

THE RINGING WORLD

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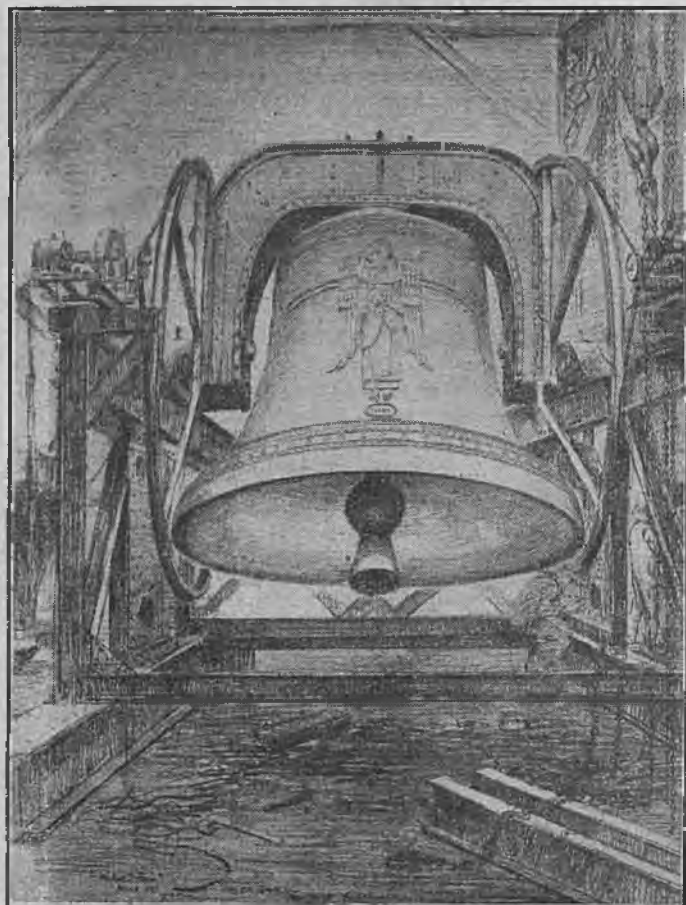
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A PRINCIPLE AT STAKE.

It may be to some people rather surprising to learn that the present controversy over peals of Minor and Doubles is holding up the publication of the Central Council's revised edition of the Minor Methods. What are the Committee waiting for? As far as we are aware, their instructions were clear; they were asked to get on with the job, but the Exercise is now informed by Mr. Trollope that until the question of six-bell peals is settled they cannot finish the 'Collection.' Readers may well ask what has the argument as to the admissibility of certain forms of calling Minor and Doubles got to do with the publication of a book of methods? It is this: The Committee propose to insert in the book a number of compositions and they are desirous of including arrangements such as not only the Rev. E. Bankes James' Cambridge (which is acceptable to the Exercise, because by counting rounds as the first row the 720's are true), but also arrangements like the Rev. H. Law James' London, in which whole leads are repeated in each 720. The arguments of Mr. Trollope have been directed to proving that if the former is admitted as a peal, the latter must also be accepted; and, if the latter, then also Mr. Morris' arrangement of Doubles must be recognised. His solicitude, we imagine, is not so much for Mr. Morris' Doubles as for Mr. James' London, and we doubt if the Council's Collection of Minor Methods would have been held up for one moment, had the Doubles been the only thing involved.

We have had it from one of the members of the Committee that it was their intention to include certain compositions like Mr. Law James' London, and had it not been for the line taken by the 'The Ringing World' the figures would doubtless have gone into the book and, despite the intention of the Council at Hereford—Mr. Trollope has told us that the resolution then passed did not express the intention of the Council, so presumably the Committee know what the intention of the Council was—would have been passed on to the Exercise with the imprimatur of the Council and implying its sanction. It is well, then, that this action of the Committee should have been held up, but there seems to be no reason for withholding for another six months the issue of the work which the Committee are authorised to complete. They know the intention of the Council; they might, therefore, give effect to it and leave out that which the Council intended expressly to exclude. Six-bell ringing will not suffer by the omission of compositions such as Mr. Law James' London, but the standard of peals might well do so if it were included. Once admit this and similar com-

(Continued on page 66.)

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positions and you cannot exclude arrangements which abrogate all the accepted theories of what should constitute a legitimate peal, such as calling bobs at eighty-three consecutive leads of Grandsire Doubles, or ringing 5040's of Bob Doubles with three bobs only. Is even Mr. Law James' London Surprise Minor composition worth it? It is not a question of whether these things would or would not be rung; it is a question of principle. If the bells in a peal on six bells are not to strike in 720, or on five bells in 120 different orders, before beginning the next 720 or 120, then the accepted canons of peal ringing built up in the centuries will be scrapped. Even the Methods Committee now realise they cannot lightly do this.

TEN BELL PEALS.

NORTH SHIELDS, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, January 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

JAMES E. SCOTT Treble	ERNEST GOSDEN 6
ERNEST E. FERRY 2	* ROBERT PARKINSON 7
EDWARD A. HERN 3	ARTHUR TUGWOOD 8
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON 4	* WILLIAM SMEATON 9
JAMES L. GRAY 5	ADAM DEAS Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by EDWARD A. HERN
* First peal on ten bells.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE Treble	ALAN R. PINK 6
RICHARD HAYES 2	MAURICE SMITHER 7
RAYMOND OVERY 3	* ARTHUR J. BARTLETT 8
CHARLES H. HAZELDEN 4	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE 9
C. ERNEST SMITH 5	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.
* First peal of Royal. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd.

DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 6184 CHANGES;

* HAROLD INCKLE Treble	† FREDERICK A. ADAMS 6
* WALTER WALLACE 2	† MAURICE E. WILSON 7
* CHARLES E. HART 3	SIDNEY F. PALMER 8
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 4	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS 9
ALBERT H. WARD 5	JOHN THORP Tenor

Composed by GEO. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN THORP.
* First peal in the method. † First peal of Royal.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5022 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. (approx.).

HARRY PRICE Treble	† MISS AMY JOHNSON 6
* ARTHUR J. MARTIN 2	† WILLIAM H. COOPER 7
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 3	† HAROLD F. MARTIN 8
GEORGE E. LARGE 4	WALTER FARLEY 9
† HAROLD V. COOPER 5	† GEORGE PERRY Tenor

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD. Conducted by HAROLD F. MARTIN.
* First peal on ten bells and in the method. † First peal on ten bells. ‡ First peal of Grandsire Caters. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5067 CHANGES;

WILLIAM FISHER Treble	ROBERT PICKERING 6
*LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS 2	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH ... 7
JOSEPH PIGOTT 3	BENJAMIN GOUGH 8
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 4	HERBERT KNIGHT 9
MORRIS J. MORRIS 5	*ALBERT J. HUBBLE Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

* First peal of Stedman Caterers. Rung after meeting short for Treble Ten. W. Fisher has now rung each bell in ten-bell peals.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 8, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.	Tenor 15 cwt.
WILLIAM H. THEOBALD Treble	ALFRED PYE 5
*JAMES HORWOOD 2	ERNEST W. FURBANK 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	ERNEST J. BUTLER 7
†ALFRED PRIOR 4	ROWLAND WYSE Tenor

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

* First peal, aged 65. † First peal in the method.

FELSTEAD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S TRANSPOSITION OF MIDDLETON'S.	Tenor 12½ cwt.
ALBERT WIFFEN Treble	WILLIAM KEEBLE 5
FRANK HARRINGTON 2	HERBERT C. REASON 6
FRANK CLAYDON 3	WALTER ARNOLD 7
BASIL REDGWELL 4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS Tenor

Conducted by W. KEEBLE.

First peal in the method on the bells, and the second peal on them since they were rehung in 1915. The band wish to thank the Vicar and Mrs. T. Baker for their kind hospitality after the peal. Mr. F. Claydon's 200th peal.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 21, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.	
GEORGE DAY Treble	FRANK CRABBE 5
TOM FORD 2	JOHN W. JONES 6
SAMUEL JONES 3	WILLIAM PHILLIPS 7
CHARLES GREEDY 4	*WILLIAM MASON Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOHN W. JONES.

* First peal. The conductor's 300th peal. Rung half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to Mr. Harry Morgan, who was buried on this day, and who, for the past fifteen years, had been a regular Sunday service ringer at the above church.

WOOLTON, LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1929, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.	Tenor 20 cwt. in E.
*THOMAS LEE Treble	HENRY GRACE 5
*JOHN M. BROADBENT 2	EDWARD CAUNCE 6
*THOMAS W. HESKETH 3	ERNEST L. HUMPHRISS 7
*PERCY GRINDEY 4	*PETER R. SOMPTER Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST L. HUMPHRISS.

* First peal. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Alderman A. S. Mather, C.B.E., J.P., being the first peal on the bells since they were rehung on ball bearings, the late Ald. Mather being the prime mover in the scheme.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.	
EDWIN R. GOATE Treble	WALTER BARRETT 5
GEORGE CURSON 2	CHARLES F. SAYER 6
FRED R. BORRETT 3	ROSELL RICHES 7
GEORGE HOWLETT 4	WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS. Conducted by E. R. GOATE.

First peal in the method as conductor, and 50th peal.

EXETER, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Wednesday, January 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

MRS. E. S. POWELL Treble	*WILLIAM S. LETHBRIDGE ... 5
*JOHN ARBURY 2	REV. EVERARD S. POWELL ... 6
*WILLIAM HOWE 3	WILLIAM RICHARDSON 7
THOMAS LAVER 4	ERNEST W. MARSH Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER. Conducted by REV. E. S. POWELL.

* First peal in the method.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE).

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 24, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.	
*RICHARD E. JONES Treble	*WILLIAM FERNLEY 5
JAMES FERNLEY, JUN. 2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 6
JAMES FERNLEY, SEN. 3	TOM WILDE 7
HARRY LANGLEY 4	JOHN W. HARTLEY Tenor

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE.

