

THE RINGING WORLD

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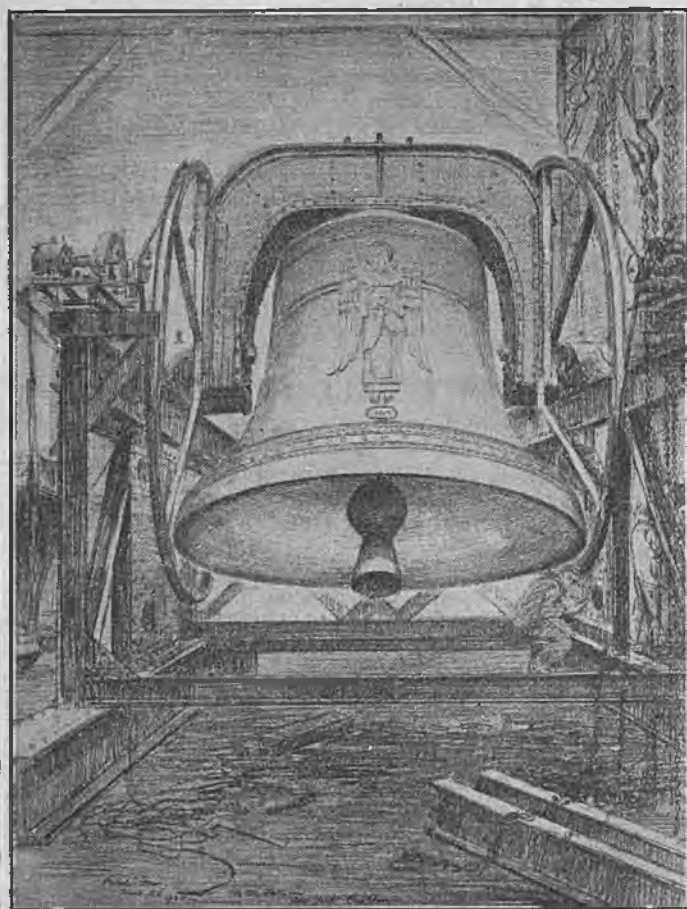
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ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS.

Time and again we have urged the need of some kind of register of compositions, and time and again there arise incidents which demonstrate how needful such a register really is. Not infrequently there is open dispute as to the rights of authorship; often, we are convinced, compositions are attributed to composers who have no right to them according to the recognised practice of the Exercise. In the latter category there are many instances, of course, in which the composers have obtained their figures by perfectly independent work, but they have no right to authorship, because earlier composers had secured the same peals, and it has to be borne in mind that even variations of a previous composition cannot always be allowed to claim 'originality.'

We are prompted to return to this subject again by the appearance in the Lancashire Association's annual report of a composition of Double Norwich in five parts, with bobs at 1 and 6 only, except for one solitary bob at 4 in the first course of each part. We thought it was a pretty well recognised fact that anything new on this plan was out of the question. The peal under notice has probably been composed at least a hundred times, in different methods, and we have consigned it to the wastepaper basket at least a score of times. Probably Henry Hubbard, who composed an exactly similar peal of Double Norwich to this 70 years ago, has the best title to it, and none of the variations that have appeared since have been any improvement upon it. Even so, it is more than likely that this simple nine course plan was rung to Bob Major long before Hubbard's time; indeed, we should not be surprised to learn that old Ben Annable himself had discovered it.

It may be disappointing to a composer, after a genuinely independent effort, to find that he is not the first, but the last of many in the field, but that does not alter the fact that a composition, appearing in a widely circulated medium such as the Lancashire Association's report, is likely to be rung and the record passed on to posterity as according credit to someone not actually entitled to it. The difficulty, as we have so often pointed out, is that the new composer has no means ready to hand by which he can ascertain if his work is really original or not. The Central Council has in its possession a large nucleus for a register of compositions such as we suggest; but, while the register is already badly needed, and as time progresses, will become more and more necessary, it will not be easy to find those who would be able to undertake the task. In our view, however, it is a matter of sufficient importance to demand attention, and, if necessary, the Council should pay for the work to be done.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5147 CHANGES;

TOM PRICE Treble	ARTHUR PRINCE 7
THOMAS BALDWIN 2	WILLIAM STAITER 8
WILLIAM IRELAND 3	ALFRED HANNIS 9
JAMES GEORGE 4	GEORGE D. HARRIS 10
CHARLES J. GARDINER 5	JOHN BALLINGER 11
ALBERT WRIGHT 6	HARRY BOSWELL Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 7, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPILLARS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

FREDERICK H. DEXTER Treble	WILLIAM WILLSON 6
SAMUEL COTTON 2	WILLIAM H. CLARKE 7
PERCY H. HARRISON 3	J. RICHARD GRANT 8
CYRIL HOWITT 4	RICHARD F. DEAL 9
E. HARRY STONELEY 5	JOHN T. GRANT Tenor

Composed by H. W. HALEY. Conducted by RICHARD F. DEAL.

* First peal in the method.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPILLARS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in D flat.

HAROLD JACKSON Treble	EDWARD JENKINS 6
THOMAS B. WORSLEY 2	TITUS BARLOW 7
TOM WILDE 3	ALLEN F. BAILEY 8
ALBERT J. HUGHES 4	ARTHUR E. PEGLAR 9
WILLIAM HORAN 5	PETER LAFLIN Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

Arranged and rung as a 78th birthday compliment to Mrs. Laflin, mother of the ringer of the tenor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
WALTER P. CROSS 2	EDWARD S. T. FARR 6
THOMAS SMITH 3	WILLIAM WELLING 7
FREDERICK TINDALL 4	LEONARD STILWELL Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM WELLING.

Arranged in honour of the 38th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. T. Smith and the 13th of the wedding of the conductor.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 11, 1929, in Three Hours and one Minute

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

A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

*ROBERT SWIFT Treble	*REGINALD V. JOHNSON 5
*GEORGE OLLIVER 2	*CECIL NICE 6
*NELSON ELLIOTT 3	†ALFRED J. BULL 7
*KENNETH SNELLING 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

* First peal in the method. † First peal 'inside' in the method.

BRADFORD, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 3, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D flat.

MRS. J. COTTERILL Treble	THOMAS B. KENDAL 5
GEORGE TITTERINGTON 2	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK 6
JAMES COTTERILL 3	EDWARD JENKINS 7
JOSEPH BROADLEY 4	*FREDERICK SEAGER Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal of Bob Major. Arranged and rung, after meeting short for Royal, to celebrate 51 years' ringing association between Messrs. G. Titterington and J. Broadley.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, December 11, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

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

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

Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb. in A flat.

WILLIAM H. JOHNSON Treble	STEPHEN W. STRATFORD 5
*ROBERT ANDERSON 2	ADAM DEAS 6
JOHN ANDERSON 3	*HENRY B. TAYLOR 7
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON 4	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor

Composed by WM. WILLSON.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER

* First peal in the method.

TETTENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, December 11, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ROBERT PICKERING Treble	*HAROLD J. LOCKLEY 5
THOMAS E. TAYLOR 2	ARTHUR BENNETT 6
KENNETH C. TAYLOR 3	BENJAMIN DALTON 7
JACK W. TAYLOR 4	THOMAS W. BATE Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT PICKERING.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. J. Lockley, also on the anniversary of A. Bennett's wedding. All are Sunday service ringers at the above church.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT & BOWDON BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 12, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BANKS' No. 1.

ROBERT LEES Treble	GILES E. SHAW 5
JOHN SINESTER 2	CHARLES WOOD 6
ALBERT HODGSON 3	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 7
SAMUEL FIELDING 4	ALFRED ROBERTS Tenor

Conducted by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER Treble	ERNEST W. FURBANK 5
CHARLES T. COLES 2	GEORGE R. PYE 6
JOHN G. NASH 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
CHARLES W. BIRD 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 12, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*JOHN MARSDEN Treble	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 5
THOMAS CHAMBERS 2	WILLIAM MILLER 6
*NORMAN KENYON 3	JOHN SANDERSON 7
JOHN HADFIELD 4	JOSEPH A. TOMLINSON Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS CHAMBERS.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

HEDON, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 12, 1929, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb.

JACK E. CONSTABLE Treble	GEORGE DOWLING 5
HARRY RODMELL 2	JOHN W. HOBSON 6
GEORGE F. WILLIAMS 3	ARTHUR E. WEST 7
ALBERT E. SELLERS 4	LEONARD RODMELL Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS.

Conducted by GEORGE F. WILLIAMS

First peal in the method on the bells.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

*FREDERICK A. COLEY Treble	*FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JDN. 5
CHARLES W. ROBERTS 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 6
*WILFRED WILLIAMS 3	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

WOOBURN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

*FRED BINCHAM Treble	JAMES W. WILKINS 5
FRED BIGGS 2	ROLAND BIGGS 6
WILLIAM E. TAYLOR 3	GEORGE GILBERT 7
*PERCY NEWTON 4	FRANK WEST Tenor

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

* First peal and first attempt. This was the conductor's 200th peal.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

*NELSON SARGENT Treble	JOHN NOBES 5
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK 2	ALBERT E. LOCK 6
MISS STELLA DAVIS 3	GORDON CAUDWELL 7
JONATHAN HONEY 4	†CHARLES R. BETTERIDGE Tenor

Conducted by GORDON CAUDWELL.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal of Triples. First peal of Stedman Triples as conductor.

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BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S THREE-PART, No 2.

Tenor 13 cwt.

STEPHEN H. HOARE Treble	FRANCIS A. SMITH 5
JOSEPH J. ALLEN 2	WILLIAM SEELEY 6
CAPT. J. H. R. FREEBORN ... 3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 7
PERCY PARLOW 4	* WILLIAM CROSS Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT.

