

THE RINGING WORLD

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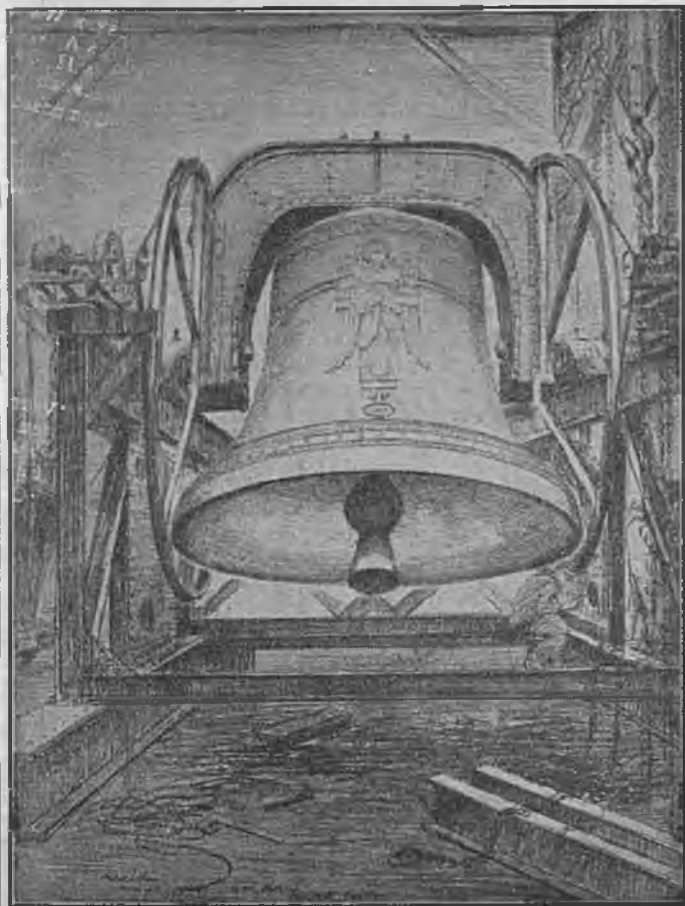
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A SERIOUS PLEASURE.

This is the holiday season, and ringers everywhere are taking part in outings and tours; and ringing 'weeks' have begun. It has been said of Englishmen that they take their pleasures sadly; it is perhaps hardly true of them in these days, but it is characteristic of ringers that they take their pleasures seriously. Ringers find no pleasure like that of the practice of their art, and yet you will find no more serious a company in any pursuit than a band engaged in ringing a peal. Certainly there is no pastime where so much concentrated mental and physical co-operation is essential as in change ringing. The art is a serious art and, apart from its application to the higher purposes of service ringing, its practice cannot be other than a serious occupation.

And yet ringers, if they go out in parties for a holiday, find their greatest pleasure when they are at the rope end, exercising their skill with even more deadly earnestness than many people put into the real business of life. In this spirit a company of ringers will set out on a day's excursion, to spend half the day in the towers en route, while others will take a week's relaxation in a peal ringing tour which generally involves keeping to a strict time table and often an expenditure of mental and physical energy which leaves one, at the end of it all, tired out, but thoroughly satisfied that the holiday has been enjoyable and well spent. Such is the fascination of ringing.

Ringling excursions are no modern innovation; they began in the days of Fabian Stedman—if not before—for it is on record that a company of College Youths paid a visit to Cambridge round about 1660. There are many other records of excursions in days now far distant, when men had to travel on foot or by coach, and when an expedition of this kind usually occupied the better part of a week. They were nearly all of them in connection with events of importance, such as the opening of a new ring of bells, and on more than one occasion there were celebrations on the grand scale by the people in the neighbourhood. Nowadays, however, an excursion of a hundred or more miles in a day is no uncommon thing, with ringing at half a dozen towers thrown in—thanks to the speedy and convenient means of transport which we now enjoy. It is this latter which has given ringers the great opportunity which they are not slow to seize, and by it they widen their experience as well as enjoy the delights of constantly breaking new ground and mixing with fellow members of their craft to an extent undreamt of even fifty years ago. It is all to the good, both of ringers and ringing, that this ever expanding intercourse should take place, and it is no drawback that our art is a pleasure to be taken seriously.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 3, 1931, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE MUNICIPAL CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 20 lb.

MISS VERA ROBINSON Treble	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 7
WILLIAM PYE 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 8
ALBERT W. COLES 3	HARRY W. SMITH 9
JAMES BENNETT 4	RICHARD T. HIBBERT ... 10
MRS. A. D. BARKER 5	ARTHUR D. BARKER ... 11
JOHN H. CRAMPION 6	PERCY DYER Tenor

Composed by J. NELMS.

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

TEN BELL PEALS.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

HORACE BELCHER Treble	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 6
GEORGE POPNELL 2	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... 7
WILLIAM H. HEWITT 3	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY ... 8
EDWIN F. PIKE 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 9
FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 5	ROBEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by W. H. HEWITT

First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal on the bells.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 3, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

LESTER L. GREY Treble	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 6
* F. FRANKLAND RIGBY ... 2	WILLIAM HORAN 7
* CHARLES E. LAWSON ... 3	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 8
GEORGE R. NEWTON 4	JAMES H. RIDING 9
JAMES W. GROUNDS 5	G. RONALD EDWARDS ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON

* First peal of Caters.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 3, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, HEAVILEY.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in D flat.

* CHARLES E. LAWSON Treble	JAMES W. GROUNDS 6
* F. FRANKLAND RIGBY ... 2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 7
G. RONALD EDWARDS 3	LESTER L. GREY 8
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 4	PETER LAFLIN 9
GEORGE R. NEWTON 5	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal. This and the preceding peal were arranged for Mr. C. Wallater, of Willenhall, Staffs, who was on a visit.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

WILLIAM J. ROBINSON Treble	JOHN H. B. HESSE 5
WILLIAM M. STONE 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 6
HARRY HUTTON 3	ALAN R. PINK 7
ALFRED H. POLLING 4	GEORGE E. CLODE Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.

Bung as a birthday compliment to G. W. Steere, H. Hutton and C. N. Burdook, past and present members of the Cathedral band.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER Treble	ERNEST W. FORBANK 5
JOHN H. CRAMPION 2	HENRY T. WILSON 0
JOHN G. NASH 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First in the method away from the treble.

ASHTFAD, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 27, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles,

A PEAL OF KENT SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 7 lb.

WILLIAM J. WHITING Treble	ARTHUR H. SMITH 5
GEORGE MARRINER 2	GEORGE A. COOK 6
JOHN BEAMS 3	WILLIAM G. NEWBERRY 7
ALBERT HARMAN 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal in the method. First peal of Kent Surprise by the association and as conductor. Rung to celebrate the wedding of John Hoyle, jun., and Miss Violet Annie Haines, which took place at this church on Saturday, July 25th, 1931.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 27, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

THORSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

FRANK G. RINGE Treble	RONALD ONG 5
PHILIP E. BUTTON 2	HARRY TURNER 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
ALBERT PRYKE 4	ROBERT HAZEL Tenor

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

* First peal in the method.

LEIGH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 27, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S No 1.

Tenor 20 cwt.

F. FRANKLAND RIGBY Treble	JAMES L. WRIGHT 5
CHRIS GUDGEON 2	WILFRED W. MOSS 6
JOHN BOOTH 3	JOHN POTTER 7
JAMES W. GROUNDS 4	HERBERT SOUTHERN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

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

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

At the Abbey Church of SS. Mary and Thomas-of-Canterbury,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

NOLAN GOLDEN Treble	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN 5
GEORGE MAYERS 2	ERIC G. BENNETT 6
FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN 3	WILLIAM J. CLOVER 7
WILLIAM E. BASON 4	GEORGE BAILEY Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

This composition in 23 courses, which contains the 4th and 6th the extent in 5-6 with the tenors apart for 16 changes only, is the first to be rung in Norfolk with two bobs in a lead.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 31, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. Treble	HERBERT E. ADELEY 5
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. 2	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 6
WILLIAM BIBBY 3	WILFRED WILLIAMS 7
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

* 400th peal. The ringers of the 3rd and 4th were elected members of the Kent County Association previous to starting the peal.

ECCLESFIELD, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM A. WOOLER Treble	HARRY MORGAN 5
MRS. T. COLIN RYDER 2	T. COLIN RYDER 6
ALBERT NASH 3	PERCY GLADSTONE 7
J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	ARNOLD HILL Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 22). Conducted by J. E. CAWSE.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE Treble	ERNEST C. S. TURNER 5
ALBERT W. COLES 2	WILLIAM PYE 6
CHARLES T. COLES 3	FRANK CORKE 7
FREDERICK G. BALDWIN 4	JAMES BENNETT Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.
First peal in the method on the bells.

BOLTON.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of All Souls,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

J. ASPINALL'S SIX-PART.

C. PIKE Treble	H. PENNINGTON 5
R. HOLDEN 2	H. JOHNSON 6
JACK KAY 3	J. E. MARKLAND 7
A. HEYWOOD 4	N. CRITCHLEY Tenor

Conducted by J. E. MARKLAND.
* First peal. Rung to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the above church.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6066 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

* THOMAS W. LEWIS Treble	WILLIAM C. JONES 5
* FRANK LAWRENCE 2	WILLIAM RANFORD 6
* DENNIS R. MORRIS 3	SIDNEY T. HOLT 7
CYRIL TANSELL 4	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.
* First peal of New Cambridge. First peal of New Cambridge on the bells.

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RUARDEAN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

LEONARD NELMES Treble	JOHN CLARK 5
WILLIAM T. POSTON 2	ALFRED T. POULTON 6
GEORGE WILKS 3	WILLIAM POSTON 7
WILLIAM BISHOP 4	HOWARD MEEK Tenor

Conducted by W. POSTON.

Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. E. T. Allaway, of St. Martin's, Birmingham, and a native of Ruardean. Also a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Harper, an esteemed member of the local ringers. Mr. W. Bishop has now rung each bell in this tower to a peal. Quickest peal on the bells.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE LADD Treble	*ARTHUR J. FARR 5
*JOHN G. AMES 2	*JOHN CURRY 6
*ARTHUR REGGALL 3	JOHN A. FREEMAN 7
*JOHN B. HALIFAX 4	HORACE M. DAY Tenor

Conducted by J. A. FREEMAN.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. Ladd, who very kindly entertained the band to tea after the peal.

TODMORDEN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 2, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, CROSS STONE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM CRABTREE Treble	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS 5
HERBERT DAVENPORT 2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 6
WILLIAM HORAN 3	*RICHARD BALDERSTONE 7
*JOHN BOOTH 4	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by EDWARD JENKINS.

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

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 3, 1931, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES

Tenor 21½ cwt.

JESSE W. HARRISON Treble	GEORGE MARTIN 5
Cecil C. MAYNE 2	WILLIAM HENLEY 6
PHYLLIS M. MAYNE 3	RICHARD BUCKLAND 7
*ROLAND BIGGS 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Thursday, July 30, 1931, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of six methods, viz., two 720's of Kent, one each of Oxford, Canterbury, Oxford Single Bob, Woodbine Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 5½ cwt.

JOE WALLIS, SEN. Treble	BERNARD H. WELLS 4
JOE WALLIS, JUN. 2	HARRY K. HOOPER 5
ARTHUR HOLMAN 3	HUGH R. THORPE Tenor

Conducted by HUGH R. THORPE.

This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Powell, the oldest resident in this village, who attained the age of 90 years on this day. Also a 21st birthday peal for the ringer of the 2nd, this being his first peal 'inside' in any method. Also a birthday peal for the niece of the conductor.

TOTTERNHOE, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 1, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 gr.

*ARTHUR J. SMITH Treble	ALBERT FLEET 4
ALFRED KING 2	HORACE H. SMITH 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL 3	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR F. SHARMAN.

* First peal of Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

NORMANBY, NEAR SCUNTHORPE, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, July 29, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. B. GILLATT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5094 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. J. BRAY 1-2	FRANK LORD 5-6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS 3-4	JACK BRAY 7-8
BERNARD GILLATT, JUN. ... 9-10	

Composed by J. W. MOORHOUSE. Conducted by JACK BRAY.

Witnesses: MRS. C. MCGUINNESS and MR. B. GILLATT.

First peal of Caters 'in hand' by all.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, July 31, 1931, in Two Hours and One Minute,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. J. BRAY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.

Tenor size 11 in G.

MRS. J. BRAY 1-2	CHARLES MCGUINNESS 3-4
JACK BRAY 5-6	

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

Witness: MRS. C. MCGUINNESS.

First of Minor 'in hand' by all, who have now rung Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus 'in hand'.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Exeter District was held on Saturday, June 6th, when visits were paid to Stoke Canon, Rewe and Brampford Speke, where use of the church bells was kindly granted by the respective incumbents, who personally welcomed the visitors. Service was conducted in Stoke Canon church by the Rev. S. Heal (Vicar), who, in an address, said he regarded ringing as a test of character and as requiring team work above everything else.

Tea followed in the Jubilee Hall, 48 members being present. At a business meeting, with Mr. A. W. Searle in the chair, a statement was made on the subject of propaganda and instruction, and it was resolved that application be made to the Guild for a grant for specific purposes.

The next quarterly meeting was fixed for Christow and district on the first Saturday in October.

The Rev. E. V. Cox expressed appreciation of the district's welcome on his becoming associated with the area, and thanks to the Rev. S. Heal and other incumbents, and to the ladies for arranging and serving tea, concluded the meeting.

The Rev. S. Heal threw open the Vicarage grounds to the visitors.

WEDDING BELLS.

At Paignton Parish Church, on Monday evening, July 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), by numerous authors, was rung in 50 mins. by: W. H. Lewis 1, A. L. Bennett (conductor) 2, H. G. Lewis 3, T. Collings 4, A. L. Pope 5, C. F. Austin 6, H. J. Hole 7, C. Boyce 8. First quarter-peal on eight bells by Mr. W. H. Lewis, and rung for the wedding of Commander R. S. J. Nicholson, commander of the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, and Miss Cecily Georgina Drake, daughter of the Rev. Prob. and Mrs. H. Mackworth Drake, of the Vicarage, Paignton, which took place at the College Church, Dartmouth, earlier in the day. Ringing also took place at the time of the ceremony.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS, 1750-1788.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

(Continued from page 475.)

IX. THE ANCIENT SOCIETY.

Meanwhile the old Society still continued. Though deserted by the more active members and diminished in numbers, it held its meetings and conducted its business with great dignity and decorum. But experience shows that no company can exist indefinitely unless it either rings peals or teaches new members. The peal ringers were gone, and societies like the College Youths did not teach; they got their recruits ready made from lesser bands. And now there was nothing much to attract such. As the old members died off there were none to take their places, and it might easily have happened that the Society got weaker and weaker till at last it faded away unnoticed and unrecorded. This has happened to many a company, both in London and elsewhere. The Society of Norwich Scholars was once the foremost in the country, the equal of either Cumberlands or College Youths. Within the last three or four years, after a history which stretches almost across the whole story of the Exercise, it has disappeared without so much as a ripple on the surface of ringing. The old Society of College Youths was saved from a like fate by its outside members.

Once in 1771 it looked as if there was to be a revival of peal ringing at headquarters. With the help of some ringers from other societies a peal of Real Double Bob Maximus was rung at St. Martin's, but it stands quite alone. Charles Purser came over from the Cumberlands and the Sylvesters from the junior company; probably they joined the Society for the peal, but they soon left it again. As this peal was the first one of Real Double Bob Maximus ever rung, and as there is no record of it on any peal board or in any peal book I give the details.

Ancient Society of College Youths. On March 4th, 1771, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, in 4 hrs. 16 minutes, a peal of Double Bob Maximus (5,280 changes) with as many bobs before as behind. John Sylvester 1, Saml. Adams 2, Geo. Byers 3, S. Hawkes 4, R. Moore 5, C. Purser 6, T. Jackson 7, R. Berridge 8, W. Jakins 9, E. Sylvester 10, R. James 11, T. Sylvester Tenor. Call'd by Mr. Byers.

This band rang no more peals and the next for the Ancient Society were by outside members.

From early times there were College Youths scattered over what is now West London and West London suburbs, but then was country villages. Twickenham was one of the earliest centres of ringing in the country. As early as 1733 a peal of Middlesex Triples was rung there, a variation of Bob Triples composed by Annable. The band called themselves the Twickenham Scholars and during the eighteenth century they scored several peals at Isleworth and Ealing and over the river at Richmond and Mortlake. Many of them were College Youths; a Twickenham man rang in Annable's last peal, another was among the subscribers to Holt's broadsheet, and the Society's book contains the names of several others. (Note 13.) All their later peals were rung for the College Youths. (Note 14.)

Closer in, but still out in the country, there were College Youths at Fulham and St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington. These men were simply College Youths; the trouble and split at headquarters were nothing to them, and they still remained with the old Society. One of them was a man named James Worster, a keen and ambitious ringer who lived at Chelsea. He and his band rang 6,000 Bob Major at Mortlake in 1775, and they fol-

lowed it up next year with three peals in the same method, one a 10,640. John Cole, who rang the sixth to that peal, belonged to a family whose names appear frequently on peal boards in the district.

With these performances the old Society was once more making history, but in themselves they had little permanent effect. Worster found the place too strait for him and went over to the junior company. He rang in many of their peals and called some.

It was another and a much more notable man who put the Ancient Society once more among the leading peal ringing companies. William Jones is probably quite unknown to the great majority of ringers to-day. Even to those who are well acquainted with the history of ringing he is little more than a name. Yet the chief author of the 'Clavis' has earned an honourable place on the roll of leading ringers, and in his own generation he was a very influential person indeed.

Like all these old ringers, the materials for an account of him and his doings are of the barest description. There is, I think, only one actual sentence of narrative which refers to him, and that in manuscript. But his name is frequent in peal books and name books, and his influence is clearly discernible in the events of the time. He was a man rather better to do than the rest; of no more than average ability as a ringer and composer; he had considerable literary gifts and a distinct capacity for leadership. He was one of those men who, without being themselves brilliant, have the gift of attracting brilliant men and getting the best out of them.

A remarkable proof still exists of the outstanding position he held among his contemporaries. In 1787, when he was at the height of his career and just before he published the 'Clavis,' the 'ancient' Society of College Youths rang a peal of Stedman Caters at St. John's, Horsleydown. As this was the first peal of Stedman Caters and, except for the Norwich peals, the first on any number in the method, it was a notable performance, and a board was put up to record it. Jones did not ring in the peal. After describing the performance the inscription goes on:—'May this panel transmit their names to posterity with that of the ingenious Mr. W. Jones, on whose abilities his inimitable commentaries so happily concludes with: Here the Cynic and the Panegyrist stop and join in eulogiums to such distinguished merits.'

The inflated style and the whole eulogy sound to our modern ears in rather questionable taste; but eighteenth century standards were not as ours are, and there is no doubt that this is a quite sincere tribute of admiration and esteem.

