rung for the above association, and the ringers of 3, 4, 5 and 6 were elected members prior to starting for same.

HANDBRIDGE, CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING ... Treble	*JAS. SWINDLEY 5
JOHN HAYES 2	GEO. R. JONES 6
ALBERT J. HUGHES 3	HENRY W. WILDE 7
JAS. H. RIDING 4	SAM JONES, JUNR. Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by SAM JONES, JUNR.

* First peal in the method. First in the method on the bells. S. Jones' first peal of Major as conductor. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Thos. Riding and Miss Phyllis Leigh, of Crewe.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM LATTER ... Treble	EDWIN F. PIKE 5
ERNEST MORRIS 2	CHARLES W. CLARKE 6
WILLIAM COLLISON 3	HERBERT MARKWELL 7
FREDERICK WHITE 4	KEITH HART Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by KEITH HART.

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BRIDPORT, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION	Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.
GEORGE PRESTON Treble	FRANK BENNETT 5
*FREDERICK C. BENDER ... 2	FRED LAMBETH 6
CHARLES H. JENNINGS ... 3	ALFRED E. REEVES 7
*ALFRED H. DREW 4	WALTER S. B. NORTHOVER Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal. Also first peal of Stedman in the town of Bridport. Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Jennings.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM J. NEVARD Treble	WILLIAM KEEBLE 5
GEORGE WIFFEN 2	WALTER ARNOLD 6
EDWARD P. DOFFIELD ... 3	HAROLD CLARK 7
FRANK CLAYDON 4	LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

W. J. Nevard's 300th peal.

DORE, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

WALTER BINGHAM Treble	ARTHUR S. ROBINSON ... 5
RONALD E. JOHNSON ... 2	WILLIAM BURGAR 6
MISS MOLLY DAVENPORT ... 3	WILLIAM BIGGIN 7
THOMAS O'HARA 4	J. E. LEWIS COCKEY ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by J. E. LEWIS COCKEY

Rung for the 71st birthday of the Vicar of Dore. First peal and first attempt as conductor on eight bells; and first time at Dore that a peal has been called by one of the churchwardens. Ringers of 4 and 6 are from Sheffield, 7 from Norton, the rest being the local company.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ASTBURY, CHESHIRE.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 3, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 720 each of College Pleasure, College Exercise, Duke of York, Violet, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

WM. HAZELDINE Treble	W. ARTHUR WESTON ... 4
JAMES STANWAY 2	HARRY WHITEHUT 5
LESLIE HIGGS 3	JONAH COTTRELL Tenor

Conducted by J. COTTRELL.

All the ringers hail from Biddulph Parish Church.

HORSINGTON, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 2, 1926, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Bob and four of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

ERIC WADMAN Treble	† WILLIAM SHUTE 4
* JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... 2	RONALD G. BECK 5
REGINALD F. BECK 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Conducted by R. G. BECK.

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

BRISTOL SURPRISE IN NORTH WALES.

On Bank Holiday, August 2nd, at the Church of St. Thomas, Rhyl, Flintshire, 704 Bristol Surprise Major was rung by members of the North Wales Association: J. H. Riding 1, R. Sperring 2, E. Jenkins 3, W. Bibby 4, J. E. Bibby 5, J. B. Penton 6, H. W. Wilde 7, F. H. Dexter (conductor) 8. This was the first touch in the method by all except the ringers of 3rd and tenor, and is believed to be the first by the North Wales Association.

BUXTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 31, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 7 different compositions. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

* PHILIP NORMAN BARTON Treble	WILLIAM C. DOFFIELD ... 4
CYRIL POOLEY 2	ERNEST KIMM 5
WILLIAM STIBBONS 3	NOLAN GOLDEN Tenor

Conducted by N. GOLDEN.

* First peal.

BARLEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 3, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 changes each of London and Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford and Oxford Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

ALBERT HOWARD Treble	WALTER MANSFIELD ... 4
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 2	ROBERT HOWARD 5
WILLIAM A. TACK 3	WILFRID H. J. HOOTON Tenor

Conducted by WILFRID H. J. HOOTON.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, August 5, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

HARRY BAXTER Treble	JOHN KING 4
JOHN R. MAIN 2	GEORGE BASHFORD 5
DAVID VINCENT 3	WALTER PERKINS Tenor

Composed by the Rev. E. BANKES JAMES.

Conducted by WALTER PERKINS.

First peal of Cambridge Minor by all except the treble ringer. The ringers were kindly entertained to tea after the peal by Mr. and Miss Moore.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 7, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford and Oxford Treble Bob, and 1,440 of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr.

MISS CECIL E. HEPBURN ... Treble	WALTER T. WILSON ... 4
* CYRIL D. NICHOLAS 2	JOHN KING 5
MISS KITTY MOORE 3	ROBERT G. BLACK Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT G. BLACK.

* First peal in more than one method on an inside bell.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, August 8, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

AT 17, NORTH SIDE, CLAPHAM.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

MRS. F. I. HAIRS 1-2	GEORGE R. PYE 5-6
WILLIAM PYE 3-4	FRANK I. HAIRS 7-8
WILLIAM H. HEWITT 9-10	

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE. Rung after meeting short for Cinques.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 8, 1926, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes.

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. CORK, 5, NEW STREET.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

FRANK CLAYDON 1-2	WILLIAM KEEBLE 5-6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 3-4	* GEORGE WIFFEN 7-8

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

* First peal of Treble Bob 'in hand.'

FOR THE BEGINNERS.

CONDUCTING.—BY GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Those who are attempting to call Bob Doubles from the hints which appeared in this column last week will soon find, if they have not already done so, that there is not enough interest to be continually ringing the fifth or 'observation' bell. They will, therefore, be looking to see how the other three bells are working at the bobs. If you prick out the figures and examine them, you will see that each of these so called working bells is called:—

'IN' (which means running straight in to take the treble off lead, instead of dodging in 3-4 down).

'OUT' (which is running straight from lead out behind, instead of making 2nd's place), and

'MAKE THE BOB' (which, of course, is the 4th's place, and returning to lead, instead of dodging in 3-4 up).

In the full 120 changes each of the three bells is called into each of the three positions, but, of course, beginning in a different place. One is called 'In,' 'Out' and 'Make the Bob'; another is 'Out,' 'Make the Bob' and 'In,' and the third one 'Make the Bob,' 'In' and 'Out.' The importance of recollecting this will be found on the higher numbers, for it is an infallible rule for remembering the course you are in.

At Rayne, Essex, on August 3rd, Basil Redgwell conducted his first 720, which was Plain Bob. It was also the first 720 by J. Claydon. J. Gentry 1, G. Wiffen 2, J. Claydon 3, H. Reason 4, H. Redgwell 5, Basil Redgwell (conductor) 6.

Six ringers of Rishton, Lancs, rang their longest length of Bob Major on Wednesday, August 4th, when they scored 1,230 changes in this method, the only members of the band who had previously rung a quarter-peal of this method being the ringers of the sixth and tenor: W. Aaron 1, R. Hall 2, A. Yates 3, A. Ingham 4, A. Lord 5, F. Read 6, J. Hirst 7, L. J. Williams (conductor) 8.

On Thursday evening, August 5th, at Ightfield, Salop, 120 Grandsire Doubles was rung by the whole pull by the local ringers: C. Ellison 1, A. Ellison 2, W. H. Ellison 3, J. Ellison (conductor) 4, H. Ellison 5, R. H. Faulkner 6.

MR. GEORGE E. SYMONDS' 200 PEALS.

With the peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Henley, Mr. G. E. Symonds has rung 200 peals as follows:—

Methods.	Tower Bells. Rung. Condt.	Handbells. Rung. Condt.
Maximus, Cambridge Surprise	1	
" Double Norwich Court Bob	1	
" Duffield	1	1*
" Forward	1	1*
" Oxford Treble Bob	1	
" Kent Treble Bob	1	1*
Cinques, Stedman	11	5
" Grandsire	1	1* 1 1*
Royal, Cambridge Surprise	3	2
" Double Norwich Court Bob	1	
" Oxford Treble Bob	1	1* 1 1*
" Kent Treble Bob	4	2 1 1*
" Bob	1	1* 1 1*
Caters, Stedman	6	2 2 2
" Grandsire	2	2* 2 2*
Major, Bristol Surprise	1	
" London Surprise	1	
" Superlative Surprise	7	1
" Cambridge Surprise	5	4*
" Double Norwich Court Bob	22	15*
" Oxford Treble Bob	13	9
" Kent Treble Bob	15	12
" Bob	19	17* 9 5*
Triples, Stedman	18	9
" Grandsire	26	22† 5 2*
" Bob	1	1*
Minor, one to six methods	14	9
	178	118 22 15

* Conducted first peal in the various methods. † One silent.

GALLEYWOOD'S RESTORED BELLS.

ESSEX CELEBRATION MEETING.

A meeting of the South-Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held at Galleywood on Saturday, July 31st, on the occasion of the celebrations in connection with the restoration of the bells. These have just been rehung on ball bearings, the frame has been considerably strengthened, and a set of guides fitted, which has made ringing much easier than used to be the case at this tower. Messrs. Day and Sons, of Eye, have carried out the work.