* First peal. The conductor has now called peals of Stedman Triples of from one to seven parts, inclusive, and is the first to do so.

CREWE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS Treble	RICHARD T. HOLDING 5
HARRY F. HOLDING 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 6
HARRY OVERTON 3	WILLIAM EDGE 7
HAROLD EDWARDS 4	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

H. F. Holding's 100th peal, 83 of which have been rung with the conductor.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Saviour,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES,

Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in E flat.

NORMAN S. BAGWORTH ... Treble	HAROLD JENNEY 5
* CYRIL F. HOWITT 2	RICHARD F. DEAL 6
PERCY HARRISON 3	HARRY BROUGHTON 7
WILLIAM WILLSON, SEN. ... 4	HAROLD J. POOLE Tenor

Composed by FRED H. DEXTER.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE

* First peal in the method 'inside.' Arranged for Mr. Richard F. Deal, of London.

SOUTHPORT.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At Christ Church,

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

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES MARCH Treble	JAMES W. GROUNDS 5
JOHN BOOTH 2	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 6
ARTHUR HAGUE 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 7
LADRENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD Tenor

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

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. James Hesketh, for many years churchwarden at the above church, who was interred the same day.

UTTOXETER, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

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

Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES DRAPER Treble	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE ... 5
JOHN H. SWINFELD 2	ARTHUR BRAINS 6
ALBERT H. WARD 3	EDWARD C. GOBEY 7
JOSEPH BAILEY 4	EDWIN H. STONELEY Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by ALBERT H. WARD.

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BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight-and-a-Half Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

EDWARD ROBBINS Treble	HAROLD KENT 5
JOHN HOLMAN 2	* JOHN A. BRARLEY 6
CHARLES MASON 3	JOHN H. BROTHWELL 7
THOMAS BETTISON 4	JOHN FLINT Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* First peal of Surprise.

PRESTBURY.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt. in F sharp.

* JAMES BOWERS Treble	† JACK TIPPER 5
ARTHUR CHALLINOR 2	JOHN WORTH 6
FRANK L. RONAN 3	WILLIAM GAYES 7
WILFRED STEVENSON 4	† JACK WAUMSLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples as conductor. Treble ringer was elected a member before starting.

GORTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At Brookfield Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

* ARNOLD FEARNHEAD ... Treble	CHARLES OLLIER 5
* EDWARD MAWBY 2	* ERNEST SEDDON 6
JAMES CARTER 3	BENJAMIN THORP 7
ALBERT G. GORRINGE ... 4	JOHN FEARNHEAD Tenor

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

* First peal. First peal of Stedman by all except the conductor. J. Carter was elected a member of the association prior to starting for the peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to E. Mawby.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

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

Tenor 19½ cwt.

HORACE BELCHER Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
WILLIAM WELLING 2	FRANK CORKE 6
ROBERT A. FARDON 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 4	ARTHUR HARDING Tenor

Composed and Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

This peal was arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Harding on the occasion of their silver wedding, and the band wish to thank them for their kind hospitality after the peal. This is believed to be the first peal of Double Norwich on the bells.

CALNE, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

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

Tenor 26 cwt. (approx.).

SIDNEY HILLIER Treble	LOUIS A. WILSON 5
ERNEST TRUMAN 2	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 6
SIDNEY WILTSHIRE 3	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 7
ERNEST BISHOP 4	FRED LAMBETH Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM WILLSON.

Conducted by FRED LAMBETH

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. H. Burry, captain of the local ringers. First peal of Major on the bells. The composition contains all the 746's, 756's, Tittum's, Queen's, and Whittington's changes, and the 6th its extent home. Mr. and Mrs. Burry kindly entertained the band and local ringers to tea after the peal.

CRESWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

FREDERICK E. PARSONS ... Treble	HERBERT T. ROOKE ... 5
GEORGE L. CHAMBERS ... 2	LESLIE W. BACON ... 6
*ALFRED H. WHITE ... 3	JOHN L. BLEBY ... 7
WILLIAM T. PALMER ... 4	L. WILLIAM JACQUES ... Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM WILLSON. Conducted by L. W. JACQUES.

* First peal and first attempt, and elected a member previous to starting the peal.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

FREDERICK F. MORTLOCK Treble	FREDERICK A. POULSON ... 5
WILLIAM R. J. POULSON ... 2	LAWRENCE POULSON ... 6
STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 3	ARTHUR SYMONDS ... 7
*WILFRED JARVIS ... 4	THEODORE E. SLATER ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

* First peal on tower bells. Rung in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Duke of York. This peal contains the 6th its extent home throughout, Queen's, Whittington's, and most of the 4-6-8 and 5-6-8 music.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

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

Tenor 18½ cwt.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Treble	EDWARD H. SPICE ... 5
*RICHARD A. CONSTANT ... 2	*HENRY HOVERD ... 6
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... 3	JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 7
JOHN WHEADON ... 4	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL Tenor

Composed by J. H. CHEESMAN. Conducted by E. BARNETT SEN.

* First peal 'inside' in the method. Birthday peal for H.R.H. the Duke of York, also for Gordon Alec, the son of the ringer of the tenor and Mrs. Mitchell.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

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

Tenor 11½ cwt. in A.

SAMUEL WARNE ... Treble	WILLIAM KERBLE ... 5
BASIL REDGWELL ... 2	GEORGE GREEN ... 6
WILLIAM LINCOLN ... 3	DR. SPENCER PHILLIPS ... 7
ALBERT WIFFEN ... 4	LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. FIRSTOW. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. G. T. Batram, the 'G.O.M.' of Braintree, who was presented the previous evening with a testimonial in recognition of 50 years' continuous public services.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... Treble	ALFRED BALLARD ... 5
ERNEST MORRIS ... 2	LEONARD E. TOWERS ... 6
REV. R. P. FARROW, M.A. ... 3	C. HENRY WEBB ... 7
CHARLES H. BRIGGS ... 4	GEORGE A. NEWTON ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Specially arranged as a 21st birthday compliment to Alfred Ballard. The ringer of 7th has now rung each bell in this tower to a peal. The 25th peal together this year by ringers of 1-2-5.

OVER, CAMBS.—At the Parish Church, on Monday, December 9th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: H. Robinson 1, Wm. Bavin (first inside) 2, A. W. T. Ginn 3, F. C. Ginn 4, F. Warrington (conductor) 5, F. G. Gleaves 6. In a 720 of Kent, G. Whybrow and D. Adams scored their first of Treble Bob.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

SHREWTON, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 17, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 8½ cwt.

WILLIAM R. BAXTER ... Treble	SAMUEL J. HECTOR ... 4
WILLIAM LOUD ... 2	NORMAN V. ANDREWS ... 5
*FREDERICK PRECEY ... 3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS ... Tenor

Conducted by C. F. ANDREWS.

* First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the son of the ringer of the 3rd.

THORNHAM MAGNA.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob.

NOLAN GOLDEN ... Treble	ERIC BENNETT ... 4
RAYMOND GRANT ... 2	DAVID WHITING ... 5
ALPHAUS J. BERRY ... 3	WILLIAM STEGGALL ... Tenor

Conducted by W. STEGGALL.

KIRKBY, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 30, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 3,600 changes of Grandsire and 1,440 Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

FRED W. KNOWLES ... Treble	HUBERT BAILEY ... 3
ARTHUR SMITHSON ... 2	BERNARD BAILEY ... 4
WILFRED RILEY ... 3	... Tenor

Conducted by FRED W. KNOWLES.

The peal was rung as a birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

BLACKWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 7, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 1,440 changes of St. Simon's, 2,400 Grandsire and 1,200 Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*HARRY PEAT ... Treble	ERNEST MALLENDER ... 3
ARTHUR SMITHSON ... 2	BERNARD PORTER ... 4
FRED W. KNOWLES ... 3	... Tenor

Conducted by FRED W. KNOWLES.

* First peal. The treble and 4th ringers were elected members of above association previous to starting.

KISLINGBURY, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 11, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 6040 CHANGES;

With ten different callings.

FRANK BURGESS ... Treble	ISAAC BENNETT ... 3
*FRED BROWNING ... 2	THOMAS WISE ... 4
GEORGE PARKER ... 3	... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS WISE.

* First peal on a working bell. First peal on the bells since being rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

HUISH CHAMPFLOWER, SOMERSET.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 6040 CHANGES;

A. TOUT ... Treble	JESSE TOUT ... 4
H. PURCHASE ... 2	WALTER SMITH ... 5
*F. BEER ... 3	A. TURNER ... Tenor

Conducted by W. SMITH.

* First attempt. First peal as conductor.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's of Oxford and Kent, each called differently, the 4th 720 being spliced at the 360. Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILSON ALLIN Treble	GEORGE E. ALLIN 4
ERNEST WILSON 2	CORNELIUS J. PARTRIDGE ... 5
SAMUEL HURDLE 3	JOHN W. ENGLAND Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. ALLIN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Canon F. J. Adams, who passed away earlier in the week, and was formerly Vicar of Sutton-in-Ashfield. This peal is believed to be now rung for the first time for the M.C.A. C. J. Partridge has now rung a peal on every bell in the tower.

COLNE ENGAIN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, and Plain Bob, and two 720's each of Kent and Oxford. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JAMES FLEOTY Treble	FRANK CLAYDON 4
ARTHUR SANDERS 2	JAMES FRENCH 5
FREDERICK RIDGWELL ... 3	WALTER ARNOLD Tenor

Conducted by W. ARNOLD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble and 5th.

GRAFTON, UNDERWOOD, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 14, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twelve six-scores of Plain Bob, and thirty six-scores of Grand-sire. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr.