* First peal in the method.

RAINFORD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(WIGAN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, January 24, 1929, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.	Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.
JAMES COWLEY Treble	WILLIAM BAGLEY 5
HENRY HESKETH 2	SAMUEL CADWALLENDER 6
WILLIAM HESKETH 3	JAMES W. HALL 7
GEORGE SAINT 4	PETER SHAW Tenor

Conducted by JAMES W. HALL.

First peal by all the band, and first on the bells by a local band.

LONG STANTON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 7½ cwt.	
FRANK E. HAYNES Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS 5
FREDERICK J. COOK 2	ALFRED G. RIVERS 6
FRANK G. GLEAVES 3	CHARLES W. COOK 7
GEORGE E. CRISP 4	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY Tenor

Composed by the late Sir A. HEYWOOD. Conducted by C. W. COOK.
Rung with the bells fully muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. Horace Bernard Woolley, beloved Vicar of the above church since 1905, who passed peacefully away on January 19th, after a brief illness, aged 63. Mr. F. Warrington's kindness in muffling the bells and giving up his rope to another is much appreciated.

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HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK C. J. TURNER ... Treble	ALFRED W. GROVES ... 5
RICHARD DIVALL ... 2	ALFRED J. TURNER ... 6
JACK M. CRIPPS ... 3	KEITH HART ... 7
HERBERT TOMSETT ... 4	WILLIAM STENNING ... Tenor

Conducted by KEITH HART.

HACKINGTON, CANTERBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 11 cwt.

FRED G. BRETT ... Treble	*HERBERT NEVILLE ... 5
FRED WELLS ... 2	CHARLES R. MILLWAY ... 6
ARCHIBALD KAY ... 3	HARRY PARKES ... 7
EDWIN G. BUESDEN ... 4	MORTON W. PIERCE ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN G. BUESDEN.

* Elected a member previous to starting. The band desire to thank Mr. M. Pierce for taking a rope at the last minute owing to the sudden illness of Rev. F. J. O. Helmore.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, BLOOMSBURY.

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... Treble	GEORGE R. PYE ... 5
GEORGE M. KILBY ... 2	JAMES BENNETT ... 6
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 3	ALBERT W. COLES ... 7
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 4	WILLIAM PYE ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

BROXBORNE, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE.

A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Treble	RONALD H. BULLEN ... 5
MISS ELSIE E. CHAPMAN ... 2	JOHN T. KENTISH ... 6
MISS FREDA E. ORR ... 3	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 7
GEORGE H. CROSS ... 4	REUBEN SANDERS ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

First peal in the method on the bells, in the county and by the association, also first peal in the method by all the band, and rung at the first attempt.

GRESWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN FLINT ... Treble	LESLIE W. BACON ... 5
JOHN HOLMAN ... 2	CHARLES MASON ... 6
GEORGE L. CHAMBERS ... 3	JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 7
JESSE J. MOSS ... 4	ARTHUR PASHLEY ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 17 cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... Treble	THOMAS HEMMING ... 5
JOHN BASS ... 2	JOHN SMITH ... 6
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... 3	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 7
FRANK E. PERVIN ... 4	ALFRED HACKETT ... Tenor

Conducted by WM. B. CARTWRIGHT.

Rung on the eve of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Hackett's golden wedding. Mr. M. Hackett has been a Sunday service ringer at this church for over 50 years. First peal of Major on the bells since they were rehung.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ESHER, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

WILKINS MASSEY ... Treble	ALAN R. PINK ... 4
FRANK E. HAWTHORNE ... 2	JOHN GILL ... 5
HARRY BARBER ... 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... Tenor

Conducted by W. T. BEESON.

First peal of Minor on the bells.

JARROW-ON-TYNE, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and one extent of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN TURNBULL ... Treble	JAMES E. SCOTT ... 4
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 2	WILLIAM ROBSON ... 5
EDWARD A. HERN ... 3	ADAM DEAS ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD A. HERN.

HOUGH-ON-THE-HILL, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 22, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Double Court, Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Single Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

*WILLIAM NICHOLSON ... Treble	HENRY SQUIRES ... 4
*MISS GLADYS NICHOLSON ... 2	*J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 5
HENRY HAYNES ... 3	ARTHUR MACKEARS ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR MACKEARS.

* First peal in seven methods. Mr. J. F. Milner was elected a life member of the Guild before starting.

MARKET DEEPPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GUTHLAG.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*EDWARD A. SNEATH ... Treble	*JOHN J. JUTSON ... 4
WILLIAM ROSE ... 2	*JOSEPH O. LANDAN ... 5
HORACE M. DAY ... 3	*WILLIAM TILLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First Surprise peal, also first peal of Cambridge Minor for the Guild.

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 OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. (HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

*SAMUEL A. MARTIN Treble	†FRANCIS H. ROWLEY... .. 4
*LEONARD WOODBURN 2	WILFRED H. J. HOOTON 5
HORACE V. ROWLEY... .. 3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY... .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal. † First peal inside. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. K. Fisher, patron of the living, who was interred on the same day.

HANDBELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 21, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT 16, LIME GROVE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor size 20 in E.

ALFRED BARNES 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
FREDERICK PAGE 3-4	*PETER LAFLIN 7-8

Conducted by ALLEN F. BAILEY.

* First peal of Stedman Triples in hand, and 100th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT 3, CRESSING WAY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

BASIL REDGWELL... .. 1-2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 5-6
WILLIAM KEEBLE... .. 3-4	ALBERT WIFFEN 7-8

Composed by JAMES HUNT.

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CENTRAL DISTRICT SECRETARY RETIRES.

The annual meeting of the Central District of the Surrey Association was held at St. Martin's, Epsom, on Saturday last. Good use was made of the ring of ten bells until 5.30, when the party, numbering about 30, adjourned to the Church Room for tea.

The business meeting followed. Mr. A. W. Clark, being re-elected Master, took the chair. The remaining district officers were elected as follows: Mr. C. H. Reading, treasurer; Mr. D. Cooper, secretary; Mr. A. Gower, auditor; and Messrs. A. J. Trappitt, J. Beams and F. Woodiss representatives on the committee. A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. A. J. Trappitt, the retiring secretary, for his past work in the district.

Meetings for the year were decided on as follows, viz.: Ashted on Easter Monday, Ranmore Common in June, Kingston in September, and the annual district meeting at Camberwell in January, and also a joint meeting with the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, to be held at Ewell in May. It was also suggested, if possible, to hold a joint meeting with Guildford District at Guildford on August Bank Holiday.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, the ladies who waited at tea, and the steeplekeeper who had everything in readiness.

Ringing was afterwards done in all the standard methods, including Bristol Surprise, until 9 o'clock.

The new district secretary is now Mr. D. Cooper, 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The first monthly practice of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch held this year augurs well for the jubilee celebrations fixed for April 27th. Bray, still famed for its Vicar, seems to have an ever-increasing attraction for ringers, and though there were about thirty young ringers of both sexes present, amongst the older ones was that pioneer of ringing in this branch, Mr. J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal.

Ringing was restricted owing to the fact that the bellfounders have not yet completed their task, but everyone was satisfied, and it may be mentioned that a first-class Deputy Branch Ringing Master has been discovered.

The Vicar and other kind friends provided a most satisfying tea in a warm and comfortable room, where the committee meeting was afterwards held, and to which a number of other members returned for handbells, on which change ringing and harmony brought a most successful gathering to a close.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The annual general meeting of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths was held at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, on Saturday week. Ringing commenced at 4.15, and continued until 5.30, after which members were entertained to tea in the crypt.

The Vicar, the Rev. P. McCormick, was present at the business meeting, which took place in the Church Room, and addressed a few words of welcome to the members, remarking how pleased he was to see so many present, and how much pleasure it gave him to do all in his power to make the society's meetings a success.—The Master (Mr. J. D. Matthews) responded and expressed the thanks and best wishes of the members.

The treasurer presented the balance sheet, which was passed. Next on the agenda was the election of officers, which resulted as follows: Master, Mr. J. D. Matthews; secretary, Mr. J. Sparrow, Chevington, Bandon Rise, Wallington, Surrey; treasurer, Mr. G. Steere; auditors, Messrs. T. Newman and R. Bevan; trustees, Messrs. F. Smith and A. Hardy; senior steward, Mr. C. J. Matthews; junior steward, Mr. T. Bevan.

Other business having been disposed of, and several new members enrolled, a vote of thanks to the officers and those responsible for the tea arrangements brought the meeting to a close, and members returned to the tower for further ringing.

Great pleasure was expressed at the progress made by the society during the past year, thanks largely to the efforts of the Master.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING OF SOUTHERN BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Southern Branch of the Lincoln Guild was held at Grantham on Saturday week, with a good attendance of members of the branch, ringers being present from Surfleet, Spalding, Pinchbeck, Donnington, Market Deeping, Lincoln, Hough, Bottesford, Sleaford, Folkingham, Rippingale, Orston, and the local band. Service was held in the beautiful Parish Church, the Rev. Canon Markham conducting the short service and giving a very appropriate address.

The tea followed, held at the Black Dog Inn, at which 33 sat down.

The Rev. H. Law James (Master of the Guild) presided over the business meeting. The election of officers for the ensuing year took place. No changes were made, the whole being re-elected en bloc.

One new honorary member and four performing members were elected.

The place of the next meeting was then discussed, and Hough was decided upon.

It was thought by those present that the annual report might be enlarged in the future, and brought up to pre-war standard again by entering the names of all members.—It was decided to leave this for the discussion of the Guild Committee.