A large congregation assembled at the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Roughton), who said that their hearts were filled with thanksgiving for the way in which their endeavours had been blessed. The work was costing £147, and they had been able to raise £139 19s. 3d. mainly by voluntary subscriptions without having to resort to whist drives or dances.

The lesson was read by Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Essex Association, and Mr. R. Mead presided at the organ. The choir rendered the anthem, 'Praise ye the Lord,' the congregation joining in the concluding verses. The Rev. Denyer, of High Roding, gave an excellent address. The collection amounted to £5 4s. 2d., so that only a small sum is left outstanding.

A touch was rung on the bells as the congregation left the church. Tea was served in a marquee, about 50 ringers sitting down. This was followed by the business meeting, presided over by Mr. F. Green, district Master. Several new members were elected, including the Vicar as an honorary member. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Broomfield in September.

Mr. C. H. Howard proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, to the organist, and the Rev. Denyer for his address. He said the Vicar was to be congratulated on the way in which he had raised the money for the restoration, and it was pleasing to know that he had not had to resort to whist drives and dances. He referred to the death of Mr. Shade, who was a member of the association, and it was proposed that a vote of condolence be sent to his sister.—This was passed by the members standing in silence.

The methods rung during the evening included Cambridge Surprise.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN THRAPSTON RINGER.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Daniel Redhead, of Thrapston, Northants, who passed away suddenly on Saturday morning, July 31st. Deceased was working up till midnight, Friday, and, after retiring to bed, complained that he could not get to sleep. His wife got up about 5 o'clock and made him a cup of tea, thinking he would get off to sleep after it, but after lying down a short time she heard a noise in his throat, and Mr. Redhead passed away before a doctor could arrive. The facts were communicated to the coroner, who deemed an inquest unnecessary.

Dan, as he was known, was an ardent churchworker. For about 28 years he had been vice-captain of St. James' Church ringers, and could always be relied upon on Sunday or practice night. He was a safe ringer and a good striker, always willing to help a learner. He was for a number of years a sidesman, a member of the Church of England Men's Society, and a trustee of the Royal Oak Lodge of the Nottingham Order of Oddfellows. The number of peals he had rung was 53, as nearly as the writer can ascertain. They consisted of Double Norwich (6), Kent Treble Bob (11), Plain Bob (11), Oxford Treble Bob (3), Grandsire Triples (2), Minor (17), Doubles (3). He was a member of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, formerly the Central Northants Association.

The deceased was 54 years of age, and his place will be hard to fill. His character was one that may worthily be copied by many.

He was laid to rest on Wednesday, August 4th, the service being of a quiet and impressive character, conducted by the Rector, Rev. A. G. Bagshaw, assisted by the Rev. F. C. Westacott, Rector of Wilby. The bearers were two of his fellow-ringers and two of his workmates. A number of members of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild attended to pay their last tribute of respect to the deceased, viz.: Messrs. R. G. Black (general secretary), J. Nickerson (branch secretary), E. Stubbs (treasurer), W. J. Gilbert, F. Kirk, G. H. Roberts, E. Mayes, T. Wilson, A. Wilson, W. Cheney, G. Jeffs, sen., G. Jeffs, jun., J. Coleman, A. Smart, A. Brown, W. Perkins, J. R. Main, J. King, also a number of Oddfellows and fellow-workmen.

Immediately after the interment, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung with the bells half-muffled by J. Nickerson (conductor) 1, J. Coleman 2, Fred Stubbs 3, W. Cheney 4, A. Wilson 5, T. Wilson 6, G. Jeffs 7, F. Kirk 8. In the evening other members of the Guild rang short touches, and on Sunday the bells were rung half-muffled for service.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On behalf of my sister (Mrs. D. Redhead, of Thrapston) I sincerely thank my fellow-ringers who attended in such numbers to pay their last tribute to the late Mr. D. Redhead at his funeral on Wednesday, August 4th. Also for the beautiful wreath sent, and the extreme kindness and sympathy shown to my sister in her sudden bereavement.—Yours sincerely,

F. BARBER.

SOME THOUGHTS ON SIMPSON TUNING.

'PEPPERY'S' CAUSTIC COMMENTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read with interest the three letters on Simpson tuning by J. Hunt, P. O. Laffin and 'Bow Tenor.' All three are very good friends of mine—at least, I believe the first two are in that category. I know the last is—the tenor, I mean, for I regret to say that I have not the pleasurable honour of knowing who the writer happens to be. 'Tis, however, but a treat in store. I agree with these three gentlemen in toto. In fact, I agree with all who favour us with such columns in your valued organ. I wish your paper was a daily, then I could agree with such a lot more friends and with what they all have to say. I might also have the pleasure of agreeing with one or two gentlemen I know—alas! very few—who really know something about this subject—what metal is, what the effects of time and usage will be on metal subjected to different treatment, what effect on elasticity is attained when metal is subjected to the two systems of tuning: the mechanical operation of the one is known as turning in the lathe, and the other the old hammer and chisel system.

I daresay many of your readers will smile when I suggest that there is a difference in effect, notably the bell-founders, but they don't make me lose one wink of sleep, as I know that they have their own pet axes to grind, and I am glad to know that that is so, because when several men each have a pet theory which they wish to persuade the great and long-suffering B.P. to accept, sooner or later an advance is made in the right direction. The only people who won't smile when I say that difference in the treatment of metal will have an effect on the elastic life of metal are the few experts in metallurgy whom we have the honour to number in the ranks of our Exercise. Mr. E. H. Lewis is one of them, and he has not yet spoken. When he does speak, your columns will not longer be troubled by the vapourings of myself and others who possess 'that little knowledge which is such a dangerous thing.'

To return, however, to the letters in your issue of July 16th, there is no doubt that the subject of the acoustic properties of towers, taken in conjunction with their situation as to surrounding buildings, has never yet been efficiently dealt with. When towers are built, the fact that they are to be the future housing of an expensive musical instrument is not even looked at. A tower in these days is a mere ornament, a fetish to be attained at all costs because a church does not look finished without one. It is an expensive luxury, of no use whatever, if it contains no bells or clock; the grave-digger's tool shed, equipped with a pigeon loft, would answer equally well, at about one-hundredth part of the cost; and as to a means of calling people to worship, a good ship's syren would arouse the choir boys equally well, and they would squabble to pull the string just as much as they now fight to pull the ting-tang, and the parish would not be any more vitriolic in the local Press on the subject.

But there is no doubt that many a good peal has been damned, and many a poor peal boosted up, on account of the acoustic properties of the towers they have been hung in by lucky chance. Just to take one good peal that never had a chance to be anything else but a nuisance, its worst qualities magnified a hundredfold, take St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow. Were these bells hung in Evesham steeple and Evesham bells transported to Glasgow, I fancy we should hear a different tale told. Glasgow defects would be lost and Evesham's enhanced; and if Pershore bells were hung in Jewry steeple, oh, lor! And yet Pershore are a very good peal. I believe that those who claim that such bells as Lavenham Tenor, Queen Camel Tenor, Wells and others like them are tuned on Simpson's principle, are technically wrong; they never were, because the men who cast them knew nothing of this later-day system or science. They did not even boast a tuning machine—a hammer and chisel or an axe was about all their tuning kit comprised. The fact that these bells conform to Simpson's principles (has it ever been proved?) was a happy accident, plus the excellent acoustic properties of their housings, which resulted in these landmarks they left behind. But I must say that with all our advance and the science at our command to-day, not even half the peals which leave the foundry to-day are the equal in quality of Macclesfield or Bradford Cathedral. But more important than all this tuning fetish is the casting of the bells. I think, if you look at the bells which have weathered a matter of two or three centuries and are now claimed to be Simpson bells, you will find that the thickness of metal at the various points on the contour of the casting will be found to conform to what they would be if they were cast to-day and tuned on Simpson's principle. What is more important, how were they tuned?—with a hatchet! Modern methods are not always perfect, neither are ancient ones, nor are all ancient bells perfect. Just compare Worcester Cathedral with Paisley for quality: some shock you will get.

It is easy to calibrate such castings. Cannot someone give us such a table accurately set out? I cannot do so, as I have neither the ability, the time nor the inclination. The latter I say advisedly, because I believe that if Simpson tuning pleases about fifty thousand parishioners who are paying for the bells, against eight or ten ringers who want the tap-note system, the pound notes will have their way against the tap notes every time. I know which I like to ring, they know which they like to hear, and as the years roll on they will get it—I shan't. Friend Hunt says when he orders a ring of bells he will order the old style; so shall I. I shall order a couple of rings like St. Paul's and Bow, and a replica of 'Pats' and Exeter, but I shall take

good care that I put them in towers like Quex Park with similar surroundings—museum and all, Sir, in which to store those who do not like St. Paul's and Bow. And if ever I can afford to order such glorious bells as those I have mentioned, I shall also be able to afford the band to ring 'em. Eh? Oh, yes; I know where to find 'em. My two brothers will be there, and, yes, my alter ego—the best company in London he is. I could find someone who knew three courses with a coat behind the ninth tuned on Stedman's principle, and you may be sure you would always find 'prime' ringing there; and I'd fetch Jack Perfect from Bingley to roll the tenth along, and when we landed down, our three courses well and truly laid, who would pronounce the 'Benneydiction' over us? Well, who would? Only one is qualified, that I know. He did it for me once, and I hope he'll live to do it again—tuned on Stedman's principle.