*FRANK ROBINSON Treble	ROBERT G. BLACK 3
†LEONARD TOSELAND ... 2	*FREDERICK TOOLEY 4
†REGINALD BUTCHER Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD BUTCHER.

* First peal. † First peal on an 'inside' bell. First peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEAL.

STOCKPORT.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT 23, GREEK STREET.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

HAROLD JACKSON 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
FREDERICK PAGE 3-4	MORRIS J. MORRIS 7-8

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by ALLEN F. BAILEY
Witness—PETER LAFLIN.

BROADCAST RINGING AND CHIMING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am pleased to see that my letter to the 'Radio Times' on the above subject has been noticed and approved of by listening ringers. I doubt, however, whether the B.B.C. will trouble to act on my suggestion, which I made with the sole object of trying to point out to the many listeners, uninitiated in ringing, that what they so often hear on Sundays broadcast from St. Martin's-in-the-Fields is not ringing, whereas that from other towers generally is; they can then be their own judges of the difference.

While on this subject I should be glad to know if the bells of St. Martin's ever do ring? If so, I should like to hear them in peal, through the medium of my set, as the back eight appear to be of good tone, but the strange weird tones of the trebles, that one hears on the wireless, make me think a little 'Simpson tuning' would be an advantage. Has any other listener noticed this peculiarity?—Yours,

P. C. TURNER.

Newmarket.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT NETHERTON.

The quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held on Saturday, December 7th, at St. Andrew's Church, Netherton, Worcs, and was very well attended. The bells were placed at the disposal of the members from three o'clock, and were kept going merrily until service, which was held in the Parish Church. The Guild's special form was used, the service being conducted by the Vicar of Netherton (Rev. H. C. Kemp), who also gave a very interesting address. At the close of the service an adjournment was made to the School House, where an excellent tea was in readiness, and, needless to say, full justice was done to the good things provided. The funds for the tea were obtained by subscriptions from St. Andrew's parishioners, collected by Mr. Albert Prestidge, sen.

The business meeting followed, at which the chair was occupied by the Vicar, who was supported by Messrs. W. S. Sidaway (Vicar's warden) and E. Baker (people's warden). The Chairman said how pleased he was to meet them, and on behalf of himself, the wardens and Church Council he gave them a hearty welcome to Netherton.

After business of a routine character had been disposed of, several new members were added to the roll, including the church-wardens, who readily consented to their names to be added to the list of honorary members.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting, which is the annual one, at Dudley, on Saturday, March 1st.

It was also decided to attempt the quarterly peal at Netherton, the date and other arrangements being left in the hands of the Ringing Master (Mr. John Goodman, jun.). The question of the Guild's monthly practice was again discussed, and it was arranged that the practice be again proceeded with on the first Monday in each month, meeting at 7.45 p.m., at Dudley Parish Church.

On the motion of Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. James George, a welcome was extended to Mr. Harry Mason after a long absence.—Mr. Mason feelingly replied. He said he had received many letters from his ringing friends, and he very much appreciated their kindness. He had written to a few, but at the moment he had been unable to reply to all, and he hoped they would accept his appreciation and thanks. Mr. Mason proposed that compliments and congratulations be given to Mr. James George on having recently attained his 76th birthday, also to Mr. John Goodman, sen., 'father' of the Dudley band, with the hope that they might be spared for many years yet to come.—Mr. George briefly thanked the members for their congratulations, and Mr. John Goodman, jun., replied on behalf of his father, who was unable to be present.

The secretary mentioned that since their last meeting the Rev. Dr. Swindell, the venerable Vicar of Sedgley, had passed on, and on behalf of the members he had sent a letter of sympathy and respect to the family of the deceased gentleman. The Chairman proposed that the secretary's action be endorsed, and the motion was carried in silence, the members standing.

At the close of the meeting, on the proposition of Mr. Mason, seconded by Mr. S. J. Hughes, and supported by Mr. J. George, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of Netherton for his kindness in granting permission to hold the meeting at his church, also for conducting the service and for his admirable and interesting address, for the use of the tower and bells, and the School House in which to hold the meeting, also to the wardens for their attendance and interest, and to the organist for the musical part of the service. A special vote of thanks was given to Mr. Albert Prestidge for his work in making the necessary arrangements for the tea and meeting, and to Mrs. Prestidge and the ladies who assisted her in preparing and serving the tea and who looked after the comfort of all present. Thanks are also added to those who subscribed to the tea fund, and to all who had in any way assisted in making the meeting a happy and successful one.—Mr. Prestidge thanked the members for their vote of thanks, and said that it was a pleasure for him to be of service.—Mr. Churchwarden Sidaway also thanked the members, and said what a pleasure it had been for him to be with them that afternoon.—Mr. Churchwarden Baker briefly thanked the members, and said people missed a lot by not knowing anything about their bells or bellringers. It was a pleasure to him to be with them that afternoon, and he would look forward to meeting them again.—The Vicar also responded. Afterwards some of the members again returned to the belfry and kept the bells going in various methods, and so ended a happy and enjoyable meeting.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Saturday last, at Holy Trinity Church, Old Hill, Staffs, an attempt was made for a peal of Grand-sire Triples, but owing to the bad 'go' of some of the bells, it was brought round at half-way (2,520 changes): B. Gough 1, P. Hackett 2, G. Swallow 3, J. Price 4, W. Green 5, H. Goodman 6, J. Goodman (conductor) 7, G. Guest 8.

This was rung to celebrate the wedding of Miss R. Price, daughter of Mr. J. Price, the esteemed leader of the Old Hill ringers, to Mr. J. Cox, also of Old Hill. After the ringing, the ringers were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Cox, to whom the ringers extend their thanks, and wish them every happiness in their future life.

The bells need the attention of expert bell hangers.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**NORTH BUCKS BRANCH'S GRANT TO 12-BELL FUND.**

A very successful quarterly meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, December 7th, when the attendance was larger than really had been expected. The following towers were represented: Bletchley, Beachampton, Bradwell, Chicheley, Emberton, Fenny Stratford, Stony Stratford, Simpson, Stoke Goldington, with visitors from Bedford, Husbands Crawley and Linslade. The bells were going in various methods during the afternoon, and the choral service was conducted by the chairman of the branch (the Rev. L. Moxon). Tea was served in the school-room, when about 28 sat down. Very welcome, but unexpected, visitors put in an appearance in the persons of the Master and the Guild secretary (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn and Mr. R. C. Hibbert), and a very cordial reception was given them.

The Secretary (Mr. W. Sear) announced that there was nothing special in connection with branch business to discuss, but he would like to propose that a grant of £5 be given to the Berkshire 12-Bell Fund. This was carried unanimously.

Both the Master and secretary addressed the meeting, and thanked North Bucks for their generous support of the twelve-bell scheme.

The usual votes of thanks were given to the preacher, choir and organist, and to the ladies for providing tea.

This brought a very pleasant meeting to a close. The methods rung during the afternoon ranged from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major.

QUICK PEALS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I have wondered why no one has raised a query, regarding the extraordinarily quick peal rung at Crayford some time ago.

I can understand why such times as 2 hrs. 20 mins. are considered ordinary at the Loughborough Bell Foundry, when the weight of metal, etc., is taken into consideration, but for a quicker peal to be rung on a peal of bells, with a tenor double the weight, is, to put it mildly, remarkable. I should like to see it repeated, because if it can be accomplished once it can be done again, or, possibly, it could be shortened still further.

In concluding, I might say that my first peal of Major (Treble Bob method) took 2 hrs. 22 mins., and I have also rung in the quickest peal yet on tower bells, which would have been faster still if they had just put on a bit more speed as I asked them to.

TYRO II.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association was held at St. John's, Redhill, on Saturday, December 7th. The following towers were represented: Godstone, Reigate, Limpsfield Chart, Horley, Merstham, Burstow and the local band, with visitors from Crawley, Croydon and East Grinstead. The bells were well utilised during the afternoon.

Tea and business followed the usual service. Mr. H. Goodwin and Mr. H. Shelley, of St. John's, Redhill, were elected members, and the election of Mr. Geo. Oliver, of Crawley, prior to a peal at Horley, was ratified.

It was proposed to hold the annual district meeting at Godstone on January 18th.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rev. L. G. Mannering for his address at the service, and for the use of the bells; also Mr. A. Gear for assisting in making the arrangements; and to the ladies who waited at the table.

Ringing was then resumed, and the bells lowered about 8.30.

THE FIRST PEAL AT AMBROSDEN, OXFORDSHIRE.**DEDICATION OF COMMEMORATION TABLET.**

On Sunday evening, December 8th, a peal tablet of polished oak, recording the first peal on the bells, which was rung (as reported in 'The Ringing World') on Saturday, November 16th, by a mixed band of members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, was dedicated during the evening service by the Vicar (Rev. C. C. David Oake).

After the third collect, the ringers and clergy proceeded from the chancel to the ringing chamber, which is situated on the ground floor at the west end of, and open to, the church. Here, with the Vicar and special preacher (Rev. Capt. Sharp, of Oxford) standing in the centre, and with the ringers in a circle, each man by his respective rope, the Vicar pronounced the customary dedicatory prayers, immediately after which some well-struck rounds were rung by the following members of the Ambrosden Society and Oxford Diocesan Guild: Frederick Sharpe, Marcus Turner, Sidney Taylor, Joseph Turner, jun., Mervyn Harry Tuffrey, Joseph Turner, sen., Alfred Turner and Arthur Turner.

During the service the Vicar made special reference to the bells, remarking that Saturday, December 7th, was the first anniversary of their dedication, and saying how pleased he was that, within a year, the first peal had been rung, and the peal tablet erected which they had just dedicated.