The peal of ten bells was kept going during the afternoon and evening in methods ranging from Grandsire Caters to Cambridge Surprise Royal.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector for the use of the bells and for conducting the service, also to the Rev. H. Law James for presiding over the business meeting, and to all who made the necessary arrangements for a successful meeting.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

A quarterly meeting of the above society was held at Penn on Saturday, Jan. 12th, when there was a fair attendance. Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Vicar (the Rev. E. Martill) through illness, and Mr. Churchwarden Twentyman. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. I. Crump, and the Rev. C. H. Barker (clerical secretary and treasurer) presided at the organette. An excellent tea, provided by the wardens and Church Council, was laid in the Church Room, to which 35 sat down.

The Rev. C. H. Barker moved that a vote of sympathy be sent to the Vicar, with the hope that he would soon be restored to health; also one of thanks to the churchwardens for their kindness in providing tea, and to the ladies for assisting at the tables.

It was decided to send the sum of half-a-guinea to the 'John Briant Memorial Fund.'

Handbell ringing was indulged in by some, while others returned to the tower.

The next meeting is provisionally arranged to take place at Walsall on April 13th, when it is hoped the new ring of twelve will be ready.

142 720's OF MINOR IN 107 METHODS.

BUCKNALL RINGERS' RECORD.

During the year 1928, at St. Mary's Church, Bucknall, Staffs, 142 720's were rung in 107 methods. The ringers taking part were: Mr. W. Wheeldon 101 (conducted 25), Mr. C. Preston 84 (8), W. Fradley 104 (25), Miss Alice Preston 114 (20), C. Bowen 101 (28), H. Billings 93 (8), R. Preston 125 (27), J. Wheeldon 112. During the year the Minor methods in the Central Council Collection of Methods were completed, this being the first time it has been done by one hand.

THE LATE REV. H. B. WOOLLEY.

A SCRATCH IN THE BELFERY RESULTS IN FATAL BLOOD POISONING.

The death of the Rev. Horace Bernard Woolley, which we recorded last week, spread gloom and regret throughout the Cambridgeshire village of Long Stanton, where, as parish priest of All Saints' since 1905, he had won by his devoted services the love and esteem of his parishioners.

In the previous week the Rev. H. B. Woolley, while oiling the bells in the belfry of All Saints' Church, scratched his hand. It was a very slight wound, but blood poisoning set in, and an operation performed in the Evelyn Nursing Home, Cambridge, was of no avail. On the Sunday after the accident he officiated as usual, but he passed away on the following Saturday.

During his long incumbency, he built up the church life of the village, and held the affection of the parishioners. His life-long recreation was the art of bellringing, and it was a joy to him to be able to complete the peal of bells in the tower of All Saints' by adding three bells. For some years he was secretary of the Hunts District of the Ely Diocesan Association, and one of its leaders to the end of his life. His two sons, as well as he, were members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and he was one of the oldest members of the Cambridge University Guild.

The deceased cleric was an old Persean, and he graduated at Cambridge with a second class in the Historical Tripos of 1885. Four years later he was ordained priest, and he held curacies at Brentwood, Brunston, Mildenhall and Bury St. Edmunds, before receiving the benefice of All Saints'.

In addition to increasing the bells of All Saints' he furnished the church, and his most recent work in connection with the fabric was the reroofing of the south aisle.

A VILLAGE IN MOURNING.

The weeping parishioners at the funeral service on Tuesday week testified to the love which he had of them. Women sobbed quietly during the service, and several had to leave the church because they were overcome by emotion. The whole parish was mourning, and the parishioners filled the church.

Officiating at the service were the Rural Dean, the Rev. R. P. Moline (Rector of Cottenham) and the Rev. Canon Baron-Suckling (Rector of Barsham). Others of the clergy present were the Rev. E. J. I. Dredge (Lolworth), W. W. Partridge (St. Luke's, Cambridge), A. C. Hare (Willingham), H. G. Hooton (Impington), C. F. Stebbing (Swavesey), F. G. Weston (Over), L. B. S. Abbot (Conington). The immediate mourners were Mrs. Woolley (widow), Mr. C. W. Woolley (son), Miss Gertrude Woolley (sister), Mr. Richard Woolley (nephew), Mrs. Wright, Miss B. Wright, Mr. John Oliver, Miss C. Clutterbuck, Miss L. Clutterbuck, Mr. and Mrs. Thorogood. The elder son of the Vicar is in Borneo.

The Guild of the Servants of the Sanctuary was represented by Mr. J. R. Gibson and the Rev. W. W. Partridge. The Old Persean Society sent Mr. Roger Smart and Mr. J. R. Bullock. The Rev. A. C. Blyth, Dean of Selwyn College, was present with a number of undergraduates, members of the Selwyn Boat Club, of which Mr. Woolley's son was captain.

The following represented the Ely Diocesan Association: Rev. R. Copeman (general secretary), Messrs. T. R. Dennis (treasurer), C. W. Cook (who is also churchwarden of Long Stanton), F. Warrington, G. J. Crisp and F. J. Cook (Long Stanton), A. G. Rivers, E. G. Hibbins, H. J. Hazell and Miss V. Shorter (Cambridge), Messrs. W. R. Matson (Godmanchester) and F. G. Gleaves (Willingham). The sidesmen acted as bearers, and the hymns sung were 'Jerusalem the golden' and 'The King of Love my Shepherd is.' The 'Nunc Dimittis' was chanted as the coffin was carried from the church.

Large numbers of wreaths were sent from friends and various organisations, including the Cambridge University Guild, the Ely Diocesan Association, the Long Stanton ringers, and the Histon ringers.

On Saturday a muffled peal of Boh Major was rung at Long Stanton.

At Ickleton Parish Church, Cambs, on Thursday evening, January 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with muffled bells as a last mark of respect to the deceased gentleman: L. Flinton 1, P. Webb (conductor) 2, R. Clements 3, E. Flinton 4, W. Hutley 5, G. Lilley 6, W. Flinton 7, A. Lilley 8.

THE LATE REV. H. C. COURTNEY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It may not be known to the biographers of the above that the deceased was a peal ringer long before he joined the Gloucester and Bristol Association. His name seemed familiar and stirred certain memories: and on turning up old records I found that he rang a peal of Triples with me at St. Nicolas', Nuneaton, on Thursday, March 24th, 1892. He was then Rector of Hatton, Warwickshire, and on that occasion brought with him his gardener, Mr. W. Male, who then rang his first peal. The next time I met Mr. Male was last year at Warwick.

W. WILLSON.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT'S FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Guildford District was held at Guildford on Saturday week. The bells of the Cathedral Church and of St. Nicolas' were available, and were made use of during the afternoon. The service, held at the Cathedral, was conducted by Canon E. C. Kirwan, and the Rev. J. D. Carter, of Witley, gave the address. He based this on the text, 'Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God,' from 1 Cor. x. This was the spirit, he said, in which all members of the Guild should enter on their duties. To his mind, bells were the most attractive of all ways of producing music in the open air. He touched briefly on the history of bells from the time of the nations of antiquity through the gradual development of the art of ringing in this country down to the present time. He reminded his listeners that bells had played a prominent part in the history of the Celtic peoples, especially the Irish. One of the first uses of church bells was to call people to the services. This was an absolute necessity in the days when there were no watches or clocks. Bells were great messengers of joy and sorrow. They seemed to carry messages for each season of the year. He referred to the strange stories of the uses (now all past) to which bells and helfries were put in former days, and reminded the members that the belfry was a sacred place. He concluded by appealing to the Guild to do their duties in the spirit of his text.

Members from the two Guildford towers, Old Woking, Shalford, Godalming, Shere, Clandon, Haslemere, Cranleigh, Worplesdon, Pirbright, Ewhurst and Albury, and visitors from Farnham, Pulborough, Chertsey, Ottershaw and Aldershot, to the number of 66, sat down to tea in Holy Trinity Hall.

The business meeting followed, at which Mr. W. Harrison presided. January 18th, 1930, was fixed as the date of the next annual meeting, and it was resolved to hold the service at St. Nicolas' Church.

The balance sheet, showing a balance of £5 18s. 3d. in hand, was read and adopted.

The members stood in silence for a short time as a token of respect for four deceased members, Mr. Luff, of Chiddingfold, Messrs. Jelly and Tickner, of Worplesdon, and Mr. Harwood, of Pirbright.

The Ringing Master, in his report, stressed the importance of the attendance at combined practices of members at whose towers these were held. In future, he said, the combined practices would be held at the various towers on their usual practice night. He had not kept a record of the peals rung in the district during the year.—It was resolved that in future the Ringing Master should keep the District record of peals.

District meetings are to be held during the coming year at Cranleigh, Chiddingfold, Shalford, Pirbright and Godalming.

It was resolved that in future the election of officers of the District should be by ballot, and it was decided to recommend that officers of the Guild should be elected in the same way. Happily, there was no need to ballot at this meeting, as in no case was more than one nomination received.

Mr. N. V. Harding had to resign from the secretaryship owing to business reasons. The members expressed their regret, and thanked him for his work during the past year.

The following officers were elected: Mr. G. Grover, of Clandon, hon. secretary; Mr. C. Hazelden, Ringing Master; Messrs. Burdock and Whittington, representatives to the Executive Committee, and Mr. N. V. Harding, district auditor. On the resignation of Mr. Melville from the assistant secretaryship, this office was abolished.

Everyone was pleased to see Admiral Walker well enough to attend.

DEATH OF A NEWPORT RINGER.

The passing of Mr. Harry Morgan, of All Saints', Newport, Mon., has removed a well-known and highly-respected figure from the ranks of South Wales ringers. On Monday, January 14th, he was to all outward appearance in fairly good health, and took part in the usual weekly practice. He was also at practice at St. Woolos' Church on Tuesday. On Wednesday evening he was taken suddenly ill, and succumbed to heart failure.

The deceased was an ex-county policeman, and whilst stationed at Chepstow learned the first rudiments of change ringing. Removing afterwards to Trellech and Blaiza, where there were no bells, he had no opportunity of ringing until he retired from the Force and moved to Newport, where he joined the All Saints' band, and on June 28th, 1913, rang the treble to his first peal. He was not keen on peal ringing, and altogether had rung only about half a dozen peals of Grandsire. In touches, he was capable of ringing the four standard methods.