William Jones first appears as a Cumberland Youth. A man of that name joined the Society in 1754 and it may be he. But I think not. If so, as his last peal was in 1812, his active ringing career extended over nearly sixty years, which is not impossible but rather improbable. In 1767 the name again appears, and this time it is certainly our man. The other was probably a relative, possibly his father. In making investigations into old records we can easily be led astray by the similarity of names. There were many ringing families and fathers, then as now, frequently called their eldest son by their own Christian name. Thus we have two William Underwoods, both notable ringers, two Samuel Mugeridges, both notable tenor men, two George Gross', both notable conductors. Their ringing careers overlapped and sometimes it is very difficult to know which is which.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS—continued.

William Jones rang no peals with the Cumberlands in his early days. The Society's headquarters were 'The Sun' in Shoreditch. He lived in the western suburbs, at Kensington or near by, and got his ringing in the district. About 1775 John Worster formed his band and naturally Jones joined him. He rang in the 6,000 at Mortlake and the 5,264 at St. Mary Abbot's next year. This brought him in touch with the old College Youths' Society's headquarters at 'The Barn.' He was Senior Steward in 1776, and during his term of office the rules were revised. A finely printed copy of them, the only one extant, is in the British Museum. It ends with the following verse:—

'Friends and Brothers to these Rules adhere
Then Spleen and Rancour you need not fear;
These Rules observed for ever will prevent
Commotions and promote your chief Content.'

In 1776 Jones called two peals for the Society, one Grandsire Triples at Bermondsey, the other Grandsire Caters at St. Sepulchre's, Holborn.

How soon he formed the intention of writing a book on ringing we cannot, of course, know. Probably quite early; for it takes a long time, years in fact, to collect the necessary material for such a work. There was a great need for it at the time. Fabian Stedman had published his 'Tintinnalogia' and his 'Campanalogia' more than a hundred years before. The J.D. and C.M. 'Campanalogia,' largely copied from Stedman, was quite a good book when issued in 1702; but the advance in ringing during the eighteenth century was so rapid that it quickly was out of date. It was reprinted four times in 1705, 1733, 1753 and 1766. The last edition—Monk's—was about as much use to a London ringer of 1766 as a treatise on bows and arrows would be to a modern soldier. For a long time, both in London and the country, new methods and new peals had been continually rung. But information about them was hard to get. Except for Holt's peals there was nothing in print, and bands and composers were very loth to part with their figures. Perhaps because they did not want their performances beaten; perhaps because other people might find them false; or from mere conservatism or because means of communication were small.

It is remarkable how very few of the early compositions have survived. In Holt's time the Union Scholars adopted the laudable practice of putting the figures in their peal books, and the London Youths to some extent copied them. But except in rare cases these examples were not followed and much valuable and interesting information has been lost.

The writing of a new book on ringing, therefore, meant a lot of careful and patient collecting of material, and also an immense amount of new work in the way of composition.

In some respects William Jones was well qualified for the task. He knew a good deal about composing and conducting, and he was a fluent writer in the grandiloquent style of the period. But he was wise enough to know that if the book was to be a really good one, he needed the help of someone with far greater technical knowledge and bigger skill in composition than he himself possessed. He was fortunate enough to find such a one in John Reeves, a clever young ringer, and one who bade fair to become the equal or superior in composition of John Holt himself.

(Continued in next column.)

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

PROGRESS AT BARDFIELD.

A meeting of the Northern Division was held at Great Bardfield on Saturday, July 25th, and although the weather conditions were very unfavourable, 32 members attended from 14 parishes. Ringing commenced shortly after 2.30, and, later, a service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Russell), Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the association) reading the lesson.

Arrangements had been made for tea on the Vicarage lawn, but owing to the weather it was provided in the schoolroom, the Vicar taking the chair. At the business meeting, which followed, four new ringing members were elected. It was also decided to hold a meeting at Foxearth on September 19th.

Mr. Howard thanked the Vicar for his excellent and encouraging address; he also thanked the organist, the churchwarden (Mr. Smith), and the ladies who had assisted at the tea. He complimented the Bardfield ringers on the progress they had made. When the peal was augmented to eight, he said, the ringers also advanced, and to-day there was a very good local band there. Some of the older ringers were making way for the benefit of the younger men, which was the proper spirit. Mr. Jennings had interested himself in calling, and he had recently conducted a peal of Double Norwich Major, which was a credit to him (hear, hear).

The Vicar, in reply, thanked Mr. Howard on behalf of the ringers for the compliment he had paid them.

Touches in various methods, including Cambridge Surprise Major, were rung during the afternoon and evening, and it was a great pleasure to see four lads hardly in their teens making splendid headway in change ringing.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Grimsby District meeting, combined with the Lincoln Ladies' Guild, was held at Bigby on Saturday, July 18th. Members attended from Burton-on-Stather, Ulceby, Elsham, Thornton Curtis, Grimsby, Barrow, and the local members, also ringing friends from Lincoln. Mrs. R. Richardson, of Surfleet, secretary of the Lincoln Ladies' Guild, and Mr. Richardson, also Mr. G. W. Fletcher, secretary of the Central Council, and Mrs. Fletcher, the secretary and treasurer of the Ladies' Guild. The bells were kept going during the afternoon. The service was conducted by the president and Rector of the parish, the Rev. H. T. Parry. Mr. H. Rushby presided at the organ.

During the service a peal board was unveiled by Mr. G. Blanchard, conductor of Bigby tower, and dedicated by the Rector, the Rev. H. J. Parry. It is a beautiful work of art on vellum, given and designed by the Rector, being his first peal, and the first peal on the bells. Mr. G. Blanchard conducted the peal.

Thirty-four members and friends sat down to a splendid tea, very kindly provided by the president and Mrs. Parry. The president presided at the business meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Two new members were elected. A collection for the district bell fund amounted to 15s. 7d. It was decided to cancel the Thursday, July 30th, meeting at Burton-on-Stather, also the Claxby, Thursday, September 10th, meeting. It was decided through an invitation to arrange a meeting at Thornton Curtis during September. Mr. H. Rushby proposed, and Mr. G. Atkinson seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the president and Mrs. Parry for the splendid tea they had provided, also to the Rev. Parry for the use of the bells and conducting the service, and for his excellent address.

(Continued from previous column.)

Reeves played a large part, indeed a decisive part, in the story of the College Youths, but his ringing career was chiefly elsewhere, and an account of it will come better in another connection. He joined the Cumberland Society on February 21st, 1761, being then about twenty years old. He was elected to the usual minor offices in due course and rang in many peals. In time there came to him, as to other young and ambitious ringers, the desire to lead and to call peals. The Cumberlands had no lack either of leaders or conductors. George Gross was then at the height of his career and, besides him, there were Samuel Wood and others. Reeves had therefore to go elsewhere, and in 1774 he joined the London Youths.

This society now comes into the story, and a short sketch of them is necessary.

NOTE 13.—Between 1735 and 1752 there are twenty-five names of Twickenham men in the College Youths' name book.

NOTE 14.—Not all these peals are in the College Youths' peal book. I have come across instances of peals rung for the society and recorded on boards which were not entered at headquarters.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association was held at Burstow on Saturday, July 25th, when, despite the heavy showers, about thirty ringers put in an appearance at this little church. They came from Buckland, Charlwood, East Grinstead, Horley, Reigate, Redhill, Turner's Hill, and the local band. There was some good ringing during the day. At the service an interesting address was given by the Rector of Burstow (the Rev. A. Bradley), who afterwards kindly entertained the ringers to tea in the Institute. After ten, the business meeting was proceeded with, the Rector occupying the chair. Three new ringing members were elected from the Reigate tower, viz., Cyril Hygate, Ronald Tuffin, and George Swallow.

The next meeting is to be held at Lingsfield Chart in September. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, for his welcome, and address at the service, and for his hospitality in providing the tea. Thanks were also accorded to the ladies for waiting at the tables, and to Mr. John Bradley for presiding at the organ during the service.

The ringers made another visit to the tower and kept the bells going from rounds to Cambridge Surprise Minor till about nine o'clock.

A LAST TRIBUTE.

At Ellesmere, Salop, on Sunday, July 26th, the bell's of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled for the morning service as a last tribute of respect to the late veteran ringer, Mr. Samuel Meadows, of Wrexham, who died suddenly at the age of 67 years on Saturday, July 18th, and was interred by his own request at Ellesmere Cemetery. 360 of Stedman Doubles were rung by the following: A. Biggs 1, A. Allen 2, T. R. Butler (conductor) 3, A. Haynes 4, W. S. Higginson 5, J. Lloyd 6, W. Higginson 7 and J. Beddows 8. Up to about thirty years ago deceased was a prominent member of the Ellesmere band of ringers, and almost until his death took an active part in the ringing of St. Giles' Parish Church, Wrexham, where he will be greatly missed. He will also be missed by the fraternity of ringers throughout the whole country, by whom he was well known and esteemed.

LADIES' FIRST 720.

At All Saints' Church, Hartford, Hunts, on Tuesday, July 28th, 720 Bob Minor: Miss J. Shepherd 1, C. Pannell 2, E. Pannell 3, Miss H. Hibberd 4, J. Smart (conductor) 5, R. Hibberd 6. This was the first 720 rung by the Misses Shepherd and Hibberd, and the first 720 away from the treble by C. Pannell.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

The summer meeting of the association at Consett and Blackhill, on Saturday, July 25th, was well attended and successful in every way. After about an hour's ringing on the fine peal of Christ Church, Consett, one of the ropes broke, and another showed signs of following suit, so the party made tracks for St. Aidan's, Blackhill, where the light peal of eight was kept going until teatime, when a further move was made to the Parish Room, where a sumptuous meal had been prepared.

Thanks were then accorded to the clergy for the use of the bells, and to Mr. W. F. Macfeggan, the local secretary, for the excellent arrangements he had made.