The service closed with further ringing.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

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PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED.

PICTURES OF CHURCH TOWERS FOR
PUBLICATION IN 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The Editor of 'The Ringing World' will be glad to receive photographs of churches, with a view to their future publication when suitable occasion arises.

The photographs should be accompanied by brief particulars of the bells, with their inscriptions and dates if possible, and any other interesting information about them.

Pictures should, for preference, be photographic post-cards, and, where there is any choice, the tower should be a feature.

Obviously, of course, all the pictures cannot be published at once, the object of getting a collection being that the photographs may be ready at hand for use when fitting opportunity occurs.

Will each tower secretary be good enough to send a photograph of his own tower? It should be forwarded in an envelope for protection, and addressed to The Editor, 'The Ringing World,' Woking, Surrey, and the sender should enclose his name and address.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

'A Merry Christmas' to all our readers.

Whimpe, Devon, bells are to be dedicated to-morrow. By a slip, it was stated in one part of our last issue that the dedication was to take place last Saturday.

The City Corporation has contributed one thousand guineas to the restoration of Bow Church, Cheapside, and, we understand, a definite portion of this is 'earmarked' for the bells. It is to be hoped that this very necessary part of the work will now soon be taken in hand, and that a really comprehensive scheme will be carried out.

Among the earliest peals of Stedman Cinquses was one of 6,334 rung at Christ Church, Spitalfields, by the Cumberland Youths on December 20th, 1806. The same band on December 13th had rung over 5,500 changes in an unsuccessful attempt for the same peal, and in the interim, viz., on December 15th, the Junior Society of Cumberland had rung a peal of 5,886. That was in the 'good old days.'

John Cox called the first peal of Stedman Caters rung at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on December 20th, 1836.

The opening of the new ring of eight bells at Claybrooke, Leicestershire, which was to have taken place to-morrow, has been postponed until January 18th. The augmentation of the four old bells into an octave has been carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

The members of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, having received many letters of congratulation upon ringing the first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus, wish, through 'The Ringing World,' to thank all the writers for their kind and encouraging remarks.

The first peal by the Lancashire Association was Grandsire Triples at Bolton on December 22nd, 1877. The last survivor of the company that scored this peal was Mr. H. W. Jackson, who died in January last.

The Christmas holidays have been a favourite time for record-making, and we have not space to mention all the long lengths accomplished. They have included the 11,111 Stedman Cinquses at Birmingham on Boxing Day, 1901, the 15,168 Kent Treble Bob Major at Elland in 1831, and the 10,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal at Walthamstow in 1923. Two Superlative records (since surpassed) were also made on Boxing Day, 9,312 at Crawley, Sussex, in 1894, and 9,728 at Clent, Worcestershire, in 1910.

The record length of Double Norwich (17,104) was made at South Wigston on December 27th, 1904, and the Double Oxford Major record (10,176) was rung at Brierley Hill on December 27th, 1909.

Two other interesting performances of a bygone age may also be mentioned. On December 26th, 1782, 5,040 'London Union Trebles' was rung at St. Giles-in-the-Fields by the Society of London Youths, 'being the first peal in that method.' What was the method?

Squire Proctor and his band of village residents rang a peal of 6,048 London Surprise Major at Bennington, Herts, on December 26th, 1871, 'being the greatest scientific performance ever achieved in change ringing.'

The late Sir Arthur Heywood, who died in 1918, was born on Christmas Day eighty years ago.

Mr. Perkins, of Hemingford Abbots, Hunts, has had the misfortune to break his ankle, and will be kept from ringing for a time.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**DEVIZES BRANCH AT HOLT.**

A meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Katherine's Church, Holt, on Saturday, December 7th. Ringing commenced about 3 p.m., and later on a peal board, recording the two peals of Grandsire Doubles rung by the local ringers, under the conductorship of Mr. W. C. West, of Melksham, was unveiled by Mrs. Scott, of Stanbridge House, Holt, and dedicated by the Vicar, the Rev. T. Roberts. This was followed by the Guild service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the lesson being read by the chairman of the branch (Mr. C. D. Heginbotham), Mr. Wicks, of Devizes, being the organist.

In a few well-chosen remarks, the Vicar welcomed the branch to Holt, and referred to the interest the local ringers were taking in their work, as shown by the board which had been unveiled. People

Ringers, including Mr. W. J. Prescott, of Bath, were present from Aldbourne, Bradford-on-Avon (Holy Trinity), Bratton, Devizes, St. Johns and St. Mary, Southdown, Holt, Rowde, Trowbridge and Melksham.

Touces of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob were rung during the afternoon and evening. No doubt more ringers would have been present but for the flooded state of the roads.

Holt Church, dedicated to St. Katherine, was restored during the year 1890-91, when the clerestory and chancel were added to the church. The tower dates between 1450 and 1500, the font is late Norman, with herring-bone ornamentation. The east window is a memorial to Miss Edith Mackey, daughter of Mr. Alexander Mackey, who at that time resided at Holt Manor, and afterwards at the Grange, Trowbridge. He was one of the first vice-presidents of the Salisbury Guild, and a great friend to the Trowbridge ringers of his day. The central light of the window shows St. Katherine, the patron saint, with the spiked wheel.

The bells at St. Katherine's Church, Holt, Wilts, are a ring of six, with tenor of 9 cwt. 5 lb., and the most interesting of them is the 5th, a pre-Reformation bell from the Bristol Foundry about the year 1500. It bears the usual Bristol cross and a rare medallion, which is also found at Churchill, Somerset. This bell (36½ inches in diameter) has the inscription, 'Sancte Michael ora pro nobis.' Up to the year 1905 there were five bells—the present 5th being then the 4th—all of different dates. They bore the following inscriptions:—

Treble: William Earle: William Bissie: Benefactors 1665 IE:
LG (bell) W (bell) P.R.P (tree.)
2nd: Thomas Sartain, Curate.
Roger Goor, Churchwarden of Holt (star).
3rd: JAMES BAILEY, C.W., 1716.
W (bell) C.
4th: Present 5th.
5th: THO. CARINGTON: C.W. L (bell) C. 1698.



THE CHURCH OF ST. KATHERINE, HOLT, WILTS.

who had never taken any interest in ringing were now beginning to do so. Ringers, he said, should make the first object of their ringing the glory of God, and then they would get greater pleasure from their ringing.

Tea followed in the schoolroom, Mrs. Scott honouring the company with her presence.

A short business meeting followed, Mr. C. D. Heginbotham presiding. The Secretary (Mr. F. Green) reported the receipt of £22 2s. from the Parochial Church Council of Holy Trinity, Bradford-on-Avon, and £1 4s. from the Parochial Church Council of St. James-the-Great, Bratton.—A vote of thanks was passed to those Councils.

Rev. Tudor Jefferies, Vicar of St. James', Southbroom, was elected an hon. member, and Mr. W. Bolwell, of Hounslow, late of Devizes, a life ringing member.

On the motion of the chairman, a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and conducting the service, to the organist and to those who prepared the tea.

Of these, the 3rd was by William Cockey, of Frome, and the tenor by Lewis Cockey, of Bristol, who is also found at Sutton Veney.

In 1905 the first three and the 5th were recast by Warner, and a treble added. The treble had the following inscription on the waist: 'To the Glory of God and in Memory of the Rev. H. H. Moseley, B.A., Vicar 1865-1901. This bell was given and the bells re-cast by the People of Holt, 1905'; and the tenor, 'George A. S. Melford, Vicar; William Deverill, Walter Buckland, Churchwardens.'

These bells were a very poor lot, especially the tenor, and consequently they were recently recast (except the 5th) by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

At the time of the Edward IV. Inventory (1553), it was recorded that there were at 'Holtte, iij bells.'

The belfry door, made by a parishioner is interesting. Carved on it are six bells, surmounted by the date, 1475, which is supposed to be the year in which the tower was erected, and below, '1914, Vicar, Rev. T. Roberts, M.A.,' and a St. Katherine's wheel.

BELLS UNDERGROUND.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In reply to the query in this week's 'Ringing World' as to whether handbells have been rung underground before, several attempts were made for a peal of Stedman Triples in Chislehurst Caves by a College Youths band in 1904. These caves certainly bear no resemblance to a coal mine, but are completely underground, the spot where the attempts were made being about 80 to 100 feet down.—Yours faithfully,

T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

IN A COAL MINE.

Dear Sir,—It may be of interest to our Leicestershire friends to know that a 336 Grandsire Triples and a course of Stedman Triples was rung in the West Pit, Cramlington, some years ago, by B. C. Dixon, J. E. R. Keen, O. Simm and yours sincerely,

W. H. HARBER.

Dear Sir,—As far back as 1904, a party of Yorkshire ringers, including the late Mr. Charles Jackson, of Hull, rang a course of Grandsire Caters down a colliery at Gildersome, near Morley, Yorkshire. Trusting this will be of interest to the enquirer, I remain, on behalf of some of the Yorkshire party, yours sincerely,

WM. AMBLER.

WEEKLY PEAL ATTEMPT FOR TWO YEARS.**PERSEVERANCE OF RINGERS A CENTURY AGO.**

On December 22nd, 1828, 'The Times,' then price 7d., recorded the following: 'On Thursday, the 18th inst., eight members of the Junior College Society, members of St. Saviour's, Southwark and Trinity Church, Newington, rang on the bells at the latter place a true and excellent peal of grandsire triples on Steadman's principle, containing 5,040 changes, which was completed in three hours and four minutes, and is the greatest performance ever achieved upon any peal of bells in the Kingdom. The above peal contains 598 bobs and 122 singles, and is the most perfect of the kind ever produced, but has never been rung until the present occasion, when every bob and single was regularly called and made.'