The funeral took place at Newport Cemetery, the last rites, performed by the Vicar of All Saints' and hon. treasurer of the association, being attended by uniformed police, of which deceased had been a member for 26 years. Ringers attended from St. Woolos' and All Saints' Churches, Newport, and from Gaerleon. Mr. Morgan will be sadly missed in the belfry.

THE FIRST PERFORMANCE OF HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of the 11th inst. you give particulars, supplied by Mr. G. H. Cross, of records of Holt's Original having been conducted on two occasions in 1752 at Norwich by a ringer taking part in the peal, as taken from the 'Norwich Mercury' by Mr. Philip Sadler and you state that Mr. Cross remarks that the claim that this was the first achieved at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London, in 1791, by the Ancient Society of College Youths, should be corrected in the recently published history of that society. It might be well, therefore, for me to give the source from which the record claimed by the College Youths was taken by the committee appointed to revise and draw up the new Rule Book.

In Snowdon's 'Grandsire' on page 133 appears the following:—

Holt, as has already been related, called his one-part peal from a manuscript copy, and did not take any other part in the performance. We may be sure that many a conductor would feel ambitious to call the peal without such assistance, but it was not until forty years after its first performance that this object was attained. On Sunday, October 23rd, 1791, the College Youths rang this peal at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, when it was conducted by James Bartlett, who rang the treble, and thus gained the honour of being the first man to conduct the peal and take part in the ringing.

One would hardly have supposed that a ringer of the parts of Mr. George Cross had not perused the pages of this interesting work of outstanding merit in the art of change ringing, and that he was apparently unaware of Snowdon's remarks on this subject, seems strange, to say the least of it. Passing over this point, however, if the statement now claimed of there being two previous performances of this peal at Norwich and another at Saffron Walden is correct, how can it be explained that Snowdon, in his patient and painstaking research work, should not have come across these records, or should have ignored them altogether, if he did? Snowdon must have been brought into very intimate contact with Norwich when collecting data for his various books, and the question arises, Was there insufficient proof to satisfy him that the peals referred to were the famous Original?

With reference to Mr. Cross' recent letter in your issue of January 18th, inquiring whether the peal of Bob Triples rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, in 1715, was not the first peal of 5,000 changes ever rung, he will find this point very fully dealt with in Snowdon's 'Grandsire' on pages 117 and 118, and I would suggest his possessing himself of a copy of this book.—Yours faithfully,

G. N. PRICE.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the South-Eastern Division was held at Widdford on Saturday last, thirty-seven members, representing nine towers, and one visitor from St. Andrew's, Holborn, sitting down to tea, which was presided over by the Rector of Widdford (Rev. F. R. Thurlow).

The District Master, Mr. G. Green, presided over the meeting, at which four new hon. members were elected, and several ringing and probationary members were also admitted.

Fryerning was chosen as the place of the next meeting, to be held in March. After the meeting, which ended 'in smoke,' a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells, and the tower was again visited, and various touches brought round in methods ranging from Bob Minor to Cambridge Surprise Major. Chelmsford Cathedral bells were also made good use of in the evening and Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Ten, etc., rung.

NORTH-EASTERN DIVISION'S FINE MEETING.

On Saturday, January 19th, the annual meeting of the North-Eastern Division was held at Wivenhoe. Ringing commenced soon after 2 p.m., and at 4.30 p.m. a special service was held at the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. H. Jack, who gave the association a welcome to Wivenhoe. Afterwards, nearly 70 members sat down at the Parish Hall to a splendid meat tea provided by the local branch and their friends. The Rev. Jack presided, supported by the churchwardens and their wives, the organist, Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the association), Mr. W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley), and the district secretary (Mr. R. W. Staunard). At the subsequent meeting the District Master and district secretary were unanimously re-elected, Mr. Howard thanking them for their past services, and congratulating the district upon having two such men to fill the positions.

Two honorary members, six ringing members, and five lady ringing members from the local company were elected members of the association.

Mr. Nevard and Mr. Howard thanked the local ringers for their hospitality, and the vote was responded to by the Vicar.

No fewer than 23 companies were represented at this meeting. The next meeting will be held at Wormingford in April.

The sum of £1 15s. was collected for the widow of Mr. Sadler, of Braintree, who is in needy circumstances, and 16s. 2d. was received in the collection in church towards the association's Bell Restoration Fund.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Cambridge University Guild celebrates its jubilee on Monday, for it was on February 4th, 1879, that it was founded, and thus followed the example set a few years before by the sister university at Oxford. The career of the Cambridge University Guild, however, has been a much more active one than that of Oxford.

Ringers throughout the country will hear with regret of the illness of the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, the veteran hon. secretary of the Kent County Association. He is down with an attack of pleurisy.

Those visitors to the Sherwood Youths' dinner at Nottingham on Saturday, who stayed over Sunday, had the privilege of inspecting the new hour and quarter-bells (cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co.) hung in the new Nottingham Exchange. The hour bell is 11½ tons, and the total weight of the four quarter bells is about 10½ tons. The clock is being supplied by Messrs. Cope and Co.

When completed, the Exchange will be one of the finest public buildings in the country. Across the front is carved in the stonework a frieze representing Nottingham industries. A bell is a reminder of the craft carried on in the city by the Oldfields.

In the second of the two peals of Ipswich Surprise Major, published in our issue of January 18th, there should be a bob at 'home' in the 9th course instead of in the 8th, as printed.

Rope guides and a centre lamp have been fixed in Ickleton tower by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, which greatly facilitate ringing. The bells are rung from the centre of the church, and there is a long flight of rope to the ceiling.

Tuesday is the anniversary of two long peals. On February 5th, 1783, a peal of 12,672 Bob Major was rung in 7 hrs. 48 mins. at Bromley, Kent, and on the same day in 1888 12,041 Stedman Caters was rung in 7 hrs. 26 mins. at Appleton.

Tempus fugit. Many readers of 'The Ringing World' will recollect the astonishment with which they read of the ringing of the first peal of London Surprise Major on handbells by the brothers Pye and Mr. W. Keeble. This great performance took place twenty-five years ago next Tuesday.

The bells of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, were opened on February 7th, 1783. And what an opening! Three different bands each rang a peal. The College Youths rang two peals of Oxford Treble Bob Major, and the Cumberlands a peal of Grandsire Triples.

A peal report from East Crompton has been sent without the name of the conductor.

YORK MINSTER BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It would be interesting to know whether your correspondents, Messrs. Kippin and Darby, have actually heard York Minster and St. Martin's, Birmingham, bells, either in the towers or their immediate vicinity, or whether they are voicing opinions they have formed from hearing them broadcast.

In the latter event, I suggest they would be well advised to reserve judgment until they have had an opportunity of hearing them at close quarters. It is a well-known fact that some poor bells 'come over' the ether very well—take, for instance, the bells of the Cathedral (St. Philip's), Birmingham. These are a very poor lot—a really miserable ring of ten—and yet I have received from time to time scores of expressions of appreciation when they have been broadcast. Many of these have been from ringers, some of whom have taken me to task for suggesting that they should be recast not broadcast. I know from personal experience that they do sound quite passable over the wireless, but that does not alter the fact that as a ring of bells they are a disgrace to the Cathedral and to the city.

Again, I have just received a letter from a ringer of very wide experience who says that he hopes soon to have another opportunity of a pull on the 'fine new ring of twelve' at St. Martin's, but adds, 'I don't care for them much on the wireless.' This surely indicates that one is not safe in forming an opinion as to the tone and quality of bells that have only been heard per radio. Possibly your correspondents have heard the bells direct, and, if so, I am surprised that they should aver that York Minster bells have a 'nasal twang.' I don't know what this means—it doesn't sound very appropriate—but, as one who has heard and rung on them, I would like to express the hope that it may prove to be a highly contagious disease, and that other rings of bells up and down the country may soon be 'suffering' from it.

A. PADDON SMITH.

Birmingham.

THE WIRELESS EFFECT.

Dear Sir,—I have noted the remarks of Messrs. Kippin and Darby in the issue of 'The Ringing World' dated January 18th. I wonder if these gentlemen have heard York Minster bells other than over the 'Wireless.' If the answer is in the affirmative, then the point at issue is a matter of opinion. If the answer is in the negative, then they are not in a position to judge what York bells actually sound like.—Yours truly,

York Minster.

G. HORNER.

THE SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

W. D. CROFTS COMMEMORATION DINNER.

In the ancient history of change ringing the Society of Sherwood Youths played a not unimportant part. Established in the year 1672—in the days of Fabian Stedman—the society has continued with various vicissitudes down to the present day, and its most famous member was the Nottingham solicitor, William Doubleday Crofts, who was born in 1742, and died in 1809. To him the Sherwood Youths owed a great deal of their fame in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and by his ability as a ringer and conductor they achieved many great performances. The resuscitation of the society was brought about largely in order to keep green the memory of Crofts, as well as to encourage the art and to extend social intercourse among the ringers in and around Nottingham. Since 1923 a commemoration dinner has annually been held. This year's gathering, which took place on Saturday at Nottingham, brought together a party of between 60 and 70, who spent an extremely enjoyable evening at the Welbeck Hotel under the chairmanship of the Master (Mr. Albert Coppock). The Lord Bishop of Southwell was the guest of the evening, and other guests were Canon Gordon (Rector of St. Mary's), the Sheriff of Nottingham (Alderman William Green), and Mr. A. T. Baker ('Irenæus Pistor'), who was accompanied by his daughter, Miss Muriel Baker. Among others present were the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson (Ordsall), Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), Messrs. C. Harrison, J. P. Fidler, D. Collins (Loughborough), W. E. White and J. H. Marshall (Cotgrave), G. Walker (Birmingham), Wiseman (Croxton Kevel), J. S. Goldsmith (Woking), H. R. Cobbin, Miss I. B. Thompson (hon. treasurer of the society), Mr. F. Blood (hon. secretary), F. W. Bailey (steward), Messrs. A. Archer, J. Ward, M. Bend and W. Flinders, veteran Nottingham ringers, etc.