An invitation had been received to try the six bells of the Blackhill Roman Catholic Church, and most of the party accepted it, but, with a tenor of 22 cwt. and the bells very hard going, the striking was far from perfect. The belfry contains a board and several cards recording 720's rung in different methods. These are all called 'peals.' Afterwards, there was further ringing at St. Aidan's.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The Leeds and District Society's annual visit to Calverley took place on July 25th. Except for a break for tea and the business meeting, ringing was continuous from 3.30 until 9 p.m. The business meeting was held in the tower, Mr. J. Hey (vice-president) being in the chair. Members were present from Armley, Batley, Bramley, Rothwell, Headingley (St. Michael's and St. Chad's), Burley, Pudsey, Queensbury, Idle and the local company. The following resolution was passed: 'That all members are asked to observe the fixed meeting dates and not fix other ringing on these dates.'

Mr. Jackson (St. Chad's), proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company for the arrangements. Mr. P. J. Johnson (St. Michael's) seconded, and Mr. C. Pratt replied on behalf of the local company. The methods rung were Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich, Stedman Triples, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise.

NETHERTON.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, July 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 46 mins.: B. Prestidge 1, H. Hill 2, B. Boote 3, A. Round 4, T. A. Townsend 5, A. Prestidge, son, 6, A. Prestidge, jun., 7, H. Hubbard (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method as conductor. All are members of the local band.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Masonic peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus recorded last week was also rung under the auspices of the Kent County Association. It was arranged as a compliment to W. Bro. White, on his installation as W.M. of 'Holmesdale' Lodge, No. 874.

Roy Woodward's performance at Leiston in ringing four Surprise methods in his first four peals gave rise to the inquiry whether this had been previously done. Mr. Walter Perkins informs us that Fred Palmer, of Irthingborough, rang, in 1930, four peals, viz., Cambridge, London, Bristol and Superlative Surprise. In this year he has rung Irchester and Superlative—all inside and at the first attempt.

There is not much that is new now left for a beginner to do, apparently, except to ring Spliced Surprise for his first peal!

EIGHT BELLS.

PEAL FOR HUSBORNE CRAWLEY CHURCH NOW COMPLETED.

Last year's patronal festival at Husbome Crawley was notable for the fact that over £100 was raised, which saw the completion of the tower restoration fund. This year the Vicar was able to state on Sunday that the two new bells wanted so badly to make a peal of eight for the church belfry had been ordered and would be delivered in a few weeks. The money to meet the expense would be forthcoming, so that no debt on the parish would be incurred. The announcement came as a great surprise and caused lively satisfaction. When the big church restoration scheme of twenty years ago was carried out and the beautiful peal of six was renovated and rehung, the frame was made for a complete peal of eight. The Vicar and his band of ringers make no secret of their delight that their cherished dream of this result will so soon be realised.

A QUICK SOLUTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The solution of Mr. A. E. Parker's problem in to-day's 'Ringing World' is:—

1. J. J. B. Lates, 248 calls, p. 133 in 'Stedman.'
2. T. Thorstans, 250 calls, p. 128 in 'Stedman.'
3. Wm. Shipway, 362 calls, p. 124 in 'Stedman.'
4. Jos. Tehhs, 622 calls, p. 121 in 'Stedman.'

August 31st, 1931.

'THE MAD HATTER.'

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

The monthly branch meeting of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, Devizes Branch, was held at Upavon on Saturday last. During the afternoon the towers of Netheravon, Fittleton and Enford were visited, and, as they are all six-bell towers in good condition, some good ringing practice was got through. Thanks are due to those ringers with private cars who so loyally assisted by taking the members around. The first two cars arrived back at Upavon in time for a short touch on that beautiful peal, while the remaining cars and motor-cycles completed their journey, and all assembled for the Guild service. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. J. Watson, who extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. Tea was followed by a short business meeting, Mr. C. D. Heginbotham presiding. The chairman spoke with pleasure of the activities of the branch members, special mention being made of Bradford-on-Avon (Christ Church), where Mr. Norman Andrews, of Trowbridge, has been teaching an entirely new band with excellent results. He also congratulated the members who had taken part in the two branch peals rung since the July meeting, at Urchfont and All Cannings. The following were elected members: The Rev. J. O. Thompson, Rural Dean of Urchfont, associate member, and Mr. N. G. Kuce, of Warminster, ringing member. The next meeting will be held at Rowde on September 5th, with ringing at Bromham in the evening, also there will be an evening practice at Heytesbury on Wednesday, August 19th, at 7 p.m. The next lecture on 'Ringing' will be given early in September. The usual vote of thanks brought the meeting to a close, and ringing at Upavon was continued till 8.15. The following methods were rung both afternoon and evening: Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor, Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles. The following towers were represented at the meeting: Devizes St. John's, St. Mary's and St. James', Southbroom, Rowde, Warminster, Upavon, Mere, Kingston Magna, Swindon, and St. Andrew's, Uxbridge. Mr. J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, took part in the ringing during the evening.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A summer meeting was held at Ely on Saturday, July 25th. This new venture was in the nature of an experiment, and proved a great success, as about 40 ringers came from as far as Croydon (or Surfleet, besides local centres. The bells of St. Mary's, Ely, are unfortunately the only ones in the town, so that Littleport and Sutton in the Isle were secured for the use of those coming from the north or south. The special ringers' service was held at 4.30 p.m., when the Bishop of Ely, who has recently become president of this association, gave an excellent address. After tea and meeting, a photograph was taken. This turned out a very fine group, copies of which can be had from Starr and Rignall, City Studio, Ely. Several young ringers took their part well in eight-bell work.

THE STEDMAN TERCENTENARY.

BELL RESTORATION CONTRACT.

The Committee responsible for carrying into effect the restoration of the bells of St. Bene't's Church, Cambridge, in celebration of the Stedman Tercentenary, have placed the contract with Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough. Their work will be confined exclusively to the bells and frame; the work in connection with the tower, which includes, as mentioned last week, a reinforced concrete beam entirely round the structure, will be entrusted to a firm of builders who specialise in work on old buildings.

The two contracts involve an expenditure of considerably over £400, so that, despite the generous response that has been made, there is still more money required to enable all the subsidiary details, such as the faculty and architect's fees, the memorial tablet, etc., to be adequately provided for.

Contributions should be sent to:

The Editor,
'The Ringing World,'
Woking, Surrey.

The Hon. Treasurer is the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn,
Broadlands, Caversham, Reading.

FABIAN STEDMAN.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I appreciate the humour of Mr. Pritchett's letter, but I do not admit a resemblance between the Shakespeare-Bacon controversy and anything I have ever written about Stedman. I have never attributed his books to any other person or questioned his ability to write them, though, likely enough, he got the benefit of advice and assistance from friends, as writers on technical subjects still do. I have always accepted the traditions about Stedman, but I do not know of any that constrains us to assume that his entire life was spent at Cambridge. In reality our knowledge of his later life was a blank, and when Mr. Owden Stedman communicated the 1713 will to the College Youths I considered that he had satisfactorily filled that blank, and in the thirty years that have since elapsed nothing has been established to confute him. Of course, future discovery may throw further light on this subject one way or the other, and I should not have troubled you with any communication about it had it not been that it has seemed to me that my use of the word 'civil servant' without explanation has latterly caused some misunderstanding and so raised a quite unnecessary difficulty which I wished, if possible, to remove. As what I wrote to 'The Bell News' in 1903 cannot now be readily accessible to the majority of your readers, I thought it the best course to restate the matter at length.

Mr. Trollope has answered for me Mr. Drake's question why I said Stedman was a printer. I accept the tradition and regard the Leicester account as a confirmation. It is no disparagement to Stedman so to call him. In the seventeenth century plenty of the sons of the gentry were apprenticed to trades, and I believe Stedman came of a family of respectable standing. As to publishing, I suppose him to have adopted the best means open to him at the time to get his books circulated.

Mr. Drake is in error in thinking I had copies of the will printed, except the one I sent to 'The Bell News.'

R. A. DANIELL.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting was held at Usk on Saturday, August 1st. There was a very good muster of representatives from both dioceses. The bells, a lovely ring of eight by Taylor, were set going early in the afternoon. Various methods were rung until 4.30, when service was held in the Parish Church, the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Edward Morgan, M.A., officiating. The address was most interesting. Tea was most generously provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Morgan. At the business meeting, presided over by the Vicar, the minutes of the previous meeting were read, and various items commented on. The report of the representatives to the Central Council meeting held at Liverpool was given by the hon. secretary, Mr. J. W. Jones. Reports of instructors and bell restorations were dealt with, and new members elected. It was decided to hold the next Monmouthshire meeting at Shirenewton, and the next Glamorganshire meeting at Cowbridge. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and his wife and to the ladies for serving at the tables were passed. The bells were kept going until late in the evening.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The 44th annual festival was held at Macclesfield on July 25th. The proceedings commenced with the Guild service, held in the Parish Church of St. Michael at 3.30 p.m. The Guild sermon was preached by the Bishop of Chester, who gave a most interesting and useful address on the relation between ringers and the Church. The service was followed by tea, at which fifty were present, most of whom attended the meeting afterwards.

The chief feature of the meeting was probably the confirmation of four grants—one each of £5 and £5 5s., and two of £7 10s., to Kidsgrove Church, the Stedman Tercentenary Fund, and the churches at Market Drayton and Rosilverne respectively.

The officers for 1931-1932 were re-elected to their positions, with the exception of that of general secretary. As Mr. J. C. E. Simpson had expressed his inability to continue in that office, the Guild were fortunate in securing the services of two of its members, Rev. W. R. Ingham, of Middlewich, the new general secretary, and Mr. H. Parker, of Northwich, the report secretary. The duties of secretaryship were by this means divided and made less onerous.