Now, however, comes the most illuminating part of the story. The paragraph goes on: 'Two years have elapsed since the Society first attempted to ring this peal, during which time they have assembled every Thursday evening to perform it, and in the various unsuccessful attempts which have been made, they have rung upwards of 200,000 changes in this most difficult of all the systems in the art of ringing. This system of ringing was invented by Mr. Fabian Steadman, a native of Cambridge, about the middle of the 17th century.'

THE 12-BELL PEAL RECORD.

PAINSWICK ATTEMPT COMES TO GRIEF.

The attempt to set up a new record length on twelve bells at Painswick on Saturday was unsuccessful.

After a rather late start, and with new ropes, the ringing came to grief after two hours. It is hoped to make another attempt early in the new year.

In the afternoon a peal of ordinary length was rung.

NEW RING OF EIGHT AT GORING.

PRE-REFORMATION BELLS PRESERVED.

There were probably few happier and prouder people in the country on Wednesday of last week than John Bower, the foreman of the Goring tower, when, after their dedication by Bishop Shaw, he was entrusted by his Vicar with the ropes of a ring of eight bells.

For upwards of forty years he has kept a Minor band together at Goring, and together with his old friend, James Abery, has done his best to teach change ringing in the Bradfield Deanery Branch of the Oxford Guild.

The old ring of six at Goring was, from a musical point of view, a poor lot, but it contained two pre-Reformation bells, one of which bears the name of Richard Wymbis, who was casting at the end of the thirteenth century, and must surely hold an almost unique place among church bells. There must be few bells that have done duty for six hundred years, including half a century of Minor ringing, as this has done.

These old bells have now been taken out of the ring to be handed as treasures of the church to succeeding generations of Goring folk. The other four have been broken up and have gone towards making as delightful a ring of eight as good ringers love to handle and as bell lovers like to listen to.

At the close of the service the bells were rung in Grandsire, Stedman, Kent, Double Norwich and Cambridge.

Many and hearty were the congratulations received by Mr. Bower from his old friends who were present at the realising of a dream of almost a lifetime.

The entire cost of the bells and necessary work was met by the pious benefaction of one who of late worshipped in and loved Goring Church, and who left in his will a sum of money for this specific purpose. The work has been excellently carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

The ringers present were the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Messrs. R. T. Hibbert, A. A. Hughes, G. Gilbert, J. Shepherd, H. Tucker, J. Abery, A. Tyler, and Miss S. Davis and the local ringers. Touches of Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEW ORGANISATION COMPLETED.

A general meeting of the North Norfolk Branch of the association, the fourth and last of a series under the new constitution, was, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. H. McMullen), held in the belfry of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on Saturday, December 7th, for the election of officers and committee. The president of the association (the Archdeacon of Norwich) presided, and supporting him were Mr. Arthur L. Coleman (general secretary and treasurer), Messrs. G. P. Burton, W. C. Duffield, H. J. Borrett (Ringing Master, St. Peter Mancroft Guild), W. B. Duncan, B. S. Thompson and R. W. Cooke (district secretaries), and members from Buxton, Dereham, Fakenham, Gressenhall, Hovingham, Norwich, Reepham and Wymondham.

The general secretary gave a brief review of the new scheme under which four branches had been formed, and said that the special business before the meeting was the election of chairman, hon. secretary, and committee for the North Norfolk Branch.

The President referred to an article which had been contributed by their general secretary (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman) to the 'Norwich Diocesan Gazette,' and said as editor of the 'Gazette' he was glad to have had the opportunity of publishing it, and thus bringing such an important matter as that of church bells and ringers before the clergy of the diocese. The President then asked the members to proceed to elect their chairman, hon. secretary and committee.

Mr. George P. Burton was elected chairman, Mr. William D. Duncan hon. secretary, Messrs. William Clover, Robert W. Cooke, William C. Duffield, Ben S. Thompson and Bertie Whiteside members of the committee.

Mr. G. A. Cooke moved, and Mr. Coleman seconded, the election of the Rev. Ernest F. Morison, Rector of Fakenham, M.A., an hon. member of the association.

It was resolved that a meeting of the North Norfolk Branch be held at Wymondham in January, 1930.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. H. McMullen (Vicar of St. Peter Mancroft) for the use of the belfry, for holding the meeting, and also for the use of the bells after the meeting.

The meeting then closed, and the members rang some short touches upon the bells, but being Saturday and market day the ringing was strictly limited.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Owing to the Christmas holidays, 'The Ringing World' will have to go to press much earlier than usual next week.

Reports of events which have already taken place during this week should be sent in at once, and reports of peals rung and meetings held to-morrow (Saturday) should be forwarded in order to reach us not later than *first post on Monday*. Nothing received after that time can be inserted in the next issue.

Secretaries are particularly requested to note that Monday, first post, is the latest time for receiving notices for next week's 'Ringing World.'

ANOTHER SURPRISE MAJOR METHOD.

To the Editor.

Sir,—We shall soon have as many Surprise Major as Surprise Minor methods—mostly variations of each other.

However, before this happens, would these enterprising constructors oblige by giving the Exercise a new Triple method—one really worth ringing? Moreover, if composers of peals would try their hand at producing a fresh peal of Grandsire Triples, the space occupied in your columns would not be taken up.—Yours faithfully,

D. GECIL-WILLIAMS.

Shirley, Southampton.

[It may interest our correspondent to know that Mr. J. A. Trollope, who is working on Surprise methods, has got over 2,000 of them, and they are still coming.—Ed. 'R.W.']

THE EXTENSION OF NEW DOUBLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am sorry to have to write you again on this matter, but I think you will agree necessity demands it. I, also, interviewed on Saturday, November 30th, two of the officers of the St. Stephen's (Bristol) Ringing Guild, to give it its correct title, and this is their evidence reproduced as faithfully as possible, although not verbatim:—

The Hon. Secretary: 'I don't remember ringing any new method of Caters, unless it was one of those easily explained, such as Erin (from Stedman) or Double Norwich (from the Major). I know nothing of any other.'

The Conductor: 'I believe we did have a "go" at it one night, but we did not ring a course. We did not have a second "go."'

The Sub-Conductor (myself) says: 'If it was rung at St. Stephen's it must have been on a practice night when I was not present.'

It is just possible that (the method being rung at St. James') some of the St. James' band came to St. Stephen's one evening and tried the extension with some of our members standing it. I must confess I have never rung even a course of New Doubles, nor have I been in a tower while it was being rung. In fact the only person who has ever mentioned the method to me (previous to November 30th) was Mr. Guise, when he told me they were ringing it at St. James', and asked if I would stand in a peal of it. He mentioned the extension to Caters and Cinques, and said that two working bells would be on the front dodging together from the time the treble left till she returned. On this account I disapproved of the method, and heard nothing more of it until less than a month ago in 'The Ringing World.'

With regard to my possible absence on the occasion of the method being rung, I would point out that (previous to Whit Monday, 1928) 'absent' marks against my name, either for practice or Sunday ringing, were conspicuous for their rarity.

This morning (December 15th) I interviewed that most excellent servant of our Guild, the steeplekeeper, with regard to the above, and he says: 'I know nothing about it. I have never rung it, and don't want to.' He also said that the hon. secretary (who, I take it, is one of the officials Mr. Guise interviewed) repudiates the statement that he corroborated the assertion, and also repeated, in effect, the words given in my letter above (December 13th, 1929).

This evening a member of the committee also disclaimed all knowledge of the method or its being rung at St. Stephen's. In view of his position as the holder of the keys, the evidence of the steeplekeeper is most valuable, and emboldens me to again say: 'Mr. Guise is wrong. The method has never been rung at St. Stephen's by the St. Stephen's Guild.' I will go further and say that, without the four I have mentioned, and the 'non-effective' members, we could not ring it.

Mr. Guise's last letter was pure bluff, not to call it by an uglier name.—Yours truly,

W. A. CAVE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**A REVIEW.**

The Lancashire Association's annual report is always an interesting as well as an informative one. Established in 1876, the association has grown from very small beginnings to a total of nearly 1,500 members. At the end of 1879 there were 11 honorary and 90 ringing members, at the end of 1929 there are 80 honorary and 1,406 ringing members. These last figures are not the highest totals reached, as in 1927 they were 92 and 1,451 respectively, but Lancashire is suffering badly from the general depression in trade, and this doubtless easily accounts for the falling-off in membership. There is now a total of 1,144 resident ringing members, of whom 99 were elected in the period covered by the report. The year's income amounted to £71 13s. 6d., and the ordinary expenditure to £63 16s. 6d., leaving a net gain on the year of £7 17s. It is pointed out, however, that the amount received only represents 820 ringers.

NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES.

There were 104 peals rung during the year under review, the outstanding performance being the 15,312 Cambridge Surprise Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne, and the heartiest congratulations of the association go out to the ringers concerned on the accomplishment of such a marvellous performance. Grandsire Triples (23) headed the peal list, and these contained a good percentage of first peals. The report singles out for special mention several of the performances.

'We are glad to note,' it says, 'the steady progress made in our Preston Branch, and offer to them our congratulations on their two recent successes, Cambridge Surprise Major at Hoghton and Kent Royal at Blackburn Cathedral, both these peals being the first rung by that branch. It is our pleasure to record a peal of Superlative Surprise Major rung by the local company at Newchurch, near Warrington, in honour of the 400th anniversary of the parish and the silver jubilee of the present church. Peals of Double Norwich Court Bob Major have been accomplished at Standish and Church-kirk by the local ringers there. Our Liverpool Branch is again to the fore with peals of Stedman Cinques, Kent Maximus and Cambridge Surprise Maximus, rung at St. Nicholas', the peal of Cambridge along with a peal of Grandsire Triples at Bolton being rung in connection with the National Thanksgiving for the King's recovery. Bolton Branch has provided us with a very youthful conductor, and we congratulate Mr. P. Crook, jun., on his excellent performance.'