It is quite true that you cannot ring Simpson peals as quickly as you can the old-fashioned ones, and the reason is that the Simpson bells emit a much greater volume of sound—i.e., the quantity of reverberations emitted by each bell is greater in Simpson bells than in tap-note bells, and it is necessary to allow some of this to escape before you strike another bell, or else the result is discordant, or, as I have heard it called, 'one solid mass of metal,' or a near approach to firing. But if you notice the time taken to ring five thousand changes on a new Simpson peal and then ring the same number of changes on the same bells ten years later, you will be able to do it ten minutes quicker, and then you don't seem to have packed the bells too close together. Why? 'Q.E.D.' quoth Euclid.

I do not blame the foundries for trying to make the contract as large and lucrative as possible; I blame the Church authorities who place those contracts for allowing themselves to be talked into the larger job. The foundries are business people, and it is a very good thing for the Exercise that that is so, or else we should not be pre-eminent in the matter of bells as we are to-day. We should still be stagnating in 'the slough of despond of the Middle Ages.' I hope the foundries won't think I am crediting them with all the advance made in the science of casting bells; the demand for bells to ring changes on creates supply. If all ringers suddenly decided to stop ringing for a decade, the foundries could shut up shop at once.

I believe that Simpson casting is to be preferred to Simpson tuning. I have been told that a certain modern Simpson ring of twelve came out of the sand so near to what was required that at least half the bells were hardly scraped in the machine. In my very humble opinion these bells will retain their breath, or, to be correct, their volume of sound, longer than those bells which have been heavily skirted, because in a casting the heart of the metal is always softer, or more pliable, than the exterior, and the softer the metal the sooner does it become inert—i.e., the nearer you cut to the heart of the casting the more do you undermine its resilient life. I have been dubbed 'an old fool,' 'a fanatic,' 'a theorist with bees in my belfry,' but there is no smoke without fire, and my very good friends the foundries (no, not the enemies, Sir) would not bestir themselves to bestow their nomenclature favours upon me if there were not still 'some oil' left in my lamp!

The twelve bells I have in my mind would suit Mr. Laffin, as the trebles are well weighted and tell a good tale; the tower is in a good situation as regards the surrounding buildings and on a hill-top. I think Mr. Laffin is correct about heavy bells which are 'tucked up' and hung in ball bearings; being 'short gaited,' it takes more out of the ringer in a peal in an even method, as the bells don't help themselves much, and must be 'put' into their places; they don't cut and rise at the dodges as easily as they might do. But a heavy bell, well tucked up and hung on ball bearings can be rung behind with the minimum of effort; hence the opinion one often hears expressed that 'you can ring her with a piece of cotton.'

I do not profess to know much about heavy-bell ringing compared with William Pye, Henry R. Newton, Reuben Sanders, James George and Charlie Kippen, just to mention a few. I have been ringing big 'uns, but the above remarks are prompted by the little experience I have had during my short ringing career, during which I have handled almost one thousand different tenors. I agree with Mr. 'Bow Tenor.' I hope I know him, because I also believe that Simpson tuning is condemned because of one or more lots of noisy howlers. I would not have it otherwise, but the howl of one or more bells in a tower is often accentuated by the acoustic properties of the position of those particular bells; but no one has yet given us a scientific reason for the existence of that howl or what it really is, neither has it yet been explained why in some towers the howl starts when the bells start, but in others the howl starts after half an hour's ringing has been done. I have heard it described as 'the overtones.' In some cases the overtones are pleasant; in others they are too prominent, and these are the sort that get on one's nerves. Be that as it may, the howl exists, so, as it exists, perhaps someone will be kind enough to 'parse and analyse' it for us. What a chance for some budding scientist to 'let his light shine before men.'

But even as many Simpson bells are condemned by their howl, so are many good ancient bells condemned for the same reason, viz., the acoustic properties of their housing. They certainly don't sound to advantage lying on sand in the foundry. Vandalism in these days is almost unheard of where our church is concerned, except in connection with the bells. If 'Bow Tenor' were ordained and called to preach a sermon, it would, without doubt, choose for its text Hebrews xiii. 14, and I for one would say with very good reasons for doing so, and as a

recessional hymn, 'We love the place, O God, wherein Thine honour dwells.' Poor bells; honour seems to have been eliminated on the score of redundancy and inconsistency substituted in its place where the belfry is concerned. If the choir stalls which date from, say 1818, are a bit—well, 'choir worn' (you all know what lads you were when you were choristers and had a new knife), they must be carefully restored; none of the old wood must be touched, nothing must be taken away or renewed; only that which the worms and choir have eaten must be replaced, because this ancient relic was given to the church by one of our forefathers. Uncle Tom Cobley, to wit, gave the oak, and the village wood spoiler carved the stall ends, so a faculty is obtained to restore them. **THEY** must not be scrapped; oh no, our pious forefathers gave them. But the bells, they are out of sight of all except the parish jackdaws. One never thinks of giving the bells a dose of furniture polish. It may be, and often is so, that a three hundred years' accumulation of filth, and the acoustic properties of the tower and its position, in conjunction with surrounding buildings (which were not there when the bells were put in), may be responsible for the evil reputation they have attained. That is not thought of at all. Antiquity and sentiment are set at naught where bells are concerned. The choir stalls are mediocre, rotten, crude of design, but in the lime-light; the bells may be three times as old: they are not in the lime-light, so they must go, and the ringers have no say in the matter, for has not our Central Council, that 'tree of knowledge of good and evil' of all things campanological, decided that ringers do not know anything about bells?

Therefore, when the founders step in, theirs is the last word, for they have had presented to them by our own Parliament a two-edged sword wherewith to cut down all opposition to their wishes:—'But, my dear Vicar, even the Central Council admits that ringers know nothing about bells.' I can just hear it being volleyed at the Rev. O'Flynn's bowed head.

Dear Jim, bells that one likes don't suit everyone; beauty is in the ear as well as the eye of the beholder, so Simpson may be the thing to suit the parish, and they pay the bill. Dear Percy, the founders have not yet spoken. One of them has written a few disjointed remarks, void of logic, and another has passed a few—oh, so few—remarks, but the facts have never yet been published in the same way that Mr. E. H. Lewis' 'stress and strain on towers' has. Dear Bow Tenor, good old bells are few and far between, and as the years roll on they get few and further between, and in another fifty years there will be none (but that fact won't trouble me), as the good new bells will never make good old ones: they'll be bad long ere their tuners have passed to their repose and back in the melting pot midst the acclamation of Vox Populi.—Yours very sincerely,

SAMIWELL PEPPERY.

RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Mayes, of Ringstead, Northants, have just celebrated their golden wedding. Both are natives of the village, where they have lived all their lives and have brought up a family of two sons and three daughters. For about fifty years Mr. Mayes has been a ringer at the Parish Church, and was one of the first members of the Central Northants Association, now the Peterborough Diocesan Guild. A lifelong abstainer and non-smoker, Mr. Mayes is wonderfully active and young-looking for his 73 years. In addition to being a ringer, Mr. Mayes has for many years been a sidesman at the Parish Church, and has always been ready to help in any good work. Needless to say, he and his wife are highly respected in the village, and they received many congratulations on completing their half-century of married life.

In honour of the event the bells were rung to numerous touches, including 720 Oxford Bob, by: R. C. Loveday (Thrapston) 1, A. Baxter (Ringstead) 2, W. J. Gilbert (Raunds) 3, G. H. Roberts (Ringstead) 4, F. Kirk (Raunds) 5, F. Chapman (Ringstead) 6.

Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Mayes entertained the ringers and other friends to a splendid repast, and good wishes were expressed for their continued long life and good health.

A SILVER WEDDING PEAL.

The peal of Stedman Triples at Bridport, on Saturday, was arranged in celebration of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Jennings. It was to have been rung at Wyke Regis, where Mr. and Mrs. Jennings have made their home, but owing to local difficulties it was transferred to Bridport. Messrs. Drew and Bengier came from Dorchester as reserve men, and through one of the original band not turning up, and Mr. T. Hervey Beams not being anxious to ring, they both scored their first peal. Several previous unsuccessful attempts for a peal of Stedman Triples have been made at Bridport.

After the peal, the band were entertained to a lobster tea at the Greyhound Hotel by Mr. Jennings, and hearty congratulations and good wishes were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Jennings.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—For evening service, at St. Mary's Church, Sunday, July 18th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: W. C. Lindsey 1, F. W. Webb 2, F. Gardener 3, G. Cherry 4, F. W. Croft 5, Geo. T. Craft (conductor) 6.

BICKER, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Sunday, for morning service, at St. Swithin's Church, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Bob Minor in 40 mins.: F. W. Bennett, senr., 1, T. J. H. Wise 2, S. E. Bennett 3, F. W. Bennett 4, I. P. Bennett 5, A. H. Bennett (conductor) 6.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. William Pye has set up a new great record by ringing his 1,500th peal. This he accomplished at Henley, Suffolk, on August Bank Holiday.