On the proposition of Mr. E. W. Elwell, it was decided to hold the annual meetings in future alternately on August Bank Holiday and on the last Saturday but one before the same, in order to secure more time for the preparation of the annual report, the publication of which by Easter Monday, the date on which the Guild have recently been meeting in alternate years, is not always possible.

It was also decided, on the proposition of Mr. A. Crawley, to print and issue a broadsheet of the Guild rules to each tower in union, as this had not been done for some years, and there were therefore many members at present in ignorance of these rules.

A motion to the effect that the words 'and loyally carry out the rules and decisions thereof' be added to Rule 18, which reads: 'The Guild shall be affiliated to the Central Council of Bellingers,' was by a large majority postponed for discussion till the next annual meeting (although carried by the committee meeting), on the grounds that the rules and decisions of the Council were about to undergo extensive revision.

Other business which was transacted included (a) the passing of a resolution proposing the transference to the list of life honorary members of the names of ringing members who had been in the Guild 40 or more years, and (b) a decision that in future any member of the Guild of five or more years' standing who leaves the diocese shall without further payment become a non-resident life member of the Guild, provided he claim the privilege at the time of leaving in writing to the general secretary.

BLACKPOOL'S WELCOME.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—On Sunday, June 28th, I happened to be spending part of my holiday in Blackpool, and, as is usual on these occasions, turned up at St. John's to ring for morning service. On arrival at the tower I found about five other South Lancashire ringers, who with myself were invited to take hold, and with the aid of the local ringers enjoyed ringing Grandsire and Stedman Triples, followed by a grand touch of Double Norwich. In the evening, some of the visitors even got in a touch of Cambridge Surprise Major. After this the holiday makers were informed by that genial veteran of the Fylde district, Mr. Chas. Sharples, that he had arranged for a peal attempt at St. Cuthbert's, Lytham, for the following Wednesday. The band, which included Mr. Sharples and two other Blackpool men, decided to ring Stedman. Unfortunately, the attempt came to grief through a shift just short of half-way.

I would like, on behalf of the visitors, to thank the Vicar and sexton at St. Cuthbert's, Lytham, for their kindness in allowing us to use the bells. Also, we wish to thank Mr. Sharples and the Blackpool ringers, who are to be commended for the way in which they arrange their service ringing.—Yours truly,

R. L.

ESSEX RINGERS IN SURREY.

The ringers of Shenfield and South Weald had their annual outing on Saturday, June 20th, and spent a most enjoyable day in Surrey. Calling first at Croydon, the party were shown over Messrs. Gillott and Johnston's Bell Foundry, and amongst the many interesting things to be seen was the carillon of 72 bells (the largest number of bells ever cast for one tower), with a tenor of 17 tons, for the University of Chicago, the guide demonstrating the many octaves and their splendid tone. The next stop was at Merstham, where the ring of six were kept busy for a short time, before the party went on to Buckland, where they were met and welcomed by the Vicar to the beautiful old church, parts of which date back to the eleventh century. On a light peal of six (tenor 6½ cwt.) some good ringing was enjoyed by all. At Leigh the visit was cut short in order not to be late for lunch at the Queen's Head Hotel, Nutfield. After this the handbells were brought into use, and much appreciated by all present. Then a delightful hour was spent with the tower bells before proceeding to Godstone for tea and an evening with the local band and some old friends. Home was reached about 11.30, all agreeing that it had been the best outing the combined towers had ever had.

THE RINGERS' PILGRIMAGE TO THE MENIN GATE.

A NEW PAGE WRITTEN IN THE ANNALS OF THE EXERCISE.

MEMORABLE TRIP TO BELGIUM.

'They shall not grow old, as we who are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the Sun—and in the Morning
We will remember them.'

'Some years ago a course of Stedman Caters was rung in Westminster Abbey over the grave of the Unknown Warrior. Why not a ringers' pilgrimage to the Menin Gate.' Thus wrote Mr. William Willson, of Leicester, in the one thousandth number of 'The Ringing World.'

The pilgrimage has been made and a new page has been written in the annals of ringing.

* * *

Mr. Willson's thoughtful suggestion materialised sooner than most people imagined. With characteristic initiative he set to work to investigate the possibilities of such an undertaking; he shouldered the business of prospecting the field and arranging the details, and the result has been that during this week a party of thirty, representing the ringers of Great Britain, has made the trip to Belgium and solemnly and reverently at the Menin Gate, on the road which so many trod never to return, remembered their fallen comrades of the belfry and all the rest of that heroic host who found their journey's end in the garden of God.

The pilgrimage has been an education and an inspiration to those privileged to take part in it, and it was a pity that a number, who made last-minute applications to accompany the party, could not be included on account of lack of time and accommodation. The 'pilgrims' who made up the little company consisted of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.A., M.C. (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), who acted as chaplain, Mr. Wm. Willson (Leicester), Mr. H. Barton (Ventnor, Isle of Wight), Mr. Wm. Bibby and Mr. J. E. Bibby (Frodsham, Cheshire), Mr. W. H. Biggs (Twickenham), Mr. E. W. Button (Rolvenden, Kent), Mr. J. W. Cotton (Overseale), Mr. W. H. Curson (Netherseale), Mr. W. H. Dove (Northampton), Mrs. L. East (North Collingham, Notts), Mr. R. F. Elkington (Austey, Leicestershire), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (Woking, Surrey), Mr. G. Harden (Rolvenden, Kent), Mr. H. D. Harris (Woburn, Beds), Mr. L. W. Jacques (Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts), Mr. C. H. Jennings and Mr. P. A. Jennings (Wyke Regis, Dorset), Mr. Johnson (Austey, Leicestershire), Mr. H. W. Lidbetter (Isleworth, Middlesex), Mr. R. Overy (Haslemere, Surrey), Mr. R. Philpott (Guildford, Surrey), Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Pulling (Guildford), Mr. H. J. Poole (Leicester), Mr. R. A. Post (Oxford), Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Rodger (Paisley, Scotland), and Mr. J. H. Wildman (Grantham). Of these, the chaplain, Messrs. Curson, Jacques, C. H. Jennings, Pulling and Rodger actually saw service on the Ypres salient. Mrs. East lost her husband on the French front, and was able to visit his grave at Arras, and Mr. Elkington was able to find the name of his brother Ernest inscribed on the Menin Gate.

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Multiplication of trains and the general confusion inseparable from August Bank Holiday traffic resulted in the failure of the 'pilgrims' to make their prearranged common rendezvous at Victoria Station on Saturday morning. Some travelled by one train, some by another; some by one boat, some by another, and it was not until they arrived at Pension Myra, Ostend, that eventually they all met. The trains were crammed, the boats packed to capacity with holiday makers, but happily the sea was on its best behaviour, and a perfect crossing was made. The second party, 'chaperoned' by the 'commanding officer,' had the handbells with them, and these were brought into play both on train and steamer, but the only thing that really remains to be recorded in this direction is the first course of 'keg-meg' on the North Sea. The ringing was never of the serious type, but, if truth be told, it was only 'put on' to divert the thoughts of certain ringers from anticipation of mal-de-mer. Dinner and the gay and brilliant promenade of Ostend were the distractions of the evening. The strange coinage was a constant source of amusement at this early stage. Having persuaded an honest Belgian to give one as many francs as possible for a Belgian note, if one made a purchase the only thing to do seemed to be to lay on the counter a handful of money and permit the shopkeeper to help himself, and it was astonishing how rapidly a handful of Belgian money melted. In trying to check up on the rate of exchange, one well-known ringer was heard to ask, 'How many of those millimetres do you get for a franc?' 'It isn't "millimetres" at all,' said his companion. 'Millimetres mean feet. What you mean is "centipedes." There's a hundred of them to a franc.'

* * *

The thunder of the guns round Ypres must have been recalled to those who served in the Salient when they were awakened about 4 a.m. on Sunday by a violent storm which passed over the town, but it did not bring the pilgrims to breakfast any earlier. The day was more or less a free one, but advantage was taken of the morn-

ing to endeavour to ring on handbells the first peal in Belgium. Complete with umpire and witness, a band of five took their places under a spreading vine which adorns one of the dining-rooms of the Myra, and launched straight into a peal of Stedman Caters, with Harold Poole at the helm, Alf Pulling as look-out man, and three others in the crew, who carried out the orders from the bridge. There were numerous spectators at the start, who afterwards drifted away—and wisely, too—to enjoy the charms of Ostend's sea front. When they returned, probably from curiosity to know how the peal was faring, but more likely to discuss the luncheon fare, they found the ringing still in progress, and heard the only serious trip. A pretty big sea was shipped when the look-out man's warning was misunderstood by one of the crew, but the helmsman brought the boat back on to her course, and she ran into harbour safely after a voyage of 2 hrs. 56 mins., amid the plaudits of the spectators and the deep relief of 'Madame,' who was anxiously waiting to lay the tables for lunch. The first peal had been rung in Belgium—a land of bells—



THE CHAPLET DEPOSITED AT MENIN GATE.

and the first peal on ten bells on the continent of Europe. It was not the first peal on the Continent, for it is on record that four members of the College Youths rang Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire at Calais. But ringing history had been made, and the first of a series of 'adventures' had been safely negotiated.

In the afternoon the 'week-end' members of the party made a non-conducted visit to Zeebrugge, which will for ever be remembered for one of the most daring and glorious episodes in British history—the storming of the Mole and the blocking of the Bruges canal. To the visitors the walk along the Mole to the spot where the great epic was enacted and the visit to the war museum was full of thrilling interest, and one stood in reverence before the towering memorial on which St. George stands, with his sword transfixing the dragon, and read the names of 'Vindictive' and those other vessels whose names stand out in letters of blood on that great page in the annals of the fighting services. Never was story told more succinctly or adequately than in the brief inscription which records that the memorial was erected 'In memory of St. George's Day, 1918, when every moment had its deed and every deed its hero.'