A feature of these gatherings is the entertainment, which is always a feast of good things, thanks to the Master, who is closely in touch with the musical fraternity of the city. Miss Alice Varley sang songs, including old favourites, very sweetly, and took part in a duet with Mr. Coppock; Mr. Charles Morley, a talented tenor vocalist, rendered a number of solos in great style, while humorous contributions came from Mr. Charles Riley (who also recited 'Kissing Cup's Race' with great dramatic effect), and Mr. Edgar Roulstone, who acted as accompanist. Variety was introduced into the programme by the solo dances of little Miss Kathleen Pearce, whose skill in this direction promises to take her far in the Terpsichorean art. In addition, courses of Grandsire Caters and Triples, and tunes were rung on handbells.

A VERY IMPORTANT BODY.

After an excellent dinner, well served and thoroughly enjoyed by the company, the Chairman proposed the loyal toast, which was cordially honoured. He then thanked the Bishop of Southwell and the Sheriff of the City for honouring the gathering with their presence. He pointed out to the Bishop that change ringing was as British as cricket, and when the ringing world produced what in cricket was a Larwood or a Gunn, or any of the other famous old names, they felt it their duty to keep his memory alive.

Mr. J. P. Fidler proposed 'The Church,' and remarked that in the church bellringers they had the most efficiently organised body of voluntary churchworkers. As ringers they prided themselves on their work, which they did to the best of their ability. It was due to the ringers' organisations that a great change was introduced into the towers, which, while at one time places of ill-repute, were now often kept and as much thought of as the sanctuary. He thought the Church and State, who of late had been engaged in somewhat heated controversy, might follow the example of ringers, who, if they had differences, met at dinner and became good friends. Dinners such as the one they were enjoying that evening, were held in a number of centres, and they had a wonderful effect in creating good feeling among those who met at them (applause).

The Bishop of Southwell, in responding to the toast, said it was a great honour and a great pleasure to accept the kind invitation given to him to be present that evening. They were a gathering not merely of ringers but of a really fine body of church voluntary workers, and he recognised that they were a very important body. He was grateful to them for all they did, and he honoured their calling, although he was hopelessly ignorant of their art. He had had the honour of attending ringers' dinners before, for in his parish at Poplar, and also at Hackney, there was a fine peal of bells. So it was not the first time he had had the pleasure of sitting down to dinner with bellringers, and he recognised very sincerely what the church owed to them—it owed them a very great deal. Whatever bellringers might have been in days gone by, there was to-day no finer body of men connected with the church. He saw on one hand that night a cohort of veterans, and he saw before him one who was but a boy. In ringing, they had all ages and types, old and young, drawn together by their common interest in that wonderful science and art of ringing. He wished them all God-speed in their work, and he gratefully acknowledged the debt which the Church owed to the noble band of ringers all over the country (applause).

A PEAL OF TWELVE SUGGESTED.

Mr. George Walker submitted 'The City.' That, he said, was a gathering of Sherwood Youths, and he was himself an old Sherwood

Youth. Every Sherwood Youth loved his own county and was proud of it. He left Nottingham over forty years ago, but he thought as much of the city as ever he did, and loved it more every time he returned to it. Many improvements had taken place in Nottingham since he lived there, and the city was holding its own with other places in its desire to keep abreast of the times. Nottingham, however, had not got a peal of twelve bells, but it had, in St. Mary's Church, a magnificent and historical structure in which to put them—one of the finest parish churches he had ever seen. There could be no finer tower than St. Mary's in which to hang a ring of twelve, and he hoped he would live to see the day when there was a peal of twelve in that tower (applause).

Mr. Sheriff Green replied in a racy speech. Public men, as seen through the Press, were, he said, a 'bad lot' (hear, hear, and laughter), but, however they might differ in their opinions, thank God that in the public life of that city and the country there were Christian men who stood for Christian principles and actions (hear, hear). Nottingham was the finest city in the world, without a shadow of doubt, with the finest Lord Mayor God ever sent into any city (applause), and they had the finest set of city councillors and aldermen in the country (laughter and applause). Mr. Walker apparently found it well to migrate, but he found it necessary to come back to get a good dinner (laughter). Mr. Walker had told them that they had the finest mother church he had ever seen, and he (the speaker) trusted they had the same respect for the Vicar of that mother church as they had for the building. The Sheriff went on to refer to many improvements which had been carried out in the city, schemes which had reduced the death rate and made the place a healthier, a happier, and a more pleasant place to live in. Among other things they had improved the sanitation, they had built a new university, they had widened their streets, and made lovely boulevards, and they had built a new magnificent market hall. Such improvements cost money, and when they saw what had been done, the ratepayers ought not to grumble, although it was usual for those who had to foot the bill to say that those who had spent the money ought to be kicked out of office (laughter). As a church worker himself, the Sheriff spoke of his own love of the bells, and he reminded the ringers that in their work they were sending out a call to the people, bidding them come into the House of God to worship. Though they might fail in their task, the ringers were recognised and appreciated for the services they rendered to the Church (applause).

Mr. W. E. White proposed 'The Visitors,' whom he cordially welcomed to Nottingham.

Mr. C. F. Johnston, who first responded, expressed the thanks of the visitors for the enjoyable time the Sherwood Youths had given them, and recounted some of the interesting experiences of his recent 16,000 mile tour to the West Coast of America.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith also responded.

The Chairman gave 'The Silent Toast,' and mentioned that during the year there had passed away Mr. David Smith, of Mansfield, Mr. Richard Lovett (who was at the Sherwood Youths' last dinner), and one, who, while not a ringer or a member of any ringing association, would be remembered as a violinist in a band which had played for their dancing, Mr. William Mann, who met his death under tragic circumstances in that very hotel.

The toast was honoured in silence.

A PARALLEL AND A CONTRAST.

The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, called upon for a speech, referred to the brotherhood which linked ringers together in a remarkable way, and congratulated Nottingham on the wonderful entertainment which it had provided that night. They knew, he said, who was the originator of that very pleasant evening, and who was responsible for the greater part of it—their Master, Mr. Coppock. On September 24th, 1924, he (the speaker) took part with other Sherwood Youths in a peal of Oxford Treble Bob at Mansfield, which the Master conducted. The reason for the peal was that the old Sherwood Youths walked from Nottingham to Mansfield and rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob on September 24th, 1774. In that peal James Wilkinson rang the 2nd bell, and the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson rang the 2nd bell in 1924. There was one great difference, however, and that was, whereas the ringers after the 1924 peal went across to the Church House, where he was only too glad to entertain them to tea, James Wilkinson, no doubt, took his band in 1774 across to the Ram Inn (laughter). That showed how they had progressed. He hoped the days of the Sherwood Youths would be very long, and be more and more successful (applause).

This concluded the speeches, and the remainder of the evening was devoted to music, the proceedings being brought to a close with 'Auld Lang Syne.'

In the afternoon many of the ringers took part in touches on the bells of St. Mary's Church.

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Sunday, Jan. 27th, at St. Mary's Church, Sprothorough, for evening service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, also 180 Plain Bob: H. Metcalfe 1, M. Fowler 2, O. Greatehead 3, E. Short 4, W. Dent 5, E. Stacey (conductor) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. H. Harding, wife of one of the Sprothorough band, who died on January 20th.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

A 'MIXED' 5,040.
To the Editor.

Sir,—From what the Rev. H. Law James says in his last letter it appears that he is prepared to read anything into the definition of peals of Minor. I will just touch on the one statement that 'the motion allows us to ring seven true and complete compositions mixed up in any way we like.' Then the following 5,040 of London Minor consists of four true and complete extents with the 6th called WRW, and three with the 5th called RWR, and it contains nothing else except the bobs added to do the mixing and to secure variation. It is given by the ends of the parts of two courses each, and has the tenors right way at back. Considerable variation is possible on the plan. I ask Mr. James if he thinks this peal comes within the definition.—Yours truly, JOSEPH W. PARKER.

23456		23456		34256	
23456	6th WRW	23456	5th RWRW	34256	5th RWRW
23456	Repeat	23456	Repeat	34256	Repeat
23456	Repeat	34256	5th RWR	34256	Repeat
34256		42356		42356	
34256	6th WRW	42356	6th WRW	42356	6th WRW
42356	Repeat	42356	5th RWRW	42356	Repeat
42356	6th WRW	42356	6th WRW	23456	Repeat

'WHERE IS THE VALUE?'

Sir,—I had intended that my first letter on this subject should also be the last, but Mr. Trollope makes use of one or two phrases in this week's issue of 'The Ringing World' which call for some comment. He states that the Exercise has fully agreed that Mr. Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge Surprise Minor is a valuable composition. May I ask, in all humility, where the value comes in?

I always thought that for anything to be of value it should be free from taints of any description. Surely, Mr. Trollope would not have the six-bell ringers to believe that because Mr. James' arrangement brings up all the 5-6's at back stroke, and in doing so strings together six 720's which are all false, it is a thing of any value? I most emphatically say 'No.' Then he goes on to say: 'It meets a need.' May I ask what need it meets? Surely, Mr. Trollope is aware that Cambridge can be called in a great many different ways. I can string together seven 720's in seven Round Blocks, each block being true in itself, that will test the capability of the best Bob caller to negotiate successfully. Certainly, all the 5-6's will not be back-stroke changes, but they will have less 5-6's at hand stroke than it is possible to obtain in a peal from the first eleven methods given in the Council's book of legitimate Minor methods.—Yours truly,

Killamarsch.

C. SEVERN.

'THE GRANDSIRE DOUBLES TROUBLE.'