Three generations of the Mash family have held the office of tower-keeper at Southwark Cathedral, formerly St. Saviour's, Southwark, and Mr. Thomas Mash, the present holder of the office, having been 33 years in this service, completes a link of a century of bell-ringing at this famous steeple. His father, the late Mr. George Mash, was for 30 years in charge of the tower, and his grandfather, James Mash, was a ringer there a hundred years ago. This must be, we imagine, a family record.

The pending opening of the new ring of twelve at York Minster is a reminder that August 19th is the anniversary of the opening of the peal of ten at this sacred fane. There had previously been a peal of twelve (the first in the country), but they were recast. This peal of ten were eventually destroyed in a fire in the year 1840.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Deane Rectory, Overton, Basingstoke, writes: It would be a favour if the gentleman who spoke to me at Ipswich concerning some old letters from Birmingham would kindly communicate with me.

By a slip we stated in these notes last week that Henry Hubbard called the peal of Bob Triples which was the first peal by the Union Scholars. The composer and conductor of that peal was John Holt.

The first peal of Double Norwich in Wales was rung at Rhyl on August 13th, 1883.

Sunday is the anniversary of the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus, which was rung by the Norwich Diocesan Guild on August 15th, 1908.

Another notable Norwich Guild peal was the 10,080 Double Norwich, rung at Henley, Suffolk, in 5 hrs. 50 mins., on August 16th, 1902.

A peal of 5,000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal was rung on the 'late lamented' Coventry bells on August 17th, 1812.

At Keighley, Yorks, on August 18th, 1811, 'a peal of 5,376 Cambridge Surprise Eight-in, the first in the north of England,' was rung.

RESTORATION OF YORK MINSTER BELLS.

The new ring of twelve bells at York Minster will be dedicated at 4 o'clock evensong, on Sunday, August 29th.

A 'Ringers' Day' is being arranged for Saturday, September 4th, when the bells will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 5 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

SOMERSET TOUR'S UNLUCKY START.

ROAD ACCIDENT TO MR. AND MRS. A. H. PULLING.

The Somerset tour, which began last Saturday, opened in unfortunate conditions. While on the way to Wrington from Queen Camel, Mr. A. H. Pulling riding a motor-cycle, with Mrs. Pulling in the side-car, was involved in a smash. Mr. Pulling was not much hurt, but Mrs. Pulling, unfortunately, was thrown out and sustained concussion, which necessitated her removal to Sherborne Hospital, where, according to a report sent off on Monday, she was going on as well as could be expected. The accident kept Mr. Pulling out of the first part of the tour, and considerably damped the spirits of the whole party. Kent Treble Bob Major was substituted for Royal at Wrington on Saturday, and rung in 3 hrs. 40 mins. Superlative was rung at Clevedon on Sunday, Mr. Oliver Sippetts stepping into the breach as conductor.

Her many friends among ringers will wish Mrs. Pulling a speedy recovery. Two years ago Mrs. Pulling was president of the Ladies' Guild.

BROADCASTING OF BOW BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Being one of the 'kids' who were 'kidded' to 'listen in' to Bow bells on Saturday evening, July 31st, may I ask the question, Was it really the 'Ancient Society of College Youths' that were giving the performance? We 'country youths' have always looked to the A.S.C.Y. as IT, but after the above-mentioned 'stunt' I am wondering what sort of job they would make of Plain Bob Maximus! I have heard the A.S.C.Y. tap off Stedman Cinques très bon, so am thinking it must have been some other society acting as substitutes on the 31st.

To whatever society it was, 'ancient' or 'modern,' I would offer this advice: Leave duck-hunting alone until a few lessons have been received from the monks of Buckfast Abbey.—Yours sincerely,

UNCLE PETER'S BIG NEPHEW.

ELLESMERE, SHROPSHIRE.—On Monday, June 14th, a quarter-peal of Erin Triples (1,260 changes) in 53 mins.: W. S. Higginson 1, G. H. Edward 2, A. Allen 3, A. Haynes 4, T. Butler, sen. (composer and conductor) 5, E. V. Rodenhurst 6, T. R. Butler 7, W. Higginson, sen., 8. Arranged for Mr. E. V. Rodenhurst, this being his first quarter-peal in the method, and also the first quarter-peal in the method for Mr. T. Butler, sen., as conductor.—Haley's quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung on May 25th in 53 mins. by the same band and conductor, and Brooks' quarter-peal of Stedman Triples on June 7th in 54 mins., with R. Biggs taking the place of E. V. Rodenhurst and conducting same.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Coalbrookdale ringers and all others interested will, I feel sure, have read with very great interest your leading article in 'The Ringing World' of last Friday. You very wisely mention and remind us of the attitude that might be taken by the Hereford Diocesan Guild. An explanation here might, therefore, be most helpful to all concerned.

For about twenty years Coalbrookdale ringers have been loyal supporters and subscribing members to the Hereford Diocesan and the Salop Archidiaconal Guilds, while the Rev. Preb. C. B. Crowe has been an honorary member. It is also a fact that the Coalbrookdale ringers have been the only annual subscribers to the Salop Guild for several years, and it was largely due to their annual subscription for 1926 being sent that sufficient interest was aroused for the revival and extension of the Guild. I think, then, all your readers will agree that if county towers will follow the example of Coalbrookdale all will be well. Coalbrookdale is over 50 miles from Hereford, being situated right on the extreme border of the diocese, whilst it is only 12 miles from Shrewsbury. No matter how loyal we feel towards our diocesan Guild, it is very expensive to attend the annual meeting held at Hereford. On the other hand, it is a real joy and pleasure to meet as a whole, if only once a year.

To be quite clear, I feel sure if the members and those desirous of becoming members in the county will loyally work together, all will be well. Our object in life, whatever our lot or bit of work may be, should be to do it thoroughly, without personal or selfish motives. In conclusion, I feel sure there is a great future in front of the new and extended organisation, providing unity and fairness be our aim. Shrewsbury with St. Chad's 12 and St. Mary's 10, Coalbrookdale with 10 and lots of nice 8's, together with many peals of 6 and 5 bells, will give scope for those of us who are willing to teach.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM SAUNDERS

Coalbrookdale.

P.S.—It may be interesting to note that Coalbrookdale will still remain loyal as ever to their diocesan Guild.

HEREFORD GUILD MASTER WELCOMES NEW ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir,—I must heartily congratulate the Shropshire Association upon their very wise decision in forming a county association. I personally think it the only thing to be done; and if those with the ability and time at disposal will only put their backs into the work, good results should be attained.

I must say, on behalf of the Hereford Guild, that Shropshire need not fear that Hereford will do anything to impede this work. We have realised for some time that something should be done which the Hereford Guild have found it impossible to do in the far-off Salop part of the diocese. As the Hereford diocese extends to within about four miles of Shrewsbury and then northward to Coalbrookdale and Bridgnorth, which means 50 miles or more from the city of Hereford, anyone would quite realise the difficulties of access.

I am well aware that there is plenty of talent in the Bridgnorth area, and they can cater for themselves, but the same cannot be said of other districts which only struggle on. I sincerely hope that all districts that are now affiliated to the Hereford Guild will remain so, and at the same time do all they possibly can to help the county association. No member of the Hereford Guild knows better than myself the difficulty we have had of late in reaching these districts to help them, and I do not suggest for one moment that we want to get rid of any of them, as the Shropshire members have been most loyal and helpful to us.

I feel very strongly upon the matter of an association for each county, for in these remote parts progress is slow, as, often when associations have to cover more than one county, some parts are seldom, if ever, visited by the officials of the Guild.

I quite intended to be present at the Shrewsbury meeting, but found it impossible owing to the wet afternoon, and as I should have had to ride a motor 'bike' 58 miles each way in pouring rain, I decided to remain at home.

CHARLES EDWARDS,
Master, Hereford Guild.

THE LATE MR. I. G. SHADE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read with much interest Mr. Joseph Sykes' letter on the late Mr. Isaac Shade, with whom I have had the pleasure of ringing on several occasions. The peal of Stedman the writer mentions as his first in the method was also my first of Stedman, as well as the late Mr. Alf. Grimes' first in the same. Altogether there were three firsts of Stedman in the band, ably conducted by our worthy top scorer, Mr. William Pye, on November 13th, 1902.—Yours very truly,

W. E. PITMAN.

Canterbury.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Friday evening, August 6th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grand sire Triples in 49 mins.: T. Samuel 1, M. Bend 2, J. R. Jackson 3, C. H. Jallands 4, J. W. Kirtson 5, C. Hallam 6, A. W. Ward (conductor) 7, R. Jackson 8. Rung as a wedding compliment to C. Briggs, a member of the local band. Also a birthday compliment to C. H. Jallands.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

VISIT TO THE 'CATHEDRAL OF THE DOWNS.'

A delightful afternoon was spent at Alfriston, on Saturday, July 31st, when a meeting of the Eastern Division was held. The following towers were represented: St. Peter's, Brighton, St. Saviour's, Eastbourne, Pevensey, Waldron, Lewes, Heathfield and Hellingly, together with members of the local band. Messrs. W. L. Hulbert and Lanadum, of Chippenhams and Bristol, were also present. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and a service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Marchant Pearson). Tea was provided at Ye Olde George Inn, to which 26 members sat down.