Monday was a day of great experiences, and will long leave among the party stirring recollections. The central act of the pilgrimage was performed, a tour was made of the Ypres salient whose defence by the British Army was one of the most heroic epics of the war, and cost us a quarter of a million lives, and a visit was paid to Bruges to listen to the most famous of all the Belgian carillons. It was a day crowded with interest; for some it recalled vividly the tragedy and comedy of many personal experiences; for others it put numerous well-remembered events into a new perspective, and corrected those indefinite notions which so often arise when knowledge is not gained at first hand.

The service at the Menin Gate will remain an ineffaceable memory. The Burgomaster of the proud city of Ypres, which has arisen phoenix-like out of the ashes of the war, had given his official sanction to the ceremony, and attended in person to meet the 'pilgrims.' Traffic was diverted, so that the proceedings might not be interrupted, and when the chaplain took his place in the centre of the roadway that passes through the great gateway, noble in its massive proportions and simple design, a hush fell upon the great assembly of visitors—people of many nations—who silently took their places along the sidewalks, and, bareheaded, watched with reverent interest the ceremony which, amid all the many scenes that have been witnessed at the Menin Gate, was unique in at least one respect.

Behind the chaplain stood Messrs. Jennings and Jacques bearing the chaplet, and, forming a semi-circle round them, were the handbell band, behind whom stood the other members of the pilgrimage. A hush fell over the assembly, which must have numbered nearly, if not quite, a thousand persons.

Then the chaplain spoke, his clear voice coming distinctly to all who stood within the confines of the gate. He began with a short exhortation:—

'Mr. Burgomaster, citizens of Ypres, brothers and sisters from the British Isles,' he said. 'There have been many British people who have stood here since the Armistice and paid their respects to the memory of the illustrious dead who gave their lives in the Great War. We, to-day, represent the church bellringers of Great Britain to the number of some forty thousand. Of that number, 1,071 gave their lives in the war, and some of them have their names on the Menin Gate. We are here to-day to pay our tribute of respect in a way which brings back a memory of a great science and art, in which we, with them, engaged in the days gone by, and in which we are still engaged. We propose to ring for a short space handbells after the manner in which our church bells are rung in our home land, and at the conclusion to deposit at the Menin Gate a chaplet which is significant of that science and art and music which we love and they love with us.'

He then asked the assembly to join with him in spirit in short prayers. The first was in remembrance of those who fell in the war:—

'O Heavenly Father, we bless Thy Holy Name for the memory of our brethren who fell in the Great War; do Thou, we pray Thee, crown the gift of their matchless courage with the gift of eternal peace, and grant that we, encouraged by their example and strengthened by their fellowship, may with them be found meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.'

Then, after a prayer for union and concord within the nations, came the collect so often associated with ringers' services:—

'Grant, O Lord, that all they for whose passing away from this world these bells shall sound, may enjoy mercy, light and everlasting rest in the Paradise of Thine elect; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with Thee and the Holy Ghost be all honour and glory, world without end.'

The prayers concluded, the handbells spoke. A whole pull in rounds—then silence; complete and absolute, throughout the gateway, which lasted for the space which another whole pull in rounds would have encompassed. The second whole pull, and again silence; a third, and once more silence. Then the bells struck into a course of Grandsire Caters, which was beautifully rung at a stately pace, but it is safe to say that never was a course rung under more trying conditions for the ringers. Remember the place; remember the circumstances; remember the watchful interest of a thousand pairs of eyes; remember the anxiety of the ringers that nothing should mar the solemnity of the occasion, and you can imagine the strain which these five men must have felt as they discharged the duty entrusted to them. It was magnificently done, and this record would not be complete without their names: Raymond Philpott 1-2, Redvers F. Elkington 3-4, Alfred H. Pulling 5-6, Harold J. Poole 7-8, Henry D. Harris 9-10.

At the conclusion of the ringing, the chaplain, as the senior in rank of the ex-Service men present, deposited the chaplet, and, returning to the centre, brought the deeply impressive ceremony to a close by reciting the Ascription.

The chaplet occupies a conspicuous position among many hundreds which line the sides of the memorial, and was inspected with interest by a large number of visitors.

Afterwards the pilgrims were snapshotted on the ramparts by the Gate, and a large number of the public followed them apparently in the hope of hearing some further ringing, which, to them, was an entirely novel thing.

The massive splendour of the Menin Gate, and the noble dignity of its proportions, have to be seen to be realised. It contains the names, cut in the stone, of nearly sixty thousand British officers and men, 'who fell in the Ypres Salient, but to whom the fortune of war denied the known and honoured burial given to their comrades in death,' and over the entrance at either end, surmounted by the British lion, is inscribed: 'To the armies of the British Empire who stood here from 1914 to 1918, and to those of their dead who have no known grave.' As one stands and looks for the first time on this great memorial and scans these dedicatory words, involuntarily there comes a catch in the throat when one reads that last sentence. They passed out of sight, British soldiers, 'known to God,' but a proud and grateful nation has seen to it that their names shall be for ever remembered.

En route to Ypres, a diversion was made to inspect the monster gun, now derelict, known as 'Long Max,' which, during the war, from the seclusion of a great wood, shelled Dunkirk, 28 miles distant. This enormous engine of destruction was made by Krupp before the war, and is said to have been one of fifteen prepared for the bombardment of Dover from the French coast. Along the road towards Ypres was Houthulst Forest, of evil memory. This has now given place very largely to fair farm lands, but there still remains a portion where, above the new undergrowth, blackened and perished tree stumps are still a reminder of the war. It was a curious coincidence that at the very time the 'pilgrims' were passing this spot, clearing operations were in progress, and several explosions, sending up great showers of earth and tree roots, were witnessed.

Poelcapelle, with the Guynemer monument to that famous French air 'ace' who finally crashed at this spot, and the striking Canadian memorial in the St. Julien cemetery, where rest the two thousand men of the Dominion who lost their lives in the first gas attack launched by the Germans, were the next main points of interest. Then Hill 60, where, from the summit with a panorama laid out on both sides of the ridge, the party listened to a short but graphic story of the struggle which ebbed and flowed over this historic ground, where Mr. Rodger had himself fought with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, and in the storming of which he took part. The itinerary then took the party past 'Hell Fire Corner' to the great objective of the tour, the Menin Gate.

Ypres itself is a new city—a great testimony to the courage and the resource of the Belgians. It is no collection of cheap and shoddy buildings erected amid the debris of its former self. With wise vision the authorities insisted upon the rebuilding of the town with some resemblance to its former picturesqueness; hence its architecture is varied and typical of the days before its destruction. A magnificent cathedral, a delight to the eye, both internally and externally, and worthy of the faith for which it stands, rears itself above the city, while close beside it remains the only substantial evidence of the ruthless fate which overtook the old town. A portion of a wall of the famous thirteenth-century Cloth Hall and the heavily-shored remains of the ancient tower still stand as a reminder; but for the rest Ypres is a city of substantial appearance and, at this season of the year at all events, considerable activity.

It was with interest that the padre pointed out the route by which he once entered the ruined city on a visit prompted by curiosity early one morning, and by which he and his companions much more quickly decamped when the Germans resumed their bombardment at an unexpectedly early hour.

A place of conspicuous interest is St. George's Memorial Church, the English Church of Ypres, in which the regiments who fought on the Salient are commemorated, together with their first commander-in-chief, Lord French of Ypres. The interior is light and cheerful, and yet strikes a note of solemnity. There is said to be a desire to place a ring of six bells in the square tower.

After Ypres came Steenstrate, Dixmude, Pervyse and Nieupoort, inseparably connected with countless deeds of valour in the holding up of the invader in his rush to the Channel ports. It was in this area that the sluice gates of the Yser canal were opened, and miles of country flooded, and the first serious check offered to the Germans in their endeavour to reach Dunkirk and Calais.

While touring through this section the pilgrims stopped and inspected a typical British cemetery, at Essex Farm. There are 177 of the hallowed plots 'which are for ever England' dotted along the battle front. They are beautiful spots, cared for by the British War Graves Commission. Every grave is marked with a stone, most of them recording the name and regiment of the soldier who lies beneath, and, where known, the date of his death. His regimental badge is carved at the head, except in the case of those who have been unidentified, and these, which, like the rest, bear the insignia of the Cross, are engraved with the simple inscription: 'A soldier of the Great War. Known to God.'

Those who have loved ones lying in any of these cemeteries, and who are unable to visit these hallowed places, can take comfort from the fact that the graves and all the surroundings are beautifully kept and cared for. On every grave flowers bloom, and to walk through one of these cemeteries is like walking through a glorious garden tended by loving hands. The British cemeteries on the battle front

(Continued on page 512.)

THE PILGRIMAGE TO MENIN GATE (continued).

are a revelation to those who have not seen them before. The first resting place of untold thousands of these men was often in a shell-swept desert; their last resting place is a beautiful and holy spot.

At Nieuport there is preserved a section of the Belgian trenches and dugouts, which have now been made permanent in concrete, and have become a show place for excursionists. They lined the southern bank of the Yser canal near the sea, while the Germans were similarly entrenched on the other side of the narrow strip of water. While the pilgrims were inspecting this last point of interest of the excursion, a terrific thunderstorm broke and drove them hurriedly to the shelter of the coaches. The rain came down in a deluge before Ostend was reached, but the storm had passed by the time dinner was over, and the party set out upon their second excursion of the day.