'A noteworthy feature is again the large number of peals rung by local companies, and we look forward to the time when all our towers will attempt that very worthy object—"To ring at least one peal each year on their own bells, with their own local band." It is always a pleasure to record the footnote, "First peal by all the band," but when this is accompanied also with "All service ringers at the above church," the pleasure is even greater. One such comes from our Wigan Branch at Rainford, and we extend to the ringers there our hearty congratulations.'

'Great credit is also due to our ringers in Manchester for their handbell performances, the peals of Oxford Royal and Oxford Major being the first in that method by our association on handbells. During the year Mr. P. Laffin, of Pendleton, and Mr. A. Potter, of Walkden, rang their 100th peal, whilst their 50th was accomplished by Mr. S. Holt, of Middleton, Mr. W. Horan, of Todmorden, and Mr. W. Taylor, of Penwortham.'

'Fifty-four members rang their first peal, 128 their first peal in some particular method, whilst eight members conducted their first peal.'

PEAL BOARDS PRESERVED.

'During the year the ring of eight at Leyland has been rebung and increased to ten, but unfortunately the association has not been allowed to hold a meeting there. The ring of eight formerly in St. John's, Deansgate, Manchester, has been removed to Eccles Parish Church. With the exception of the tenor the bells have been recast, and Eccles is now proud to possess a ring which in tone and weight is worthy of that ancient church. The peal boards formerly in St. John's tower are now preserved at Eccles. The ring of eight at Milnrow has been rebung in a new frame, and the ring of eight at Halewood has also been recast and rebung.'

The report adds: 'We have suffered a great loss by the passing away in January of Mr. H. W. Jackson, of Bolton, who had been treasurer of the association almost, if not quite, from the beginning. He had reached a good old age, but his interest was unabated and his genial presence at our meetings will be much missed. It is proposed that a memorial to him should be placed in the Church of Holy Trinity, Bolton, near to that of his old friend, Joel Redford, a former secretary of the association. We have also regretfully to record the death of three other ringing members, M. Oldfield and E. Oldfield, of Eccles, and W. H. Harrison, of Colne, and of several honorary members. Among them we recall with gratitude the names of Canon Rowntree, late Rector of Stretford; the Rev. T. Taylor Evans, late Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton; Dr. A. J. Wilson, late Vicar of St. Mary's, Oldham, who was largely concerned with getting the great ring there recast and rebung; and Mr. A. E. Holme, of Dewsbury, a former vice-president of our association.'

'Our best thanks are always due to the branch secretaries on whose labours in regularly attending branch meetings and keeping in touch with ringers in their districts, the practical working of the association chiefly depends.'

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A very enjoyable meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Newbold-on-Avon, near Rugby, on Saturday last. Members were present from Allesley, Chilvers Coton, Exhall, Husbands Bosworth, Leamington, Lillington, Monk's Kirby, Nuncaton, Shilton, Rugby and Wolvey, together with the local band. The Vicar (Rev. Noel Prentice) extended a hearty welcome to all the ringers, a number of whom were paying their first visit to Newbold to try the ring of six recently rebung on ball bearings by Messrs. Taylor and Co. Touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Cambridge and London were rung during the afternoon. At five o'clock the Vicar escorted the members to the Parish Room, where a splendid tea was provided. At the close of the tea Mr. A. Wilkerson (Nuncaton) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindly welcome, adding that it made a great difference to the success of a meeting when the incumbent took an interest in the ringers.

The Vicar invited the members to stay in the room as long as they pleased, and as the room was a cosy one, and a box of handbells had been brought in, the ringers needed no second invitation. Well-struck courses of Grandsire Caters, Bob Major and Stedman Triples were rung by Messrs. T. W. Chapman (Nuncaton), J. A. Fenton (Rugby), J. B. Fenton (Rugby), J. White (Allesley), J. Hunt (Allesley), T. Beale (Wolvey).

A return was made to the belfry later, when ringing in various methods was continued until about eight o'clock, bringing to a close the last and certainly one of the most enjoyable meetings of the year.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**EASTERN DIVISION.**

A quarterly meeting of the Eastern District was held at Rotherfield on Saturday, December 7th. Owing to the inclement weather there was rather a poor attendance, about 15 members being present from the following towers: Eastbourne (St. Saviour's), East Grinstead, Heathfield, Mayfield, Lewes, and Sevenoaks, together with some members of the local company. Following the service, the members partook of tea at the King's Arms Hotel, at which the Rector (Rev. H. E. Collins) presided.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rector occupied the chair, and in the absence of the hon. secretary, through illness, Mr. A. R. Miles took over these duties. The following members were elected: Messrs. R. C. Mitchell, J. G. L. Mitchell, E. B. Wilson, R. Filtness, E. E. Brazier, H. S. Hineon, all of Rotherfield; Mr. E. L. Taylor, of Sevenoaks, Kent, non-resident life member; and Rev. H. E. Collins, Rector of Rotherfield, hon. life member.

Mr. R. J. Dawe proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his address at the service, for presiding at the tea, and also for taking the chair at the meeting. This was supported by Mr. A. R. Miles, and carried.

The Rector, in responding, said how very pleased he was to be present, and hoped that another meeting would be arranged in the near future, and, further, he hoped that the visit could be made in the summer, when Rotherfield would be more attractive.

Mr. W. Booth proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Brazier and to the local ringers for making the arrangements for the meeting. This was also put to the meeting and carried.

The members then returned to the tower and indulged in further ringing until about 8 p.m.

OLD 'WAR HORSE' RETURNS.

At Canterbury Cathedral, on Tuesday, December 10th, as a last short touch for practice, 700 of Grandsire Triples (part of Holt's Original): P. J. Paine 1, C. W. Brett 2, W. E. Pitman, Mus.Bac., 3, F. G. Brett 4, F. R. Weller 5, H. G. Fairbrass 6, G. G. Jenkins 7, M. W. Pierce 8.

As Mr. H. G. Fairbrass conducted his first 5,040, Holt's Original, at Herne Hill, near Faversham, on May 30th, 1887, it being the first peal on the bells after augmentation to eight, it was suggested that he should call 700 of that peal, but he declined with thanks. However, Mr. W. E. Pitman came to the rescue, and volunteered to conduct it, which he did in a masterly manner, while the ringer of the 6th took to it like an old war horse at the sound of the trumpet.

MR. J. LOWE APPEAL FUND.

The amount received for this fund was £38 4s. 7½d. The expenses were 17s. 7½d., and the balance has been paid to Mr. J. Lowe, who desires to thank all ringers and friends who so kindly came to his assistance. The accounts were audited by Mr. W. H. Shuker.

In the last list it should have been stated that £1 12s. was collected at the Kent County Association Lewisham District meeting at Deptford, and 12s. sent by Holy Trinity, Dartford, ringers and friends.

A PARISH CLERK OF 1710.**To the Editor.**

Dear Sir,—In answer to 'Cascable's' enquiry re 'A parish clerk of 1710,' I would refer him to 'The Parish Clerk,' by P. H. Ditchfield, M.A., F.S.A., pp. 75-78.—Yours faithfully,

F. C. T.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**WESTERN DIVISION.**

A meeting of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at St. Michael's, Headingley, on Saturday. There was a good attendance of members, the following towers being represented: Armley, Lindley, Guiseley, Rothwell, Denholme, Calverley, Bradford, Hunslet, Queensbury, Birstall, Bramley, Marsden, Pudsey, Shipley, Keighley, Batley, Far Headingley, and the local company. During the afternoon the bells were kept going in various methods, and at five o'clock tea was partaken of in the Parochial Institute.

Mr. J. Cotterell (vice-president) presided over the business meeting.

Two members were elected, viz., Mr. J. I. Robertshaw (Keighley) and Mr. D. Snowball (Lindley). For the annual meeting, Calverley was suggested, and Mr. C. Pratt said he would be pleased to see the Yorkshire Association at Calverley. He would put the matter before the churchwardens (there being no Vicar at present) to see if a meeting could be arranged.

Mention was made of the regrettable absence of Mr. H. Lindsay owing to illness, and the secretary was requested to write to him expressing the sorrow of the members, and wishing him a speedy recovery.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company for the arrangements made. These were responded to by Canon R. H. Malden and Mr. P. J. Johnson.

Ringing on tower bells and handbells was afterwards indulged in.

SUCCESSFUL JOINT GATHERING AT RAWMARSH.

A joint meeting of the Doncaster and District Society, the Barnsley and District Society, the Sheffield and District Society and the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, on Saturday, and proved a great success. The majority of towers in the various districts were represented, and nearly 40 members were present at the service conducted by Canon Seavell, Rector of Rawmarsh. Tea in the Church Room was followed by the business meeting, at which the Rector was voted to the chair and was supported by Mr. Lewis, vice-president, Yorkshire Association, Mr. Nash, president, Barnsley and District Society, Mr. Gledstone, hon. secretary, Doncaster and District Society, and Mr. R. Harrison, jun., hon. secretary, Sheffield and District Society.

Before business commenced, Mr. Lewis made sympathetic reference to the loss the association had sustained by the death of Mr. F. Willey, of Sheffield, a vice-president for many years, and the members stood a few moments in silence as a last mark of respect. The secretary's explanation of the meeting not being held at All Saints', Sheffield, was accepted.