Dear Sir,—The letter in your last issue under the above heading is typically Willsonian. Stripped of the dialectic rings, which with airy brilliance are thrown round our heads, the letter contains nothing of use, and this was the chief reason for my remarks on 'W.W.'s' previous letter. The contrast between it and Mr. Trollope's admirably reasoned contribution is great indeed.

Mr. Willson's letter contains its usual misstatement, which, although trivial, is nevertheless characteristic. He says we have rung seven method peals together, wherein he is wrong. We rang together one only.

The word 'truth' as applied to five and six bell peals is necessarily comparative. From one point of view they are all false. 'Splice' I used in the ringers' sense—i.e., to join broken ends. If a round block inserted into a six-score does not do this, then what does it do?

I put forward in my last letter the opinion that 50 six-scores rung differently is a bigger task than an ordinary seven-method peal of Minor. As I am one of the only two men in the Exercise who are in a position to know, I think that due consideration should have been accorded the conclusion to which I have arrived.

Mr. Willson, on the strength of having rung some six-scores of the type many years ago, appears to doubt what I have said.

May I conclude with an appeal for constructive criticisms, as against the ruthless tearing down of other people's ideas. If you must destroy, do put something else in the place.—Yours, etc.,

J. T. DYKE.

NOT 'LEGAL TENDER.'

Sir,—Mr. Trollope, in his most serious mood, is at the same time most humorous. After spilling a column of ink in support of the tradition of ringing and leading his readers 'up the garden' in the most subtle and ingenious manner, he executes the usual volte face in his last paragraph, viz.: 'Well, if we admit this, as we assuredly must, ...'

Had he prefixed the par by saying 'I think,' not a word could be said, but Mr. Trollope, in the almighty 'WE,' presumes to speak for the whole Exercise. He does not. The question naturally arises, Why must we assuredly admit it? No one has yet said what ad-

(Continued in next column.)

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

SECRETARY RETIRES AFTER TWENTY YEARS' WORK.

The annual meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held on Saturday last at the St. Martin's Hotel, the bells of the Cathedral having been at the disposal of members during the afternoon.

The chair was taken by the Guild's Presiding Ringing Master, Ald. J. S. Pritchett, M.A., on whose proposition the Lord Bishop of Birmingham was re-elected president. All the vice-presidents (the Rector of Birmingham, Alderman Pritchett, Messrs. J. H. Shepherd, W. Kent, T. Russam and J. George) were re-elected, and the name of Mr. Jas. E. Groves added, as a mark of appreciation of his services to the Guild as Deputy Ringing Master for many years.

On the proposition of the secretary, Mr. Alderman Pritchett was unanimously re-elected Presiding Ringing Master, the Secretary adding that all present would wish to congratulate him on having entered upon his 75th year in the best of health and full of vigour.—The Alderman said that he should be pleased to retire in favour of a younger man, if the members thought it would be desirable, but, as they unanimously showed, the members thought the right man was in the right place. Mr. Pritchett thanked them for the expression of continued confidence in him, and said he would do his best to attend the meetings, etc.

Mr. Albert Walker was re-elected Deputy Ringing Master, Messrs. T. Russam and T. H. Reeves trustees, Messrs. J. Preston and E. T. Allaway auditors, and Mr. G. F. Swann librarian.

Mr. Smith then said that, owing to business pressure and frequent absences abroad, he could no longer give the time and attention demanded by the secretarial duties, and tendered his resignation. He added that he had held the office for twenty years, and that it was, perhaps, time they had a change. Incidentally, he remarked that his predecessor, the late W. H. Goddon, had also held the secretaryship for exactly the same period. Mr. Smith then proposed that Mr. T. H. Reeves be elected secretary and treasurer in his stead.—This was seconded by Mr. W. Dowding, supported by Mr. A. Walker and Mr. F. Price, and carried unanimously.

The following resolution, proposed by Mr. Alderman Pritchett and seconded by Mr. Walker, was then passed with acclamation: 'That the warmest thanks of the Guild be tendered to Mr. A. Paddon Smith for his invaluable services as secretary during the past twenty years.'—On the proposition of Mr. Perrens, Mr. Smith was elected a vice-president.

Ten new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Colehill.

The balance sheet for the past year was received and adopted, the financial position of the Guild being shown to be very satisfactory.

It was decided that the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner should be held at Saturday, March 2nd, next, at the usual time.

A careful note should be made of the new secretary's address: Thomas H. Reeves, 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Winchester District took place at Winchester on January 19th, over fifty members attending from neighbouring towers, including North Stoneham, Wootton Hill, King's Somborne, Highclere, Winchester, Twyford, Stockbridge, Micheldever, Portsmouth, Hursley and Eling.

Ringing took place at the Cathedral and also at St. Maurice's Church, where service was conducted by the Rev. Watson, who gave a splendid address.

After the service, the members adjourned to Messrs. Dumpers' Restaurant, where an ample tea awaited them, the Rev. Watson and Rev. Theophilus, of King's Somborne, joining the company.

The business meeting followed, with the Vicar of St. Maurice's in the chair. All the officers were re-elected, dates and places for the quarterly meetings were fixed, and votes of thanks were passed to the Dean and Chapter for the use of the Cathedral bells, also to the Rev. Watson for the use of St. Maurice's bells. After this an adjournment was made to the towers, where further ringing took place.

(Continued from previous column.)

vantage the mixing of false and true in each extent gives over the original entity. There is a strong suspicion abroad that had the Cambridge Minor been the work of a less illustrious composer than Rev. E. H. James, it would have been laughed out of court. It is on a par with a case that came before the Criminal Court recently. A man was charged with engraving and uttering counterfeit bank notes. So cleverly were the notes engraved that they baffled both counsel and the judge to detect the false from the true, and called forth admiration for the work entailed, but this did not deter the Lord Chief Justice from sentencing the prisoner to penal servitude. The notes were not 'legal tender.' They would go into the museum of curiosities, and that is where the latest Minor and Doubles productions ought to go. Clever, but not 'legal tender.' We assuredly must not accept the cleverest concoction in composition, no matter from whom it emanates, when the same results—the extents—can be obtained in the legitimate manner.—Yours, etc.,

W. WILLSON.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY WILLIAMS, OF HEADINGLEY. A GIFTED CONDUCTOR.

Ringers of Yorkshire have sustained a great loss by the death of Mr. Henry Williams, who for more than thirty years was the conductor of the ringers at St. Michael's, Headingley, Leeds. Born sixty-three years ago, at Wolverley, near Kidderminster, the deceased migrated at an early age to Kidderminster, and was soon identified with a famous band of that period, who made ringing history, under the able leadership of Mr. Richard Groves. His calling, that of a gardener, took him to Leeds rather more than thirty years ago, and it was not long before his commanding personality and wonderful ability gathered round him a band who made a great name for themselves, both as splendid strikers and as pioneers in method ringing. Woe to the unwary visitor to Headingley at that day, who had nothing to commend him beyond a knowledge of a wide variety of methods, for he would be sharply reminded that accurate striking was more important than a plentiful supply of methods.

At that time Headingley was a splendid training ground for the young ringer, and the visitor who showed aptitude and keenness was assured of a great welcome. An outstanding gift of Mr. Williams was the one of rehearsing the whole of the changes in his head while ringing was in progress, and it was no novelty to hear him talk off the changes as they were being rung in some new and abstruse method. At Headingley was rung the first peal of London Surprise in Yorkshire, in 1904, and at that time it was the usual thing to have five Surprise methods rung for Sunday service. On one memorable occasion the writer remembers ringing with the band of that day no fewer than eleven methods on the fine ring of eight at the Priory Church at Bridlington.

The deceased is believed to be the only ringer to conduct a hand-bell peal blindfolded, this performance being well authenticated. In all, Mr. Williams rang 45 peals for the Yorkshire Association, and 35 for his native association of Worcestershire.

Neglect of a chill, contracted early in the year, brought on a sharp attack of pneumonia, culminating in death on January 12th. The funeral took place at Arncliffe Church on the following Tuesday, when the Yorkshire Association was represented by the president (Rev. C. C. Marshall) and many of the principal officers of the association and members. In an address in the church, the Vicar of Arncliffe paid a high tribute to the deceased, and after the final prayers in the church had been said by the president, a well-struck plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the west end of the nave by Messrs. F. Renton, J. Cotterell, P. J. Johnson and J. Broadley. Among the ringers present were Messrs. Arthur Craven, Mr. and Mrs. J. Cotterell, Mr. and Mrs. T. Maude (of Pudsey), Messrs. J. Broadley, E. Wheeler, A. Gill, F. Renton, G. Titterton, J. W. T. Holgate, S. Sadler, W. Whitaker, G. Barraclough and P. J. Johnson.

The deceased will be greatly missed by a very wide circle of friends, and this opportunity is taken of offering deep and sincere sympathy to Mrs. Williams and her daughter in their bereavement.

P. J. J.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER DISTRICT TO HOLD MORE MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Leicester District was held at St. Peter's, Belgrave, on Saturday week. The bells were raised about 3.40 p.m., after which they were kept going to Kent Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major. After tea the belfry was again visited, and many other ringers had by this time arrived. It was pleasing to note a specially large party from Ratby. The bells were soon set going again, the methods rung being Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich. The bells were lowered in peal just before 7.30 p.m.

The ringers then made their way to the Talbot Inn (the place of several former meetings), where the business meeting was held. Mr. A. S. Hains occupied the chair, and 26 members were present. On the proposition of Mr. W. H. Clarke, seconded by Mr. W. Brewin, the local officers were re-elected 'en bloc'.

As the annual general meeting of the M.C.A. falls at Leicester this year, two extra members were elected to the committee to help in making arrangements for this meeting. These were Messrs. Norman S. Bagworth and Rowland Barrow.

The 'general' officers of the association were also renominated.

Five new members were then elected, viz., Mr. Edward C. Turner, of Leicester Cathedral band, three from Ratby, and one from Husbands Bosworth. Mr. Fred Bowley, of Kirby Muxloe, was re-elected a member of the association.