Twice a week during the summer the famous carillon at Bruges is played. Monday was one of the occasions, and it was seized upon by the pilgrims to gain yet another new experience—and it is an experience to hear a continental carillon. Bruges is perhaps the most celebrated of all the Flanders bell towers, and Longfellow has stirred the imaginations of thousands by his poem describing the bells of this quaint old Flemish city. Night was falling as the pilgrims set foot in the ancient market square. From far above them came the strange, ethereal music. Seated in front of the cafes on two sides of the square, standing in groups about the spacious market place, where the flower-decked pylons raise their slender stems, or wandering aimlessly to and fro, were hundreds of the citizens of Bruges, and visitors listening to the playing of M. Nauwelaerts, the carillonneur of the city. It seemed weird, and almost mysterious music, but the carillon is different to the bells which we delight to ring. It is an instrument like a piano, which must be heard as a whole, and when played by the deft hands of a master it has a charm all its own—a charm which is very dear to the heart of the Belgian. And while the audience listened, suddenly the tower was illuminated by spot lights. The whole setting was transformed. The delicate tracery of the beautiful tower was thrown out in bright relief against the dark background of the sky. It was a piece of fairyland dropped into the middle of a commonplace continental scene. It was wonderful. And long after the bell music had ceased and the pilgrims were speeding on their way to Ostend, this white pillar could be seen rearing itself to the sky and standing out in the blackness of the night like a beacon.

On Tuesday came the parting of the ways, and duty called ten of the pilgrims back to England. They left with great reluctance, but with the happiest of memories. What has befallen the remainder since Tuesday morning will be told later. But even in this review the whole has not been told of the events which filled three days, packed from beginning to end with incident and interest.

The expedition was carried out through the organisation of the Free Church Touring Guild, of which Sir Henry Lunn, Ltd., act as agents, and by this means the comfort and convenience of the party were secured in every detail. It has been a tour without worry, and much of its smooth working, and certainly a large part of its interest, has been made possible by Sir Henry Lunn, Ltd.'s, two representatives, Mr. J. L. Hancock, who acted as guide on the battlefields, and Dr. P. L. Collignon. Nor must the indebtedness of the pilgrims be overlooked to Mme. Janhere, of the Pension Myra, Ostend, which has been the headquarters for the week, for her attention to the needs of the party.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.

The Saffron Walden Society were once again favoured with fine weather on their annual outing, held on Monday, July 6th. Leaving at 9 a.m., they first visited Royston, where the bells were set going to Stedman Triples. After a few changes had been rung in a touch of London, the fifth rope broke, and this stopped further ringing here. After a look round the interesting old caves, the party moved on to Baldock, where London and Cambridge Surprise, Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung. Going on to Hitchin, the society was met by the Vicar, Rev. R. F. R. Routh, and some of the local band. They were especially pleased to meet the Vicar, who so often visited the Saffron Walden tower whilst he was Vicar of Castle Camps. The methods rung at Hitchin were Stedman Triples, London, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, the Vicar and members of his band taking part.

Lunch was then taken at the Sun Hotel, the Rev. R. F. R. Routh being present. Subsequently, the journey was continued to Cardington, but owing to illness near the church, no ringing could be done here, and, after inspecting the church and the grave of the victims of the R101 disaster, a move was made for Bedford, which was reached at 4.15 p.m. This gave ample time to look round the town and have tea, before meeting at the tower at 6 p.m., where members of the local band were waiting to meet the visitors. The methods rung here were Stedman Caters, London and Cambridge Surprise.

The homeward journey was commenced at 8 p.m., and Saffron Walden reached at 10.15 p.m., all agreeing that a very enjoyable day had been spent. The society would like to take this opportunity of thanking the incumbents for the use of the bells, and the steeple-keepers for having everything ready.

L. E. P.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

HARLOW COMMON.—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalen, on Sunday, August 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,260 changes) in 40 mins.: S. Clark 1, W. Wheeler 2, L. Cordell 3, H. Smale (conductor) 4, J. Brown (longest in method) 5, I. Cavill 6, J. Cordell 7, C. Button 8. Arranged for ringers of 5th and tenor.

GREENWICH.—On Sunday, August 2nd, for evensong, at St. Alfege Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins. (a variation of Thurstans): A. F. Petrie 1, H. Hoskins 2, E. E. Richards 3, J. J. Lamb 4, P. C. C. Davis 5, W. Berry 6, G. H. Daynes (conductor) 7, F. W. Thornton 8. Rung also as a compliment to Miss Doris A. Hoskins, daughter of the ringer of the 2nd, on obtaining her degree of B.A. (London). This was a happy reunion, after a lapse of six years, of five of the original Sunday service ringers at this church.

OXFORD.—At All Saints', on Sunday, July 26th, for evening service, a quarter peal of Stedman Triples in 47 mins.: A. Badder 1, A. Williams 2, A. Hawes 3, W. Simmonds 4, J. A. Dart 5, H. Gardner 6, H. Miles (conductor) 7, H. Bunce 8. Arranged for Mr. J. Dart, of London, and to mark the jubilee of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. First quarter-peal by ringers of treble and tenor, and first of Stedman by the 2nd and 6th ringers.

GORING, OXON.—On Sunday evening, July 26th, for divine service, 720 Grandsire Triples: R. Barkus, jun., 1, J. Napper 2, W. Aldridge 3, L. Haynes 4, J. Bower 5, W. Napper (conductor) 6, G. Wilson 7, R. Barkus, sen., 8. This is the longest length by all except the ringer of the 5th, and are all Sunday ringers at the Parish Church.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.—At St. Mary's Church, for evening service, on July 19th, 720 Bob Minor: S. Pipe 1, C. Abilt 2, F. C. Clarke 3, T. Hoggar 4, F. J. Crapnell 5, C. Clarke (conductor) 6. Also 180 of Bob Minor. Much credit is due to Tom Hoggar in ringing his 2nd 720 on an 'inside' bell. He only started change ringing a few months ago.

DEVIZES, WILTS.—On Sunday, July 12th, at St. James' Church, after the afternoon service, 720 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Minor: G. Winter 1, V. E. Swift 2, G. Cuss 3, S. Hillier 4, W. A. Swift (conductor) 5, F. Green 6. Also at St. Mary's, for evening service, on August 2nd, 720 changes of Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Bolwell 1, E. G. Swift 2, V. E. Swift 3, R. Swift 4, W. A. Swift (conductor) 5, F. Green 6. First 720 of Cambridge by all except the treble and fourth ringers.

HOLBECK, LEEDS.—On Sunday, July 12th, for morning service, at St. Matthew's Church, in 22 mins., 720 Bob Minor: W. L. Toogood 1, A. Teale, jun., 2, W. Burgess 3, W. Woodhead 4, R. Clarke 5, W. Draper (conductor) 6. For evensong, 1,184 Bob Major in 42 mins.: W. L. Toogood 1, J. A. Teale 2, L. W. G. Morris (conductor) 3, W. Woodhead 4, W. Burgess 5, P. Cannon 6, R. Clarke 7, Wilfrid Draper 8. This was the longest length by all the band except the ringers of 2, 3 and 4.

FULNEY, Lincs.—For Civic Sunday parade service, on May 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: C. Humphries 1, L. Everett 2, G. Cooper 3, Miss D. Clay 4, R. Mackman 5, A. Grounds 6, Hy. Nichols (conductor) 7, C. Quinton 8.

TWICKENHAM.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, May 3rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: Miss P. Giles 1, Miss K. Bradford 2, Miss J. Stapleton 3, A. E. Bradford 4, W. H. Hollier 5, E. A. Morris 6, C. W. F. Hunt (conductor) 7, J. Lovell 8. All are members of the local band, except ringers of 5 and 7.

FRYERNING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, May 3rd, at St. Mary's, before 11 a.m. matins, 720 London Surprise and 720 Cambridge Surprise; before 6.30 p.m. evensong, 720 Norwich Surprise and 720 Ipswich Surprise. The ringers were L. Camp, G. Camp, C. Harrington, E. Sitch, H. Wright, and A. Bradley; London Minor conducted by L. Camp, the rest by A. Bradley.

BARLEY, HERTS.—For the evening service, on May 3rd, 960 changes of Grandsire Doubles: Dennis Howard 1, R. Howard 2, W. Mansfield (conductor) 3, H. Howard 4, F. Hayes 5, W. A. Tack 6. Longest length for the ringer of the treble, who is 14 years of age.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD.—On Sunday, May 3rd, for evening service, also as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble and 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: Miss D. Wacey 1, F. Springham (conductor) 2, H. M. White 3, Rev. F. W. Lane 4, E. Bird 5, G. Talbot 6, W. T. Prior 7, W. Wilkinson 8.

MACCLESFIELD.—On Sunday, May 3rd, for evening service, on the occasion of the Sunday School sermons at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,344 changes) in 55 mins.: A. V. Rees 1, A. Challinor 2, P. L. Ronan 3, J. Pippet 4, W. Stevenson 5, J. Worth 6, W. Gayes 7, J. Waumsley (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal as conductor. First quarter-peal of Major on the bells.—For evening service, on Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by the same band, with J. Worth as conductor.

LEWISHAM.—On Sunday evening, April 26th, for divine service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 43 mins.: H. Warnett, sen., 1, Charles Walker 2, H. James 3, J. Bennett (conductor) 4, W. Fox 5, H. Warnett, jun., 6, J. Dafters 7, H. Goodwin 8.

VISIT TO WELLS.