At the business meeting Mr. W. D. Smith occupied the chair. Several new members were elected.

Following discussion, it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Brightling if convenient.

After the meeting, the members returned to the church, where the points of interest in the building were eloquently described. The church is of cruciform shape, with central tower. This latter contains a peal of six bells, the tenor weighing about 8½ to 9 cwt., cast about 1390-1400 by William Wodeward, a London founder; the fifth was cast in 1698 by John Wood, an itinerant founder; the fourth in 1587, by a founder unknown; the third in 1811 by Thomas Mears, and recast in 1908 by Mears and Stainbank; second in 1698 by John Wood; and treble in 1819 by Thos. Mears.

The bells are rung from the floor of the church in full view of the congregation, as no ringing chamber can be provided owing to want of height. The bells are reached from the churchyard by means of an iron ladder, to the north transept roof, and thence by a trap door. They hang in a medieval frame of oak, which stands about 8 feet high, and when viewed from above presents a very remarkable composition of additions, patchings, etc., and altogether makes the most curious assemblage passing as a bell frame to be seen anywhere. The bells are on one level, and all swing in the same direction. The task of greasing the bells at any time is not an enviable one, especially when the wind blows a full north-westerly gale. In such circumstances the steeplekeeper undoubtedly uses the greatest of prudence, which comes before valour. The church, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, is called the 'Cathedral of the Downs,' and it well merits that title, situated as it is in the heart of the hills, with the placid waters of the river Cuckmere running close by. The village is one of the most picturesque in the county of Sussex, and contains very ancient inns. Many a scene between smugglers and excisemen has been witnessed here.

Great thanks are due to the Vicar and churchwardens for the welcome offered to the association members, who spent a most interesting afternoon.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

DISTRICT SECRETARIAL CHANGES.

A general meeting of the Norfolk Guild was held at Aylsham on Bank Holiday, when the ring of ten bells of the Parish Church were kindly placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar (the Rev. C. A. Manley). The luncheon was served at the Black Boys' Hotel. The secretary (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman) announced that the president (the Dean of Norwich), owing to an engagement, regretted that he would be unable to preside. The Rev. J. W. S. Tomlin, principal of St. Boniface College, Warminster, who was in charge of the parish during the Vicar's absence on holidays, was therefore voted to the chair. Supporting him were the secretary and the following members of the committee, viz.: Messrs. G. H. Cross, W. B. Duncan, and W. J. Howson, and representatives from Norwich, Northrepps, Loddon and Aylsham, etc.

The secretary moved the election of the following new members:—Victor H. Robinson and Herbert A. Skipper, both of North Elmham; and also the re-election of Messrs. John Aldis, jun., Richard Baldry and George Pointz, all of Saxlingham. The following belfry elections prior to a peal on May 26th, 1926, were ratified, viz.: Mr. Frank Davey, of Exeter, Mr. Thomas Groombridge, of Chislehurst, and Mr. Frank Hoggood, of Reading.

Mr. Robert W. Cooke was elected district secretary for the Fakenham district, in the place of Mr. Charles S. Tuthill, who had resigned.

The secretary announced the resignation of Mr. George T. Peggall, district secretary for Wymondham, and said that he had at present no nomination to put before the meeting, and proposed writing to the district requesting the members to meet with the view of nominating a district secretary in the place of Mr. Peggall.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. J. W. S. Tomlin for presiding, and at the close of the meeting the members adjourned to the belfry for more ringing until the evening.

HOME FROM U.S.A.

At Bocking, Essex, on Wednesday, August 4th, at the Parish Church, 1,314 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. Webb 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, W. Radley 3, B. Redgwell 4, G. Wiffen 5, H. T. Reason 6, W. H. Hammond 7, L. W. Wiffen 8. This was rung to meet Mr. W. Radley, who has resided in the United States for several years and is on holiday in his native parish. He was formerly a Bocking ringer.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

THE SEQUEL TO THE FLIXTON CONTEST.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

I do not pretend to understand the ethics of betting, but John Travis' betting on a certainty seems a very unsportsmanlike action, in fact a dirty trick. There is another point worth noting in connection with this ringing contest at Flixton. The listeners did not know that a miscall had been made; neither, it is likely enough, did the men who were ringing. But the conductor knew, and he still went on and brought the bells round at the proper time. He could hardly have expected to throw dust in the eyes of Tebbs and the other lead taker who were inside the belfry, even if the censurers, who were outside, failed to notice the mistake. But I am afraid it shows that all the peals which are supposed to have been rung were not above suspicion.

There is no method which is so easy for a clever and unscrupulous conductor to fake as Grandsire Triples. The three lead course peals—the Bob and Single peals—used to be called 'Bob and Swindle' peals because the large number of Singles gave an easy opportunity for conductors to put a shift of course right by adding or omitting one. But those were not the real 'swindle' peals. The frame work of composition on the three lead course plan is a pretty rigid one. Very little deviation from correct calling will upset the regular work of the sixth or the fifth, and be at once noticed by the band. In a peal like Holt's Original the conductor can usually do what he pleases, and provided that the second and sixth are not called before and the plain course is rung somewhere about seven hundred changes from the end, nothing would happen to cause suspicion. There was one fully authenticated occasion where a conductor started to call Holt's Original and finished up with Pennings' one-part. In that case, as at Flixton, there happened to be a man outside who had good enough an ear to follow what was going on. I am not suggesting, of course, that such faking of peals was ever a common thing, but undoubtedly it has happened.

I do not know what the Ashton men's time was; as they did not ring a true peal it would have been without any value for comparing with the other times. The ringers were: Jonathan Wild treble, Thomas Dewsnap 2, Samuel Moss 3, Thomas Hammond 4, Aaron Walker 5, Joseph Burgess 6, James Moss 7, Charles Greaves tenor. Conductor: Jonathan Wild.

After the match both bands were entertained by a Mr. Wright. This gentleman was a magistrate, and a great lover of bells. He gave the seventh at Flixton, and it was chiefly due to him that the rest of the money for the new ring was collected. As a consolation prize he sent ten guineas to a Major Lees, of Ashton, to be divided among the losing band:—'Mr. Wright begs to present his best compliments to Major Lees, and to request that he will take the trouble to divide ten guineas among the Ashton-under-Lyne ringers, as a small compliment due to their merit on this day in delighting the villagers of Flixton with the most excellent peal of Holt's Grandsire Triples.—Flixton, Midsummer Day, 1808.'

So ended this most famous ringing match. Such a thing would be quite impossible nowadays. The betting was an ugly feature, and the use of the church tower for a money contest was in every way undesirable. Otherwise, the match seems to have been carried out in a fine sportsmanlike manner. We should condemn any such

thing nowadays, but it would not be fair to condemn these men of a hundred years ago. They had the active support and encouragement of leading church laymen, and, if not the support and encouragement of the clergy, at any rate their consent. Men's ideas and standards were different then from what they are now. The other day I came across an account of a church dignitary who, in the early days of the nineteenth century, used to boast that he made three hundred pounds a year by betting on the cricket matches at Lord's.

The Ashton men and their supporters returned home, light in pocket and heavy of heart. They were bitterly disappointed at the loss of the match; the ringers felt sore at losing after having rung the length and rung so well; the others were angry about the trick that Travis had played on them. Moreover, we may be sure that many of them had been drinking freely, and were in a quarrelsome and excited condition. Presently some of the baser sort began to whisper among themselves that the missed bob was not so innocent as it looked. The thing was a planned affair; the conductor had been 'got at,' and to benefit his own pocket had sold his band and his supporters. Under the conditions it did not take long for the whispered suggestion to become a certainty. With angry cries a mob surrounded the cart where Wild was, and was hardly prevented from doing him bodily injury. So furious was the outcry that he thought it safer to take an opportunity of slipping away from the party, and not thinking it safe to go home, he went away for the night to Stockport. Bad news travels fast, and long before the party reached Ashton the report was all over the place that their men had lost through the treachery of the conductor. A big crowd assembled to meet the returning ringers, and all were bent on showing their feeling towards Wild, and likely enough of dealing out personal punishment.

When they were disappointed by his absence they made a lay figure out of rags and straw to represent him after the manner of a Guy Fawkes; they set this astride a horse, and, having paraded it round the town with jeers and curses, hung it from a pole which they thrust out from the window of the church tower, and then set fire to it. A silly and childish exhibition, but one with a very ugly side to it.

A few days later, hoping the excitement had calmed down, Wild returned home. But, although he does not appear to have been molested, he found that nobody would speak to him. His protestations of innocence were utterly disregarded. Everybody was absolutely convinced of his guilt, and not the less so because they could not possibly have had a shadow of proof of it. The fact that he had gone away would no doubt be quite sufficient to condemn him. No man would employ him, he was turned out of his lodgings, and the very tradesmen were afraid to sell him food to eat. He had to return to Stockport, and for twenty-six years he was an exile from his home. Even if he had been guilty, the punishment was surely heavy enough.