Mr. A. Tate, of Wakefield Cathedral, was elected a new member of the association.

As no invitation was forthcoming for the annual meeting of the division in March, it was left to the committee to arrange.

The Secretary gave a hearty welcome to the kindred associations, and spoke of the very happy relations between them all and the good feeling which existed in the area covered by the Southern Division. Mr. Nash replied in his usual felicitous manner. He hoped that more joint meetings would be held, as they all tended to bring them more together, and were helpful in every way. Mr. Gledstone and Mr. Harrison supported Mr. Nash's remarks, and expressed the thanks of their associations for the invitation extended to them by the Southern Division.

Votes of thanks to the Rector, the churchwardens, the ladies for the splendid tea provided, and to the local company for the arrangements made were heartily carried, and replied to by the Rector in his customary happy manner. It is hoped this will be the forerunner of many such successful gatherings.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**THE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GUILD.**

The first annual meeting of the Wednesday Afternoon Guild was held at Chester-le-Street on December 11th, when a good 'beat up' of 14 ringers gathered. The bells were kept going until late time, and after enjoying a really splendid repast a short meeting was held.

The president of the association wished the Guild a long life, as it filled a gap by enabling ringers who could not, owing to their business, attend Saturday meetings, to ring.

Mr. Geo. Siddle (Chester-le-Street) was unanimously re-elected secretary, and the next meeting was fixed at Houghton-le-Spring on Wednesday, February 12th.

The ringers then returned to the belfry, where the bells were kept going merrily throughout the evening. The methods rung were Kent Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major and Oxford Treble Bob Major.

PINNER, MIDDLESEX.—On Monday evening, December 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins.: R. Colyer 1, H. Ive 2, P. Thrift 3, W. Bunce 4, G. M. Kilby (conductor) 5, T. Collins 6, H. Kilby 7, T. Humphreys 8.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**A WELCOME TO HESTON.**

A meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Heston on Saturday, December 7th, when, in defiance of the boisterous elements, 36 signed the roll. The bells pealed forth at 3.30 prompt, and methods from Grandsire Triples up to and including Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major were practised, and rounds for the probationers were rung.

The company were entertained to tea in the Parish Hall by the Rev. George Craggs (Vicar) and Mrs. Craggs. The Vicar presided, supported by Mr. C. Bird (vice-president of the association), Mr. J. A. Trollope (hon. treasurer), Mr. F. W. Goodfellow (Ringing Master) and Mrs. Goodfellow, and the hon. secretary (Mr. W. H. Hollier).

The Vicar gave the Guild a most hearty welcome to Heston, and expressed the pleasure of Mrs. Craggs and himself to meet them there that afternoon.

A social, as well as the business meeting, followed tea. Messrs. F. W. Goodfellow, J. A. Trollope, E. S. Turner, W. G. Wilson, and J. R. Mackman rang a touch on the handbells.

Mr. Mackman and his son Howard rendered some fine selections on their handbells, which were greatly appreciated by the company.

The following members were elected: Mr. T. Setter, to St. Andrew's, Hillingdon; Mr. Wm. Bolwell and Master Brian Rose, to Heston; and Mrs. Craggs an honorary member.

St. Andrew's was selected for the next meeting on Saturday, January 11th, of which due notice will appear in 'The Ringing World'.

Further ringing on handbells in several methods took place, after which a most hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Mrs. Craggs for their kind hospitality and for the hearty welcome given to the Guild. The Vicar, on rising to respond on behalf of himself and Mrs. Craggs, was received with acclamation.

Thanks were accorded to Mrs. Spackman (hostess) and her assistant, to Mr. and Master Mackman, to Mr. Wm. Lewis, of the local band, and to all who assisted in making the last meeting of the year 1929 successful and enjoyable.

The tower was then again visited, and ringing resumed until nine p.m., and all agreed that a most enjoyable afternoon and evening had been spent.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**CHRISTCHURCH DISTRICT SECRETARY'S LONG SERVICE.**

The annual meeting of the Christchurch District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild took place on Saturday, December 7th. The ringers attended a special service in the choir of the Priory at 4 p.m., the Guild form being used.

The Rev. H. N. Lerner, Vicar of Milford-on-Sea, gave the address. The other clergy present were the Rev. Canon W. H. Gay, Rev. A. B. Bennett, Rev. Dr. M. C. Potter and Rev. C. A. Phillips, secretary of the East Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Guild, and members from Bournemouth, Brockenhurst, Lymington, Lyndhurst, Christchurch, Ringwood, Poole, Sopley, Milford-on-Sea, Wyke Regis, and Mr. R. H. Dove, of Croydon. Tea was provided at the King's Arms Hotel, followed by a business meeting.

Apologies were received from Mr. G. Williams, Master of the Guild, Mr. G. Pullinger, general secretary of the Guild, Mr. Bennett, Bournemouth, Mr. Ravenscroft, Mr. Hardman and Mr. England.

The balance sheet showed the receipts to be £14 17s., and the expenditure £6 12s., including £3 for instruction given, leaving £4 6s. 7d. to the general fund and £3 16s. 7d. as balance to the district.

The following officers were elected for 1930: Mr. E. C. Elliott, chairman; Mr. G. Preston, hon. secretary and ringing master; Mr. F. Sparshott, representative to the Central Committee; and Mr. A. N. Wooff, auditor. Mr. Preston thanked the meeting for re-electing him as their secretary for the twenty-sixth time, and said that during that time the district had grown from 25 members to over 100.

It was decided to hold meetings during 1930 at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, Brockenhurst, Ringwood and Lymington, and Christchurch for the annual meeting. It was resolved to hold a combined practice with the Wimborne Branch of the Salisbury Guild at Ringwood in February. It was also decided to attempt the first quarterly peal at Milford-on-Sea. Five new members were elected to the Guild.

APPEAL FOR A LANCASHIRE RINGER.

Previously acknowledged, £4 1s.; Mr. William Willson, Leicester, £1 1s.; Sympathiser, Gainsborough, 2s. 6d. Any further donations to this fund for assisting Mr. Harry Tomlinson, who is totally incapacitated and has a daughter entirely dependent upon him, will be gratefully received by Mr. F. Hindle, hon. secretary, Blackburn Branch, 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn, Lanes.

MR. TOM BEADLE APPEAL FUND.

Previously acknowledged, £15 16s. 6d.; County Councillor Sidney H. Godfrey and Mrs. Godfrey, £1 1s.; Mr. Wm. Fussell, 5s.; Mr. J. R. Mackman, 2s. 6d.; an Ealing friend, 2s. 6d.; total, £17 7s. 6d. Donations will be gratefully received on Mr. Beadle's behalf by Wm. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, Chiswick, W.4.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, December 15th, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples in 45 mins.: C. F. Winney (conductor) 1, F. G. Goddard 2, H. Dyas 3, W. H. Stevens 4, W. F. Ellingham 5, E. E. Hawthorne 6, C. J. Tricker 7, C. Gash 8.

DALSTON.—On Sunday, December 15th, at the Church of St. Mark, after evensong, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss E. E. Hardcastle 1, Miss F. E. Orr 2, W. H. Hewett 3, E. F. Pike 4, A. Diserens 5, J. E. Davis (conductor) 6, C. W. Roberts 7, C. Randall 8.

LINSLADE, BUCKS.—At St. Barnabas' Church, on Sunday, December 15th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins.: R. Oliver 1, W. Insley 2, F. Vickers 3, F. Dedman 4, F. Jeffs 5, W. J. Jeffs 6, W. Jeffs, jun., 7. First 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor by all.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday, December 15th, at St. Laurence's Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major (1,344 changes) in 47 mins.: J. W. Baxendale 1, L. W. G. Morris 2, J. C. Booth 3, R. Myers 4, W. Barton (conductor) 5, W. R. Madgwick 6, J. Ambler 7, J. W. Cordingley 8. Arranged for, and rung as, a birthday compliment to Mr. W. R. Madgwick.

DEEPING ST JAMES, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Sunday, December 15th, for evensong, 720 College Single Minor: R. Bennett 1, E. A. Sneath 2, W. Clark 3, W. V. Bennett 4, H. M. Day (conductor) 5, J. O. Landan 6. First in the method by all except 5 and 6.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday, December 15th, for the evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, in 55 mins., rung also as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble and tenor: W. Evans 1, Miss D. Richards 2, J. Phillips 3, F. Hannington 4, J. Davies 5, E. Hunt 6, P. Heath 7, A. Farnell 8, F. Chamberlain (conductor) 9, S. R. Barker 10.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Sunday morning, December 1st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 46 mins.: H. C. Chandler 1, W. Bolwell 2, W. A. Lewis 3, H. Belcher 4, C. S. Bird 5, E. Gladman 6, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 7, F. Humphries 8.

CALNE, WILTS.—On Sunday, November 17th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: R. Horton 1, I. J. P. Taylor 2, E. L. Box 3, S. Wiltshire (conductor) 4, H. Bury 5, H. King 6, W. Paul 7, W. Haines 8. First quarter-peal by all the band except the ringers of the 3rd and 4th. All are Sunday service ringers, except Mr. S. Wiltshire, who has been their instructor for the last six months. Through his efforts and the enthusiasm of Archdeacon Colter and the local company, the bells are now rung regularly for Sunday service.

SALISBURY.—At St. Martin's Church, on Sunday, November 10th (St. Martin's Eve), for festival evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 53 mins.: Miss M. E. Romaine 1, C. F. Smith 2, S. Macey 3, L. Harris 4, W. A. Romaine 5, A. Bennett 6, F. W. Romaine (conductor) 7, A. Fry 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of treble, 2nd and 5th, also first as conductor. The ringer of the treble is the first lady ringer to learn change ringing in Salisbury.