It was decided to try the experiment of holding eight meetings a year instead of four as at present, the idea being to let the annual and quarterly meetings continue as at present, and in between each of these to hold a meeting at some five or six bell tower, now seldom if ever visited, with the hope of raising interest in those quarters. Will members please note, and do their best to support the meetings, the first of which will be at Whetstone.

The meeting close with the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar and towerkeeper, and the remainder of the evening was spent in the way ringers like best.

DEVON GUILD.

BRANCH MEETING AT PAIGNTON.

The annual meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild was held at Paignton on Saturday, ringers being present from Paignton, Collaton, Brixham, Cockington, Torquay, Newton Abbot, Buckfastleigh, Exeter, Lowton and Clyst St. George. The bells were kept going in the Grandsire method during the afternoon, and a service in church was conducted by the Vicar of Paignton (Rev. Prob. H. Mackworth Drake), who gave an excellent address.

Tea was served in the schoolroom, and was followed by the business meeting, presided over by Mr. F. J. Laxton, of Torquay (chairman). A report of the past year's work was presented and adopted.

Messrs. F. J. Laxton and H. J. Hole were both re-elected chairman and secretary respectively, and both suitably returned thanks.

A letter was read from the Vicar of Staverton (Rev. E. D. Drake-Brockman), who was elected an hon. member, inviting the branch to hold a meeting there, and this was accepted, the date chosen being Saturday, May 11th.

A discussion arose as to whether two of the four meetings a year should be informal meetings, and it was agreed to this suggestion.

A discussion also took place as to a suggestion that the Guild inaugurate an annual dinner, and it was decided to support the proposal.

The Chairman moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service, and for his address, also to the organist, and this was carried.

This concluded the business, and the tower was visited again, where touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Shropshire Association was held at Shrewsbury on Saturday last. Over 40 members were present from Clive, Broseley, Coalbrookdale, Wem, Ellesmere, Moreton Corbet, Ludlow, Wellington, Conn, Worthen, Malinslee, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, etc., also visitors from Crewe and Wrexham.

Ringing commenced at St. Mary's, but had to be stopped at 3.15 owing to a service. The members then visited St. Chad's, and rang on the fine peal of twelve until 6 o'clock. Tea was then partaken of in St. Chad's Institute, and the business meeting followed, Mr. F. A. Barnett, of Wem, presiding. Apologies for absence were received from the president and Major Corbett.

The Secretary read the report and presented the balance sheet, which showed a balance in hand of over £40. Six peals have been rung during the year.

The instructor, Mr. W. Short, has resigned on account of ill-health, and it was decided to leave this office vacant for a time.

The Rev. C. B. Crowe, one of the committee, having left the district, the Rev. C. S. Jackson, of Broseley, was elected to this office.

Mr. E. V. Rodenhurst, assistant secretary, asked to be relieved of the duties, and Mr. A. Pritchard was appointed to succeed him. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Rodenhurst for his services.

All the other officers were re-elected, and fourteen new members added to the Guild.

Quarterly meetings for this year are to be held at Wellington, Moreton Corbet, and Whitechurch.

The meeting close with a vote of thanks to the Vicar of St. Chad's for the use of the bells, and the members returned to St. Chad's for further ringing until 9 o'clock. Methods rung during the day were Grandsire Doubles, Triples, Caters, and Cinques, Stedman Caters and Cinques, Bob Royal, and Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal.

NETTLEBED'S IMPROVED BELLS.

The ring of six bells in the village of Nettlebed, Oxon, have recently been put into good ringing order, and on the first Saturday in the new year a band of Diocesan Guild ringers, at the invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. H. G. Harding), journeyed from Reading to try the bells, and to meet the local ringers, who are Guild members.

They found the bells improved almost out of knowledge by their visit to the Whitechapel Foundry for tuning, while the work of re-hanging by Mr. R. White, of Appleton, left nothing to be desired, and ringing there is now a real pleasure.

A 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung in good style by F. Hopgood, H. Tucker, Miss Davis, Rev. C. Jenkyn, R. T. Hibbert, W. Hibbert, jun., after which several 120's of Doubles were rung with the local men, finishing with a touch of Oxford Bob Minor. The whole party then adjourned to the Village Hall, where they were most hospitably entertained to tea by the Vicar and Mrs. Harding.

When at length it was time to return from the snow-clad heights to the Thames Valley it was agreed by all that they had spent a really good afternoon.

GUILDFORD.—On January 24th, at St. Nicolas Church, for evening, on the eve of the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, 1,335 Stedman Caters: F. Radford 1, C. Hazelden 2, C. N. Burdock 3, E. A. Etheridge 4, Mrs. Hazelden 5, W. W. Thorne 6, G. Tomsett 7, E. Radford 8, S. Radford (conductor) 9, R. Radford 10.

MINGLING AND COMMINGLING.

BY IRENEUS PISTOR.

Sunday, January 20th, is set down in the memoranda of the writer, firstly because it was the dedication day of a pair of 'silver trumpets' at St. Wilfred's, West Hallam, Yorks; secondly, because one into whom he inculcated the first rudiments of the art and science 'fell over' him without a word of apology or a kindly 'cheerio,' but passed by on the other side, like the Levite of old. Such 'chimed ill' with the mingling and the commingling music of the glorious little octave, whose trebles merrily sing out 'TAY-LOR' before 345678, which contain the metal of a mediæval ring cast by the Heathcotes, of Chesterfield, metal cast by Hy. Oldfield in 1618, and metal cast by Warner 1878.

Gone are those items mentioned in the Edwardian inventory, mingling and commingling in one homogeneity in the back six. Gone are those who indented their signatures to the memoranda—which was given to the officers of the 'Boy King'—mingling and commingling are their crumbling dust, gone to the bosom of Mother Earth. Mingling and commingling 'neath a richly-earned altar tomb in the north side of the chancel lies all that is left of the once mighty Powtrells; yet, reader, mingling and commingling in that congregation were the descendants of those whose names were inscribed in the parochial registers of St. Wilfred's, when the noble House of Powtrell held sway over the parish and manor. Mingling and commingling with those assembled to witness the simple and soul-stirring dedication were the shades of those who had gone before. They passed and repassed, like some phantasm, before the broken and shattered easements of the writer.

Mingling and commingling, nevertheless (at my elbow), in one's own flesh, ran the blood of Elizabeth Toplice, whose transgressions had been mystically washed away at that massive octagonal font, which was at that time some 300 years old. Lizzie, not content with the primary rite, didst, with love such as only West Hallam damsels can bestow—beguile one Robert Carryer, whom she married in 1658. Mingling and commingling in the veins of a ringer—who sat in the rear of the writer, at the base of that embattled tower which was rebuilt by the Powtrells—ran that which was a lifegiving stream in the earthly habitation of Cassandra Hodges (daughter of one Richard and Ann Hunt), who was born in 1648.

Gone are the Powtrells, Portes, and the Doughtys, yet there remaineth living witness of the humble Elizabeth and the meek Cassandra, mingling and commingling. Risen phoenix-like from the ashes of the past to a further life—let us hope—of centuries, are those bells which mingled and commingled with the very life, work and worship of Elizabeth Toplice and Cassandra Hunt, mingling and commingling with the round, soft and velvety tone of the increased peal, rings out in clarion accents the words chosen by the Lord Bishop of Derby for his text on this day of days, and taken from 1 Cor. ix. 16: 'Vae Mihi Si Non Evangelisavero.' Ah, reader, 'Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel'—truth—for there is no 'nasal twang' in either this light peal of Taylor's which graces the steeple of St. Wilfred's, or in that very triumphant example of Loughborough fame, which adorns the Minister of Ebor.

'Nasal twang' is obviously mingling and commingling in the 'cheap receiving set,' owned by the Limited Company, who adversely criticise the noble peal at York.

Thanks, Mr. Editor, for your indulgence, but, finally, may I offer a hint to the owners of the 'cheap set'? If the nozzle of the village blacksmith's bellows is inserted into the lower end of the lateral curvature of the spine of the loud speaker, and about two pulls are administered, it will remove all fragments of old conversations, debates, and French lessons, that are mingling and commingling, without question, therein.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 20th, at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, for evening service, 1,248 Pudsey Surprise Major: T. Walker 1, Miss Freda Orr 2, C. Roberts 3, W. Madgwick 4, E. Pike 5, W. Hewett 6, J. Kentish 7, J. E. Davis (conductor) 8.

UXBRIDGE.—At St. Andrew's Church, on January 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grand sire Triples in 44 mins.: William R. Gutteridge (first quarter-peal) 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, J. H. Lucas 3, R. Warnett 4, E. G. Swift 5, P. E. Jones 6, F. Corke (conductor) 7, C. Nicholls 8.

ROCK FERRY, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday, January 13th, at St. Peter's Church, for evening service, 720 of Bob Minor: Miss D. I. Leatham 1, Miss M. Cooke 2, Miss E. M. Cooke 3, T. Birch 4, J. Cooke 5, W. Dean (conductor) 6. This was arranged to enable the three lady ringers to ring a 720 altogether.

LATE NOTICE.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Ravenshorpe on Saturday, February 9th. Usual arrangements.—K. J. Cater, Althorp Park Station, East Haddon.

NOTICES.