Most conductors have at one time or another missed a bob, and we all know how easy it is to do so. Just a momentary lapse of the memory or the attention, at the critical time, and the thing is done. Half a minute later you realise your omission, and it is then too late. A ringer can make a mistake and can put himself right, or be put right; but a conductor has, except in very rare cases, no second chance. Fortunately, people have not

now any occasion to suggest that a missed bob means treachery to the band who is ringing. There is not the slightest reason to suppose that Wild was not perfectly innocent in the matter. He is described as a mild, harmless, inoffensive fellow. In after years, when speaking of the Flixton match, he would cast his cap on the ground, and exclaim, 'Sithee, if ah sowd um, ah hope my hed may drop in my hat!'

But such things as selling a match were not unknown in those old prize ringing meetings. Where there was a lot of betting on the result there was necessarily a lot of people of the most undesirable sort, who cared nothing for the ringing as ringing, but only for what money they could get out of it. We have seen the trick that John Travis played. Men like him were quite capable of trying to bribe a ringer to lose the match by making a mistake, or, if it were the conductor, making a miscall. And it is to be feared that not all the ringers were always proof against temptation. The rule that the belfry should be locked and only the ringers and the lead-takers allowed inside was made necessary by attempts to partly cut a rope or drop sand into the bearings while a particular band was ringing.

(To be continued.)

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. THE ISLEWORTH BELL FUND.

Another successful meeting of the South and West District was held at Twickenham on Saturday, July 31st, between 60 and 70 members and friends being present. Ringing of short touches to suit both the probationers and Surprise ringers was the order of the day, under the supervision of the Ringing Master, Mr. R. Holloway, and was much appreciated, the methods ranging from Grandsire to Bristol.

A service was conducted by the Rev. E. P. Cole Sheane (Vicar), after which the ringers adjourned to the Church Hall for tea. The usual meeting followed, the Vicar presiding, supported by Mr. Etherington (churchwarden), the Ringing Master, and Mr. G. R. Mackman.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for their kind hospitality and welcome, and the Vicar, in reply, said nothing gave them greater pleasure than to welcome the association to Twickenham, and to know how the members appreciated their welcome.

Six new members were elected, and much regret was expressed at the lamentable death of Mr. I. G. Shade, beloved and respected by all the ringing fraternity. As an act of reverence and respect, members and friends rose, and with bowed heads remained in silence for two minutes.

The hon. secretary made another appeal for the Isleworth Bell Fund, first for a silver collection, and a copper one to follow, to bring the fund up to £100. This was successful, all members and friends responding most liberally, and, in return, received the secretary's best thanks. The amount collected, with one or two donations, was £3 4s. 6d. One rare and valuable coin was found in the plate, viz., a golden half-sovereign; and should any reader of 'The Ringing World' be interested in collecting rare coins, the secretary would be pleased to make them a present of this one, if they first send along a pound note or two towards the fund.

The usual vote of thanks was accorded to the host and lady helpers, Mr. Mackman and the Twickenham ringers, the Ringing Master, and all who helped to make the meeting a success.

Handbell ringing and more touches on the church bells brought a most enjoyable and pleasant afternoon to a close.

LIST OF DONATIONS.

Grant from the South and West District, £26 5s.; grant from the North and East District, £5; donations: Mr. F. A. Milne £5, Rev. H. M. Relton, D.D. (Vicar), £5 5s., Mr. H. Edgeley (churchwarden) £5 5s., Watney, Combe, Reid and Co., £5 5s., Mr. C. S. Bird £1 1s., Mr. J. A. Trollope £1 1s., Mr. R. Holloway 10s., Mr. W. H. Hollier £2 2s., Mr. W. Pickworth 15s., Isleworth ringers £3 15s., Baling ringers (St. Mary's) 7s. 6d., Southgate ringers 10s. 6d., St. Giles-in-the-Field 5s., Anonymous £1, Anonymous £1, Mr. J. Stilwell £2, Mr. C. F. Hare £1 1s., Mr. E. Denyer 10s., Mr. Olive Embleton-Smith 10s., Mrs. O. Embleton-Smith 10s., Mr. Malcolm Waite 10s. 6d., Mr. Dick Waite 10s. 6d., Mr. A. F. M. Tuke (Kumbo, Nigeria) 10s., Mr. J. R. Mackman 10s., Mr. A. Harding 10s.; collections: Isleworth meeting 15s., Staines meeting (St. Peter's) £1 3s., Feltham meeting 4s., Fulham meeting 16s., Chiswick meeting 13s. 6d., Sunbury-on-Thames meeting 14s. 6d. First acknowledgment, £75 15s.

All donations were be thankfully received by: Mr. W. J. Bridges, manager, Barclays Bank, Isleworth, hon. treasurer to the fund; Mr. W. H. Hollier, hon. secretary, 29, Duke Road, Chiswick, W.4; or any of the committee, viz.: Messrs. H. Edgeley (chairman), J. A. Trollope, R. Holloway, R. Mackman, F. Beadle.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

We regret that, owing to the demands upon the space available for Sunday Service Touches, we are unable to undertake to insert anything less than a quarter-peal on eight bells and upwards, and 720 of Doubles or Minor. Many correspondents send us quite short touches for publication and they must not be disappointed if we are unable to find room for them.

TIVERTON, DEVON.—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, August 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Gardiner 1, Mrs. Knowles 2, Miss Hanson 3, J. Elsworth 4, F. Viney 5, P.C. Orchard 6, R. Grater (conductor) 7, C. Knowles 8. Specially arranged for the ringer of the treble, who is on a visit to the town from the Isle of Wight.

LEWES.—At Southover Church, on August 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for evening service, and also for the birthday of Mr. John Steadman: W. Ward 1, D. White 2, R. E. Dawe 3, W. Boyes 4, S. Scrivens 5, A. J. Turner 6, R. J. Dawe (conductor) 7, J. Steadman 8.

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.—At the Church of St. Mary, on Sunday, August 1st, 1,280 changes of Little Bob Major: J. Ison 1, G. Thompson 2, C. R. Belton 3, A. D. Aldham 4, S. White 5, T. W. Wright 6, E. H. Stoneley 7, F. Cotton (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells, and by ringers of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Rang as a birthday compliment to G. Thompson.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—For evening service at St. Mary's Church, Sunday, August 1st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 28 mins. (tenor 28 cwt.): H. Else 1, A. Symonds 2, C. V. Hare 3, T. Hare 4, E. J. Newell 5, Geo. T. Croft (conductor) 6.

LOW MOOR, YORKSHIRE.—At Holy Trinity Church, for evening service, on Sunday, August 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: *W. Green 1, *J. Terry 2, J. W. Simpson 3, N. Bower 4, S. Barraclough 5, H. Simpson (conductor) 6. * First 720.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, August 1st, at St. Andrew's Church, for morning service, 1,264 Bob Major: H. Prior 1, B. Clark (Havant) 2, C. Wells 3, S. Meadows 4, G. Upshall 5, R. J. Hasted (Havant) 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, T. Upshall 8. Longest length in the method by ringers of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th.—For evening service, 464 in the same method, J. Read ringing the 2nd.

ILMINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 1st, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Doubles: A. Large 1, G. Large 2, G. E. Large 3, F. Boswell 4, W. Large (conductor) 5, C. W. Locke 6.

OLD LEAKE.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, August 1st, for evening service, 720 changes of Bob Minor: R. Atkinson 1, Miss Elsie Lakin 2, J. W. Lakin, sen., 3, P. Lakin 4, G. W. Houghton 5, J. W. Lakin, jun. (conductor) 6.

ERITH, KENT.—On Sunday, August 1st, for evening service, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 43 mins., by the following: F. J. Cullum, sen., 1, G. Cullum 2, S. A. Stagg 3, R. A. Cullum 4, L. J. Cullum 5, J. S. Morton 6, F. J. Cullum, jun. (conductor) 7, D. Robinson 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—At St. Edmund's Church, for morning service, on August 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Tom Tebbutt 1, J. Dove 2, F. Hopper 3, I. Bennett 4, John Mackay 5, E. Sibby 6, T. Wise (conductor) 7, A. Monk 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, August 1st, at St. Mary's, Lambeth, S.E., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: S. C. Moya 1, T. H. Taffender 2, R. D. Marshall 3, W. Hardy 4, B. Clarke 5, J. W. Wyatt 6, S. Burditt (first touch of Stedman Triples, and is from Desborough, Northants) 7, C. Maul (first quarter-peal) 8.

HOUSLOW.—On Sunday, August 1st, at St. Paul's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: C. J. Tucker, jun., 1, W. Sparrow 2, W. F. Ellingham 3, F. E. Hawthorne 4, F. G. Goddard 5, C. J. Tricker (conductor) 6, J. Kent 7, J. Milner 8.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD.—On Sunday, April 11th, for morning service at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): F. Springham 1, R. Hayden 2, A. Levey 3, H. M. White 4, F. Bird 5, W. Tarling 6, H. Dew (conductor) 7, W. T. Prior 8.