BELTON, RUTLAND.—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, November 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 44 mins.: J. Norton 1, J. G. Geary (conductor) 2, R. Russell 3, A. E. Kitchin 4, A. N. Geary 5, F. Bennett (first quarter-peal) 6. Rung half-muffled on the eve of Armistice Day anniversary.

WEDNESBURY.—On Sunday morning, November 10th, for civic service, at St. Bartholomew's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins.: T. Burkitt 1, G. Hughes 2, W. E. Brittan 3, J. Barber 4, T. Palfreyman 5, L. S. Griffiths 6, A. Mincher (conductor) 7, A. J. Hubble 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples for ringers of the 5th, 7th and tenor.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, November 3rd, at St. John's Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: G. H. Gutteridge 1, F. G. Baldwin (conductor) 2, W. E. Gutteridge (first quarter-peal inside) 3, A. Twinn 4, W. Honor 5, J. J. Pratt 6, F. W. Goodfellow 7, E. Hughes 8. Also on Sunday, November 10th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 51 mins.: W. E. Gutteridge 1, A. Twinn 2, J. J. Pratt 3, F. G. Baldwin 4, J. H. Lucas 5, G. H. Gutteridge 6, W. Honor 7, F. W. Goodfellow (conductor) 8. Also for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: G. N. Mitchell 1, F. G. Baldwin 2, W. E. Gutteridge 3, A. Twinn 4, J. H. Lucas 5, G. H. Gutteridge 6, F. W. Goodfellow (conductor) 7, W. Honor 8.

CONGRESBURY.—On Sunday, November 3rd, 504 Stedman Triples: F. Fisher 1, A. E. Standen 2, F. Gosling 3, L. Pulling 4, J. E. Lilley 5, G. Fisher 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, G. James 8. Longest length of Stedman by all except ringers of 5th and 7th. On November 29th, on the eve of the dedication festival, 504 Stedman Triples: F. Fisher 1, F. Gosling 2, J. E. Lilley 3, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 4, A. E. Standen 5, G. Fisher 6, R. Fisher (first 504) 7, G. Jones 8.

STAVELEY, YORKS.—For evensong, by the local band, who are all Sunday service ringers, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: A. Markwell 1, A. White (first quarter-peal) 2, W. T. Palmer 3, S. Smedley 4, F. Parsons, sen., 5, J. Knott 6, A. E. Parsons (conductor) 7, L. G. Palmer 8.

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.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

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

CLAYBROOKE, Leics.—Ring of 4, augmented to peal of 8 and hung with modern fittings in new cast iron frame by Taylors, of Loughborough, will be opened on Saturday, Jan. 18th, and not Dec. 21st, as previously advertised.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d. which entitles members who have not met twenty times in the past year, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ST. LAURENCE'S CHURCH, READING.—The ring of 12 bells will be dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Shaw on Friday, Dec. 20th, at 8 p.m. The bells will be rung on this occasion by a selected band, and owing to the lateness of the hour there will be no other ringing that evening. The tower will be open for ringing on Thursday, Dec. 26th, from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., when visitors will be welcomed. Will those interested please accept this, the only, intimation?—R. T. Hibbert, Foreman of Tower.

WHIMPLE, Devon.—The rededication of the peal of 6, rehung with modern fittings in new iron frame by Taylors, of Loughborough, is to take place on Saturday, Dec. 21st.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, December 21st. Bells ready 3.15. Meeting 7 o'clock.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged on Saturday, Dec. 21st. Bells available: Stoke Poges (6) 3.30 p.m. Slough (8) 7 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, South Shore (6 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 21st. Bells ready 3 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next meeting, All Saints', Wandsworth, Dec. 21st. Bells (8) available 3 to 8.30. Service 5. Tea and meeting 5.30. All ringers welcome. A postcard? Good! Social hour if possible.—J. Herbert, 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, Dec. 21st, at Brislington. Ringing from 3 p.m. until 4.15 p.m. Tea in Scouts' Hall, nr. tram terminus, 4.30, followed by short business meeting. Service 6 p.m., followed by further ringing. All ringers welcome.—Harry Bennett, Branch Hon. Sec., Highfield, Runswick Road, Brislington.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting of this district will be at Earl Shilton on Saturday, Dec. 21st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea provided at 5 p.m., in the Schools. A good meeting is hoped for, all ringers being welcome.—W. A. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—Thatcham bells (8) will be dedicated on Sunday, Dec. 22nd, at 11 a.m. Short service at 3 p.m. Open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 1s., at 4.30. All ringers welcome.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

THATCHAM, Berks.—The dedication of the two new trebles to make 8, the completed peal having been hung in a new iron frame, with modern fittings, by Taylors, of Loughborough, will take place on Sunday morning next, Dec. 22nd.

RADSTOCK, Somt.—The dedication, by Archbishop Farrar, of the new tenor bell is to take place on Sunday, Dec. 22nd, at 3 p.m. The peal—now a ring of 6—has been hung with modern fittings in a new oak bell frame by Taylors, of Loughborough. Ringers' opening day, Saturday, Dec. 28th.

WHITSTONE, CORNWALL.—The peal of 6, rehung with new fittings in a new frame and augmented by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will be re-opened at the Midnight Mass on Tuesday, Dec. 24th. Ringing from 11.30 p.m. to midnight, and after the service. All ringers welcome.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Woolos' (Pro-Cathedral), Newport, Mon., on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock in Waters Lane Mission Room. Business meeting to follow. Bells of both St. Woolos' and All Saints' Churches available before and after the meeting.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch. — A special meeting, following the augmentation, will be held at Radstock on Saturday, Dec. 28th. Bells (6) available at 2 p.m. Divine service at 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Will all those requiring tea please notify me by the 25th?—R. T. Clark, Hon. Sec., High Street, Timsbury, Bath.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, Jan. 4th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. — J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Padiham on Saturday, Jan. 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. A good attendance requested.—F. Hindle, Hon. Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The annual meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year will be held on Saturday, Jan. 4th, at the Cathedral, Derby. Bells (10) available from 2 p.m. till 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. till 8 p.m. Business meeting at 4 p.m. in belfry. A good attendance is desired. Seats can be reserved and tea obtained at King's Café, St. Peter's Street, on notice being given in the belfry during the afternoon. — George Freebrey, Local Sec., 81, Roe Street.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 4th, in the belfry of St. Martin's Church. Business to commence punctually at 5.30 p.m. Bells available later.—Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Framlington on Jan. 11th. Bells available 2.30. Tea in Church Room at 4.30. Meeting follows. — Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on Saturday, Jan. 11th, at 4 o'clock. Unveiling of peal tablet by Rev. P. McCormick at 4.30. Meeting in Church House at 7. Tea will be provided to all who send me a postcard not later than Jan. 6th.—J. Sparrow, Sec., 5, Bandon Rise, Wallington, Surrey.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILD'S Ninth Annual Dinner will be held at the Grand Hotel on Saturday, Jan. 18th, at 6 p.m. Tickets, 5s. 6d., now available from Messrs. Walker (Birmingham), Tanner (Weston), Hawkins (London), Grant (Bath), Austin (Gloucester), all Bristol tower officials, or direct from the hon. sec., Edgar Guise, 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

GREETINGS.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to members of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild and all ringing friends is the sincere wish of

F. W. Goodfellow (Ringing Master),
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PUBLICATIONS.

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

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POSTMAN RINGER'S RETIREMENT.

Mr. George Taylor, of Ringmer, Sussex, has recently retired from the service of the Post Office, after nearly forty years as rural postman. In that time he walked about 100,000 miles and cycled about 200,000 miles in the exercise of his duties, and he has been presented with a medal in recognition of his long and faithful service.

Mr. Taylor was for many years a ringer at Ringmer Parish Church, and was a very efficient tenor man. He rang a few peals, one of which, a peal of Grandsire Triples, in the year 1894, was the fastest on the bells. It was rung in 2 hrs. 32 mins.—not bad going with a 14½ cwt. tenor.

Ringmer bells are by Mears and Stainbank, and before being erected in the church tower were on show at the Industrial Exhibition of the early 'eighties.'

FAREWELLS.

At St. Andrew's Church, Wickhambreaux, for the farewell services of Rev. W. Horne, on November 17th, in the morning, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: W. Maytime 1, W. Maxted 2, S. Walter 3, J. Walter 4, H. Smith 5, S. White 6. And in the evening, 720 Kent Treble Bob: W. Maytime 1, W. Maxted 2, S. Walter 3, E. Wood 4, H. Smith 5, S. White 6. Both conducted by Stanley White.

At Aldermaston, Berks, on Sunday, November 17th, for evensong, as a farewell to the Vicar, who has resigned through ill-health, 504 and 336 of Grandsire Triples: E. Richardson 1, J. Abrey 2, W. Clark 3, A. Arlott 4, H. Smith 5, R. Frankum 6, A. J. Frankum (conductor) 7, A. Cox 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WICKHAMBREAUX.—As a birthday compliment to the Rev. Canon F. J. O. Helmore, on Monday, December 2nd, at St. Andrew's Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 23 mins.: W. Maytime 1, W. Maxted 2, S. Walter 3, J. Walter 4, H. Smith 5, S. White (conductor) 6.

TENBY.—A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the Parish Church on Saturday, November 8th, to commemorate the election of the new Mayor: H. Lillycrop (first quarter-peal) 1, T. Yeomans 2, R. H. Jenkins 3, T. W. Griffiths 4, G. G. Jenkins 5, Rev. F. A. Oswett 6, H. L. Jenkins (conductor) 7, J. H. Williams 8.

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