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

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

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, February 2nd. Bells from 3 p.m. Service, with address by the Vicar (Rev. R. C. Evill) at 5. Tea, 1s. per member (non-members 1s. 3d.), at 5.30. Business meeting to follow. All ringers cordially invited.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

BEDFORD ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bedford, on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting.—W. Stapleton, Dis. Sec., 24, New Fenlake, Bedford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Reports to hand; subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, February 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Cheap trains to Boxmoor—then regular bus service. All are welcome.—W. Ayre, Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea, followed by business meeting in the Church Room, after service. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at the meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—The annual meeting will be held at Carisbrooke on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Waverley Hotel.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.W.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The third quarterly meeting will be held at Loughborough on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. The bells of All Saints' (10) and Foundry (10) available all afternoon. By the courtesy of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. the bellfoundry will be open to visitors. Committee meet 4 p.m. at Fearon Hall. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, 5 p.m., at Fearon Hall. General meeting follows.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at the Institute at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—The annual meeting will be held at Burnham-on-Sea on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea. All ringers welcome.—L. G. Tanner, Local Hon. Sec., 51, Locking Road, Weston-super-Mare.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hitchin on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5.30, followed by business meeting. Will all members who have not yet paid their subscriptions please endeavour to do so at this meeting, as it is the last meeting of the year? If you are requiring tea, a card will be appreciated. Thank you! — Donald C. Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., The School House, Offley, Hitchin.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — A billiard match and social will be held at the Bolton Borough Police Club, Old Hall Street, Bolton, on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Club open 6 p.m. (Names, please).—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

HANSLOPE, BUCKS.—A peal board, presented by the ringers who took part in the peal of Bob Minor rung on July 14th last, will be dedicated by the Vicar (Rev. W. J. Harkness) on Saturday, Feb. 2nd, at 3.30 p.m. The bells will be available for ringing from 2.45.—P. Amos, 47, Overstone Road, Northampton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Butterwick on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Divine service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Business meeting directly after tea.—John Phillips, Hon. Sec., School House, Butterwick, Boston, Lincs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Hindley St. Peter's on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6. A good attendance is requested. — James W. Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Next meeting will be held at Penistone, February 2nd. Bells open early. For tea please advise Mr. James Tinker, Church Street, Penistone, as early as possible. — R. Harrison, Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch. — The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Reading on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. The bells of St. Giles' available from 3 p.m. Application has been made for St. Lawrence's. A ringers' service will be held at St. Giles' at 5 p.m., to be followed by a meat tea. Business meeting and smoking concert at the Rising Sun Coffee House, Silver Street, at 6 p.m. Tickets 1s. each.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Sec., 75, Kensington Road, Reading.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30.—A. S. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredonbury.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, must be paid before February 28th. Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Feb. 5th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 7th; St. Magnus' on the 14th and 28th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 19th; Southwark Cathedral on the 21st; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Canterbury on Saturday, Feb. 9th. A special service will be held at St. Alphege Church at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Oddfellows' Hall, Orange Street, at 5.15. The Cathedral bells will be available after 4 p.m. Will all those intending to be present kindly notify me on or before Thursday, Feb. 7th? Members' subscriptions for 1929 are now due, and may be paid at this meeting.—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Sec., Fair View, Littlebourne, Canterbury.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will take place on Saturday, Feb. 9th, the bells of St. Clement Danes' being available from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., after which a short service will be held. There will be a tea and meeting after the service at the Parish Hall. The bells of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East will also be available during the afternoon. Meetings for February: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, the 3rd, at 10 a.m.; Monday, the 11th and 25th, at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 19th, at 8 p.m.—S. C. Moye, Gen. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —A meeting will be held at Leesfield, Oldham, on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Reports and new rules and diagrams to hand. A peal board commemorating a peal by the local band will be unveiled at this meeting.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —The usual monthly meeting will be held at Childwall on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. each (Childwall Abbey), 6 p.m. Those requiring tea must notify me on or before Tuesday, Feb. 5th.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunabin Road, Wavertree.

PETERBOROUGH AND LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILDS.—A joint quarterly meeting of the Peterborough and Southern Branches will be held at St. Martin's, Stamford, on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Will those requiring tea please make their own arrangements, as there are several restaurants?—C. T. H. Bradley, Folkingham, Lincs, and W. H. Waldron, 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough, Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Alton on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells at the Parish Church available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in St. Lawrence Church Room at 5. Those requiring tea kindly notify me by Feb. 7th.—B. C. Taylor, Binsted Vicarage, Alton.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Chertsey District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Chertsey on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow in Church Room. Will all those who require tea notify me by Tuesday, Feb. 5th? — H. J. Chaffey, Upper Childdown, Longcross, Chertsey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Members entertained to tea by the Vicar and churchwardens. Those requiring same please notify me by the 5th inst.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch. — A meeting will be held at Buckland on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Tower open 2.30. Service 3.30. Those requiring tea must notify the secretary, G. A. Webley, Faringdon, by previous Thursday.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Spalding on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 6.30 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by Feb. 6th?—George Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—A meeting will be held at Newton St. Cyres on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Bells (6) available; also Upton Pyne (6) and Crediton (8). All ringers welcome.—Miss E. Lomas, Hon. Sec., Sandfords, Whimble, Devon.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Royden (Herts) on Saturday, Feb. 9th, at 3 p.m. Arrangements as usual. Those requiring tea kindly notify me. — C. Beeston, 5, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, Feb. 9th. The bells (8) will be ready at 2.45 p.m.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Compton on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. at 1s. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify the Rev. C. M. Jotcham, The Parsonage, Compton, Newbury, not later than Wednesday, Feb. 6th, for tea.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch. — The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Martock on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. Kindly say not later than Tuesday, Feb. 5th, how many we may expect from your tower for tea.—F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., North Street, Martock.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Pre-Lent meeting will be held at Blaydon on Feb. 9th. Bells of Blaydon and Winlaton will be available after 2.30. Committee meeting at 4.30 and tea at 5 o'clock at the Co-operative Café. Will members intending to be present please advise me by Feb. 7th?—George S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Hereford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Hereford on Saturday, Feb. 9th. City bells available during afternoon and evening. Service, All Saints, 4.15. Tea, Booth Hall, 5 p.m. Please notify me not later than Feb. 5th. — A. Gwynne, Dis. Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Preston St. Mark's on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Teas at 1s. 6d. a head to all who notify Mr. J. Eccleston, 8, Mafeking Road, Ashton-on-Ribble, not later than Feb. 5th. — Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Monk Bretton on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells ready early. Tea can be provided if sufficient number apply before Feb. 7th to C. D. Potter, Prospect Villa, High Street, Royston, Barnsley.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Sandy on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good attendance is requested.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District and Romney Marsh and District Guild.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Tenterden on Saturday, Feb. 16th, by kind permission of the Rev. M. L. Mann (Vicar). Tower available 2.30. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea at 5.30 and business meetings. All ringers welcome. A card to either secretary by the 14th would be appreciated.—Kent County Association, A. C. Kay, 6, Sturges Road, Ashford; Romney Marsh Guild, A. Battin, Heronden Hall Gardens, Tenterden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Bingham on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Will all those requiring tea please notify me not later than Feb. 13th, without fail?—F. W. Bailey, Local Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Gorton, on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting 7 o'clock. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand. Hoping to have a good attendance.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Feb. 23rd, meeting at Watford (8). Ringing from 4 p.m. Tea 6 p.m. Cheap trains to Watford from all stations.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. Tel. City 4270.

MARRIAGE.

BIBBY—SUMMERFIELD. — At St. Lawrence's Church, Frodsham, on Saturday, Jan. 26th, Francis Bibby to Hannah (Annie) Summerfield. New address: Abbots Acre, Townfield Lane, Frodsham.

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WIVELISCOMBE.—On January 23rd, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), Carter's Twelve-part composition: W. J. Greedy 1, J. Parkman 2, W. A. J. Knight (first quarter-peal as conductor) 3, A. E. Barrington 4, H. Rawle 5, J. Hartnell 6, W. Hartnell 7, S. Furze 8.

AMBLESIDE, WESTMORLAND.—On Tuesday, January 15th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 55 mins.: W. Robinson 1, A. W. Brighton (London) 2, W. Nevinson 3, E. Jennings 4, F. Hindle (Blackburn) 5, T. E. Hewertson 6, T. B. Newton (conductor) 7, W. Fisher 8.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**ELECTION OF OFFICERS.**

The annual meeting of the Barnsley and District Association was held at Barnsley on Saturday, January 12th. The bells of St. Mary's Church were ringing early in the afternoon, and service was held in the Lady Chapel at 4.30. Rev. Canon Hone, M.A., Rural Dean, was the preacher, and took for his text the words, 'Rejoice with them that do rejoice, weep with them that weep, being of one mind one towards another.' His application of the text towards ringers' associations was admirably put. The upward path to great success in the art of change ringing must always be attended with trials, failures and disappointments, but unity of purpose, faith in one another, rejoicing with those who win, weeping with those who lose, would eventually create that union in which all would be of one mind one towards another.

Mr. W. Palmer (Badworth), a former president, presided at the organ, and the service was much appreciated, and joined in heartily.

A tea was provided in St. Mary's Parish Room, about 34 ringers and several ladies sitting down. Afterwards, the business meeting was held, Canon Hone taking the chair. Letters of apology were read from Mr. A. Hartley and Vice-President W. Reynier (Sandal), who were unwell and unable to attend, also from Mr. Geo. Lewis, who was that day attending the funeral of Mr. Evinson, a Sheffield ringer.

A letter was received from Canon and Mrs. Hone, thanking the members for a beautiful photo of the association's garden party held in July last, when Bishop Eden attended.

Further business concerned the ringing contests to be held during the coming year, but the discussion was not so general as one would have expected on such matters. Members seemed to prefer to let the bells give a pronounced answer at the actual contest, so matters will go on much as before.

There was only one nomination for president—Mr. A. Nash, Wath. This nomination of a popular, practical and active ringer was promptly and unanimously carried. For the office of treasurer, Mr. A. Panther was re-elected, and the same applied to the office of secretary, to which Mr. D. Potter was reappointed.

The auditors (Messrs. A. Nash and A. Goldthorpe) announced that the financial report of the treasurer had been found correct and in good order, and these were passed by the meeting.

No application being to hand for next place of meeting, the secretary was requested to secure Monk Bretton.

Canon Hone was warmly thanked for all his work for, and interest in, the association.

Further ringing followed, and completed one of the best meetings ever held by the association.

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