HEREFORDSHIRE RINGERS IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, July 17th, the Holmer ringers, with their two churchwardens and Messrs. C. Edwards, A. W. Davis, H. Hurcombe, H. Symonds and W. Taylor (invited guests), had an enjoyable outing. Leaving Hereford at 8.30 a.m., ringing took place on the heavy ring of six at Dymock. Newent was the next stop, where the party were met by ex-Sergt. J. Williams. At this church there is another heavy six and a well-kept ringing chamber. Mr. Williams kindly volunteered to act as pilot to Corse, which would have proved a difficult route to find without him. The nice ring of six here is in good order. The party went on to Gloucester for lunch, and there took leave of Mr. Williams. Churcham and Huntley were afterwards visited, and at both these places it was found the bells did not 'go' any too well. The next stop was Foy, where the Rector had invited the party to tea with the Ross district members, and an enjoyable two hours were spent in strolling in the gardens and ringing on church and handbells. Hereford was reached at 9 p.m., after a most enjoyable day.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

NORTHANTS RINGERS IN RURAL TOWERS.

On Thursday, August 5th, a very pleasant day's ringing was spent by the following members of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Clark (Kingsthorpe), A. Marlow (Watford, near Rugby), P. Amos, J. Bennet and T. Wise (St. Edmund's, Northampton), E. Sibley (St. Peter's, Northampton). The weather was ideal when a start was made from Northampton at 9 a.m. for Bugbrooke, and although the party then numbered only four, writes 'T.W.', 'we were not discouraged by the fact. The bells were soon got going, and some good 120's of Grandsire were brought home considering the conditions of the bells. It was here we picked up Mr. A. Marlow.

A tablet in the belfry is inscribed as follows:—

'He that rings and breaks a stay, half a crown will have to pay;
He that rings in spurs and hat, a quart of ale will pay for that.'

Mounting our cycles again, Dodford was reached, where the Rev. J. W. Strong gave us a hearty welcome, and was very interested in our day's work. On the road again, Newnham came in sight by the scheduled time, and here we expected to do big things. Some delay was experienced, however, owing to the ropes having been recently repaired. Finding a local ringer, we contemplated ringing the six bells, but on commencing ringing the treble proved too much for Percy Amos, and the rope disappeared from view on the go-off. Being somewhat disappointed with Percy's performance, we rang the remaining five and managed to get through a six-score. Some discussion then took place as to the cause of the catastrophe, and the ropes were severely censured.

We then had lunch at the village inn, where we heard such a bad account of Badby bells that they were struck off the list, and Everdon was made the next objective and safely reached. The Rev. F. Churchill came along and set us going. The bells pealing, soon brought a member of our Guild to strengthen us, it being Mr. Atterbury, who was on holiday there. While ringing Stedman, Mr. Sibley came along, looking very hot. (We were all very pleased to have his company, and greatly admired his pluck in reaching us so promptly. On reaching the ground floor, the Rector showed us the beautiful work about the church. He was very pleased to learn that the Daventry Branch of the Guild had been formed, and hopes to attend the Staverton meeting with a view of learning more about the Guild and forwarding the movement.

Awheel again, Farthingstone was the next place. Here, owing to the three front bells having no stays and the 2nd only half a wheel, I leave the reader to guess what happened. Lichborough possesses a beautiful peal of five. Grandsire, Plain Bob and Stedman went well, and I have orders to reserve a date for a peal. Unfortunately, ringing was out of the question at Cold Higham owing to a funeral. Patishall brought back memories of losing a peal after ringing two and a half hours. Mr. J. W. Haynes left his job of preparing shallots for pickling and joined us at this church, and the bells were got going to Minor. After tea, Mr. Clark's free wheel had to be rectified, and Percy's tyre sprang a leak. At Gayton, ringing in three methods was indulged in, and at Blisworth, the last place of call, the Rector greeted us heartily. This brought our tour to an end. May I express my thanks to all ringers who assisted me in making the outing such a success, also the clergy in allowing us the use of the bells.'

ST. NICHOLAS' GUILD, HARWICH.

The Harwich ringers had their annual outing on Saturday, August 7th. The party, numbering 15 with a few friends, drove by charabanc to Bury St. Edmunds, which was reached at 12.30 p.m. After sight-seeing, the company sat down to a capital spread at the Rose and Crown, nicely served by Host Gaskin. Tracks were then made to St. Mary's Church, and the fine ring of eight were soon set going to Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Stedman, with the assistance of some of the local band. At the Norman tower, Grandsire Caters were brought round on this fine ring of ten. The journey was then continued to Sudbury, where the Church of St. Gregory was visited, and great interest was taken in the skull of a former Bishop. Touches of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells, and after tea handbell ringing was indulged in. Tunes were rung, and double-handed touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob brought round. Harwich was eventually reached at 11.30 p.m. The ringers wish to thank the various incumbents for the use of the bells, also Messrs. Chinery and Watson at Bury and Mr. Dixon at Sudbury for having things in readiness, and all those who helped to make the trip so successful.

A SUSSEX TOUR.

The annual outing of St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, company was held, as in former years, on August Bank Holiday, and took the form of a motor trip in Sussex. Starting from Tunbridge Wells at eight o'clock in favourable weather conditions, the course was set through Coleman's Hatch and over the lovely Ashdown Forest to Cuckfield, the first halt. Here the bells were set going to Superlative, and a first class course was tapped off, followed by Grandsire for the less advanced members, Stedman with local ringers standing in, and finishing with a course of Cambridge. The next call was at Bolney, the original 'eight' of Sussex, where Superlative and Grandsire were rung and other methods attempted. Next came Henfield, a lovely eight from Loughborough, where Superlative, Cambridge, Stedman and Grandsire were rung, after which came lunch, well deserved and thoroughly enjoyed. A move was next made for Steyning, where there were more failures than successes, all being somewhat sleepy after the

lunch and the heat of the afternoon. All sails were then set for Shoreham harbour, where the ringing chamber has no windows, and all ringing has to be done by gas light. Courses of various methods were rung, and then a move was made to tea. Afterwards by the coast road to Brighton. Tea seemed to have awakened the travellers, and good rounds were rung on the ten at St. Nicholas' by the novices, many of whom saw ten bells for the first time, followed by courses of Treble Ten, Stedman, and Grandsire Caters. Finally came the Sussex 'Mecca' of ringers, St. Peter's, where Messrs. Rickman and Keith Hart were waiting together with Mr. C. W. Clarke. Here was rung an excellent course of Treble Ten, followed by a course of Superlative and a touch of Stedman Caters conducted by Mr. Hart. This finished the programme for the day, and the bonnet was then turned towards home, Tunbridge Wells being reached at 10.30. All enjoyed the day's outing, and join in thanking the Church authorities for their donation to the funds, Mr. W. Latter, in whose capable hands were the arrangements, for his staff work, and the incumbents, steeplekeepers and ringers at the various churches for permission to ring and having things in readiness.

AMONG EAST YORKSHIRE TOWERS.

The ringers of Hemingborough Church had their outing on August 3rd, when they were accompanied by Mr. H. Morley, of Selby Abbey, Mr. R. B. Smith, of Howden, and ringing friends. The party left at 7.30 a.m. by motor-bus for Hedon via Hull, visiting the church and having a pull on the peal of six (tenor 17 cwt.), which want a 'doctor.' They went on to Patrington, where is a nice peal of 6 (tenor 11½ cwt.), and from there to Withernsea, where dinner was served. In the afternoon they proceeded to Hornsea, and had 'a trot on the prom,' then on to Middleton-on-the-Wolds via Driffield, where tea was provided. Here they enjoyed a pull on the grand peal of 6 (tenor 13 cwt.), and continuing the journey via Market Weighton to North Cave, where there was further ringing on the peal of six (tenor 11½ cwt.). The methods rung during the day were: Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob and St. Clement's. The party reached home at 10.30 p.m. The arrangements were made and the conducting done by Mr. W. A. Hudson.

WARMINSTER RINGERS IN DORSET.

The ringers of the Minster, Warminster, had their annual outing on Saturday, July 24th. Accompanied by the Rev. A. R. Bellars, the party of twenty left Warminster by charabanc and car at 8.15 a.m., and proceeded to Mere, where the bells were soon swinging to Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. Yeovil was the next objective, and the visitors were charmed with this fine ring of 10 (tenor 45 cwt.). Several members of the party had not previously rung on ten bells, but with the assistance of two local ringers a touch of Grandsire Caters was attempted; unfortunately, however, this came to grief. The journey was then resumed, and Lyme Regis reached about 1 p.m. Here an excellent lunch was partaken of at the Cosy Restaurant, through the generosity of Canon Jacob (late Vicar of Warminster), who, to the great regret of all, was unable to be present. After lunch, the belfry was visited, and touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Bob Major brought round. The party then disbanded, to seek enjoyment in various ways, until 4.30, when the road was again taken. Bridport was the next stop, the party being met at the church by Mr. W. S. B. Northover. Ringing was indulged in for about an hour, after which full justice was done to a sumptuous 'knife and fork' tea at the Wessex Temperance Hotel, where Mr. T. Hervey Beams was awaiting the visitors, and afterwards accompanied them to Bradpole. Good use was made of the short time allotted for ringing here. The last item on the programme was a halt at Dorchester, where Mr. W. J. Simons met the party. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung, and the homeward journey was then resumed, Warminster being reached about 11.30 p.m. The outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all, and hearty thanks are extended to Canon Jacob for his kind hospitality, also to the incumbents of the various churches for the use of the bells, and to all ringing friends who met the party on the tour and so helped to make the day such a successful one.

HIGH WYCOMBE RINGERS' TOUR.

The annual outing of the All Saints' Church, High Wycombe, took place on August Bank Holiday. The party, to the number of eighteen, left Wycombe by train, and on arrival at Maidenhead took bus to Old Windsor Church, the first stopping place. After some enjoyable ringing on this light peal, the trippers 'ran into' the Caversham ringers with the Master of the Oxford Guild (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), who were also touring the district, and the visit was thus made additionally interesting with friendly chats and reminiscences. Windsor Parish Church was the next venue, and after a number of touches on these bells a move was made to Peasod Street, where Messrs. Denny had a fine meat tea in readiness. This was well served and equally well relished, 'the cups that cheer' being particularly welcome, as was also the rest and quietness after mingling with the 'madding crowd,' for, as one tersely put it, 'all the world and his wife must be at Windsor to-day.' To Slough was the next item, and here again a good many touches were indulged in, a capital 'les down' and a stroll round the town and then to the station in good time to catch the train for home, which was reached safely and in good time, after a fine outing favoured with brilliant weather. Thanks are extended to the foremen of the towers visited, and especially to Mr. T. Smith, of Slough, for his very valued assistance, which helped to make the outing so enjoyable.

[Reports of other Outings are unavoidably held over.]

SINGLE METHOD 'CAMBRIDGE' EXTENSIONS.

By GEORGE BAKER.

Cambridge Surprise, if converted into a double method, would be a Regular Method spoiled.

In Minor, instead of one false row—i.e., the lead-end—there are five false rows to every lead. In Major, instead of five false course-ends to the plain course, there are ten, consequently both Minor and Major in the double form are worthless.

The question that suggests itself from a knowledge of the above, and the fact that Cambridge Minor is true in the single form is: Can the Minor be extended to the higher numbers as a Single Method? The reply to this question is in the affirmative. Cambridge Surprise can be extended as a single method to infinity and, the lead-heads and the individual round block progressions being the same as in Double Bob, there can be no question as to the method being correctly extended. Following is a half-lead each of Major, Royal and Maximus:

Major.	Royal.	Maximus.
12345678	1234567890	123456789012
21436587	2143658709	21436587091e
12463857	1246385079	1246385079e
21648375	2164830597	216483057e9
<hr/>		
26143857	2614385079	2614385079e
62418375	6241830597	624183057e9
62143857	6214385079	6214385079e
26418375	2641830597	264183057e9
<hr/>		
62481735	6248103957	62481035e79
26847153	2684019375	26840173e597
28641735	2864103957	28641035e79
82467153	8246019375	82460173e597
<hr/>		
28467513	2846091735	2846091e3957
82645731	8264907153	8264907e19375
86254713	8628401735	8628401e3957
68527431	6892047153	6892047e19375
<hr/>		
86254731	8629407513	8629407e1735
Lead-head	6892045731	6892045e7153
15738264	6980254713	6980254e1735
	9608527431	9608527e153
<hr/>		
	6980254731	6980254e7513
	Lead-head	160892e45731
		10698e254713
		0196e8527431
<hr/>		
		10698e254731
		Lead-head
		157392e4608

At the moment I am not prepared to say that a peal of Major in this method is possible because there are seven false course-ends to every course—i.e., 32546, 24365, 53624, 46253, 65432, 63542, 56423.

In one method, 'Crofton' Surprise, seven false course-ends do not prevent peal production, but whether peals are possible in Cambridge Single Major is at present an unsolved problem.

The Royal is a true method, which is certainly an advantage in peal composition, and for this reason is worthy of the attention of ten-bell ringers.

In my next article I propose to show how 'London' Surprise Minor can be converted into a true double method, and to prove that in its double form it can be extended on even numbers to infinity.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on Aug. 19th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 10th; Southwark Cathedral on the 17th; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 24th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 26th; all at 7.30 p.m. District meeting at St. Mary's, Beddington, on Saturday, Sept. 11th, at 3 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —A meeting will be held at Hale on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting 5.30.—W. Hughes, Hon. Sec., 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —The next meeting will be held at Headcorn on Saturday, August 14th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District. —Next quarterly meeting at Whitwell on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea, provided by the Vicar.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, 'Collingwood,' Daniel Street, Ryde, I.W.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District. —The next meeting will be held at Knebworth on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea, kindly provided by the Rector (the Rev. W. V. Mason) at the Rectory, at 5 p.m.—E. W. Day, Hon. Dis. Sec., 117, Nightingale Road, Hitchin.

ESSEX AND MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATIONS. — A joint meeting will be held at Waltham Abbey (12 bells) on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at Green Dragon, Market Square, 5 p.m.—E. J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, and C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, E.17, Hon. Secs.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Banbury and District Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Banbury on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.45, followed by meeting.—R. R. Lewis, South Bar, Banbury.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Old Warden on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The Bolton Police have kindly placed their bowling green and athletic ground at the disposal of ringers and friends on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Arrangements as before.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Ackworth on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells ready early. Tea 1s. 6d. each (members affected by the strike free). Committee meeting 4.15, to decide shield contest. A kind invitation is offered by the Rector and ringers.—C. D. Potter, Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District. —A meeting will be held at Toddington on Saturday, Aug. 14th. The bells (8) will be ready at 2.45 p.m. Tea at the Sow and Pigs' Hotel at 4.45. Everybody welcome.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street, Dunstable.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Ringers.—A special practice for Bristol Surprise will be held at Wooburn on Saturday, Aug. 14th, at 6 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—Cecil C. Mayne.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Bishopstone on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea provided for those who notify me by Thursday, the 19th.—S. Hopper, Hon. Branch Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual meeting, tea and social of the above branch will be held at Rishton on Saturday, August 21st. Tea on table 4.30 p.m. Meeting and social following. Will all ringers and friends intending to be present send number to Mr. Roland Hall, 63, Stourton Street, Rishton, not later than Tuesday, 17th? Price of tea and social not more than 1s. 9d. Bells ready 2.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Scorton on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at about 1s. 6d. a head, to all who notify Mr. R. Exton, Springfield Terrace, Scorton, near Garstang, not later than Tuesday, Aug. 17th. Buses every 30 minutes from Tithc-barn Street, Preston.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A district meeting will be held at Bramshott on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells (6) available 2.30; also Liss (6). Service 4.30, followed by tea in Church Hall at 5 p.m. Kindly notify me by Tuesday, the 17th inst., the number requiring tea. All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Dis. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Yateley on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Swinton Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Next Meeting will be held at Blackrod on Saturday, 21st August. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Pulborough on Saturday, August 21st. Tower open from 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. All those requiring tea please advise me early.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Bratton on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells (6) ready 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea.—F. G. een, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool and Wigan Branches.—A joint meeting of the two branches will be held at Ormskirk Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells available from 3 o'clock.—W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston, and James Grounds, 8, School Lane, Standish, Secretaries.

N. STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The meeting arranged to be held at Betley on Aug. 21st has been unavoidably cancelled.—A. Vaughan, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Broughton Astley on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells available from 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.—W. Cope, Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northamptonshire District.—A meeting will be held at Great Addington (6), on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Ringing from 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30. Will those who are coming to tea please inform me by Tuesday, Aug. 17th?—S. Thursfield, Cranford Rectory, Kettering.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Lydd on Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea will be arranged.—C. W. Franklin, 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Westerham on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Further particulars will be duly announced.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, Aug. 28th, at St. Luke's, Derby. Bells (8) ready 3 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—Chas. Draper, Local Sec., 25, Western Road, Derby.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Trull on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Ringing at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea provided by the Vicar after service, and business to follow. Will those who require tea please let me know by the previous Tuesday?—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Meeting at Enfield (St. Mary Magdalene), on Saturday, August 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short Service at 5. Tea, usual terms, at 5.45, but please advise me. St. Andrew's bells open from 7.30. Members and friends cordially invited.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Colwall on Saturday, August 28th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., tea afterwards.—R. Thomas, Hon. Sec., Coddington, Ledbury.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting of this Guild will be held at Oldswinford on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Brecon on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Towers of St. Mary's and St. David's Churches open for ringing from 10 a.m. (8 and 6 bell towers). Service 3 p.m. in Havard Chapel of the Cathedral Church. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. Tea at Ely Tower (the Lord Bishop's residence), by kind invitation of the Lord Bishop, 4 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Please notify the hon. treasurer (Mr. Chas. Powell, 2, North Road, Brecon), by Aug. 21st without fail the number to be expected for tea.—W. R. Howells, Hon. Sec., National Provincial Bank Chambers, Neath, Glam.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of the Winchester District will be held at Hursley on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Bells from 2.30. Tea 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea please notify me by Aug. 24th.—W. T. Tucker, 71, High Street, Eastleigh.

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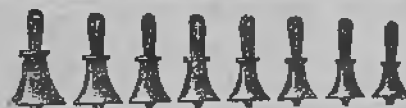
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