The ringers of St. Thomas' Church, Stourbridge, had their annual outing on July 18th, when, with their wives and friends, and accompanied by the Rev. W. Smith, they journeyed by coach to Wells, Somerset. They started at 6 a.m., and after a delightful run through Worcester, Tewkesbury, Cheltenham and Cirencester, a halt was made at Malmesbury for refreshments and a view of the old Abbey. Leaving Malmesbury at 9.30 via Chippenham and Bath, Wells was reached soon after 11 o'clock, and a little later the party were met by the Bishop of Taunton, who kindly acted as guide on a tour of the Cathedral, which was much enjoyed. After dinner, the ringers adjourned to the tower to ring on the Cathedral's celebrated bells. The party then made a tour of the Palace grounds, which are very beautiful and were much admired. Leaving Wells, a glorious run through Chewton Mendip in beautiful sunshine brought them to Bristol, where tea was served. The ringers then made a move to St. Stephen's Church, where they were met by Mr. Wm. Knight and Mr. John Burford, secretary and conductor respectively of St. Stephen's band, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters were brought round and much appreciated by the visitors. A start for home was made at 7.30, and, after a short stay at Tewkesbury to have a peep at the pageant being held there, the party arrived home safely at 11.15 p.m., with the unanimous feeling that it had been a very enjoyable day. Mr. W. Farley was responsible for the major part of the arrangements, assisted by Messrs. A. E. Whatmore and C. W. Cooper, to whom a vote of thanks was accorded.

EARLS COLNE RINGERS VISIT SUFFOLK TOWERS.

The St. Andrew's Guild, Earls Colne, held their annual outing on Saturday, July 18th, when 16 members travelled by motor coach to various parts of Suffolk. Leaving home at 8 a.m., the first call was made at Long Melford, where, after inspecting the church, ringing commenced for the day. Leaving Melford, the next halt was made at Bury St. Edmunds. Here the company had a fine opportunity of seeing some of the historical parts of the town, including St. James' Church and the Norman tower. The next call was made at Elveden, where they received a great welcome from the Vicar, who conducted them over this beautiful little church with its exquisite carvings. A cloister, leading from the church to a beautiful tower erected in 1922 and containing an excellent peal of eight bells, adjoins Elveden Park, the country seat of Lord and Lady Iveagh. Going into the tower the company was met by some of the local ringers, and a well-struck course of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung. Everyone regretted that time would not allow a longer stay, and away the party sped to Mildenhall, where they found an excellent lunch awaiting them at the High Street Cafe. Lunch over, they were joined by some of the local band, and enjoyed some very good striking on the fine peal of eight. Away again to Newmarket, where, as before, they received a very warm welcome. This being a six-bell tower, the young members of the company soon distinguished themselves. Twenty-five miles now separated them from Sudbury, where they were due for tea, and, arriving there at 5.30, they were delighted to meet the Vicar of Earls Colne (the Rev. O. L. Martin), who is president of the Guild. All took tea together with members of the Suffolk Guild. After tea, all three towers in Sudbury were visited, and a most enjoyable time was spent. Home was reached at 9.30, everyone agreeing that the excellent organisation had given them a most enjoyable day. The secretary (Mr. F. Ridgwell), as well as the company, is grateful to all the ringers they met en route and for the great welcome that was accorded them, which was the means of making the outing such a success.

DARLEY DALE RINGERS' OUTING.

A party of Darley Dale ringers and their friends visited various towers in Staffs and Cheshire on July 25th. Proceeding by way of the Via Gellia to Ashbourne, a brief halt was made to view the beautiful old church, but as it is now under repair it was not seen at its best. Leek was the next stopping place, and here the ringers had the use of the Parish Church bells for about an hour, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung. The journey was then resumed by way of Congleton, Middlewich and Northwich to Great Budworth, an old-world village having a high situation overlooking Northwich. It has a fine old church with a peal of eight bells, which were rung to Grandsire Triples, Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major. Here the party partook of lunch, after which they continued the tour to Cheadle, near Stockport, passing through Altrincham en route. At Cheadle the ringers were again permitted to use the bells, and the methods rung were Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Minor. After tea, they resumed the journey to Hazel Grove, which was to be the final stopping place of the tour, and here, again, the ringers had the use of the bells of St. Thomas' tower for touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Major and Cambridge Surprise Major. At about 8 p.m. the last stage of the journey was begun, and Darley Dale—by way of New Mills and Buxton—was reached about 10 p.m., at the end of a 'perfect day.' The ringers wish to express their thanks to the local men at the various towers who gave them a helping hand to assist them over the difficulty of being somewhat shorthanded.

LAVENHAM RINGERS' OUTING.

The SS. Peter and Paul's Guild of ringers held their tenth annual outing on Saturday, July 25th. The party proceeded by motor coach to Beccles via Stowmarket and Bungay. The first ringing of the day was a course of Grandsire Caters on handbells by the roadside. Reaching Beccles, the party were conducted to the detached campanile of St. Michael's Church by Messrs. Goate, sen., and Goate, jun. Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples, and Kent Major were tapped off in style on this fine peal. The next halt was St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft, where courses of Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich and Oxford Treble Bob Major were brought home. After lunch the journey was continued to St. Nicholas' Church, Great Yarmouth. This church, the largest in England, having an area of 25,023 square feet, was much admired by the visitors. The ringers were greeted by members of the St. Nicholas' Guild. The following methods were rung: Stedman Triples, Kent Major, Grandsire Triples and Caters, also a well-struck course of Grandsire Cinques by members of the two Guilds. The ringers wish to take this opportunity of thanking Messrs. Goate (2), Woodley, Haywood and Harwood, and all others for their kind help, also the incumbents of the three churches visited.

YARMOUTH RINGERS' OUTING.

The annual outing of St. Nicholas' company, Great Yarmouth, was held on Saturday, June 27th, and was favoured with excellent weather. A start was made from Yarmouth at 8 a.m. in a 14-seater saloon coach, and, after a fine run, Bury St. Edmunds was reached, where, at the Norman tower, a touch of Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples were rung on the fine peal. Members of the local company were present. The visitors proceeded to Lavenham for dinner, which was served at the Swan Hotel and greatly enjoyed. At the tower of SS. Peter and Paul's Church they were met by members of the local company, and touches of Stedman and Double Norwich were rung before departing for Wymondham, where tea was awaiting the party. On the fine peal of eight at St. Mary's, touches of Kent, Double Norwich, and Stedman were rung. This brought ringing for the day to a finish. The journey home was broken by a short stop at Norwich, and Yarmouth reached at 10.30 p.m., after a most enjoyable day. The company take this opportunity of thanking the incumbents for their kindness in granting permission to ring at their respective churches, also Mr. Chinery and the other ringers at Bury, Mr. A. Symonds and his sons at Lavenham, Mr. W. Clover and others at Wymondham for their kindness and the hospitality shown to everyone. J. H.

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First rung at Royston, Herts, on July 16th, 1931, conducted by its composer.

HOLBECK, LEEDS.—On Thursday, July 30th, at St. Matthew's Church, 800 Bob Major: W. L. Toogood 1, S. Roper 2, L. W. G. Morris (conductor) 3, A. Teale, jun., 4, F. W. Perrens (Coventry) 5, C. E. Lawson 6, E. Clarke 7, P. J. Johnson 8.

DEANE, NEAR BASINGSTOKE.—On Wednesday, July 29th, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins.: A. Taylor 1, B. Garrett (first 720 on 'inside' bell) 2, H. Garrett 3, H. Balaam 4, W. Hunt (conductor) 5, J. Chesterman 6. Rung at a combined practice.

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.

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LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD (late St. James' Society).—August Meetings:—Sunday, 2nd, St. Clement Danes, 10 a.m.; Tuesday, 4th, St. Mary Lambeth, 8 p.m.; Monday, 10th, St. Clement Danes, 7.30 p.m.; Monday, 24th, St. Clement Danes, 7.30 p.m.—Chas. O. Moore, Hon. Sec., 7, Station Road, Camberwell, S.E. 5.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rochdale Branch. —A meeting will be held at Cross Stone, Todmorden, on Saturday, August 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—William Horan, 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton District. —The quarterly meeting arranged for August 8th at Froxfield has been cancelled, as the bells there are not in a fit state to be rung. The next meeting is fixed for October 24th, at Blackmoor.—B. C. Taylor, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at 'St. Paul's Cathedral on the 11th and 25th, St. Magnus' on the 13th and 27th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 20th; at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. —William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at Hendon on Saturday, August 8th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m., 1s. each. *Do please advise me.* All ringers welcome.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E. 4.

CAMBRIDGE.—Our Lady & English Martyrs (R.C.).—Ringing: Sunday morning 9.45; evening by arrangement. Practice: Tuesdays, 7 p.m.—Visiting ringers apply R. Lathbury, Castle St., Cambridge.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. —A ringing meeting will be held at Turner's Hill on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. A meeting will be held at Hale on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 1s. each, and meeting to follow. A good attendance is requested. —Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Weston on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—Theo Grant, Branch Sec., Swainswick, Bath, Somerset.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Bottesford on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Come and try this grand lot. Tea can be arranged for later.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., 23, Shaw Street, Ilkeston.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Penistone on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) available 2.30.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Rainford on Saturday, August 8th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—James Grounds, Branch Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The second quarterly meeting will be held at Melbourne on Saturday, August 8th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting will be held in room near to church at 4.30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Reports can be obtained and subscriptions paid.—Geo. Freebrey, Hon. Sec., 81, Roe Street, Derby.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Wisbech.—A mid-week meeting will be held at Downham Market on Wednesday, August 12th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—Edward Barker, Branch Sec., Shouldham, King's Lynn, Norfolk.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next meeting on Saturday, August 15th, at St. Paul's, Bath Road, Hounslow. Ringing 4 to 8. Break 5.30 to 6.30 for tea and meeting. Social hour and handbells 8. Postcards appreciated by the Hon. Dis. Sec., J. Herbert, 17, Grimston Road, S.W. 6.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Crich on Saturday, August 15th. Service 4.30. Tea will be arranged only for those who notify Mr. W. Piggin, near Church Crich, Matlock, by Thursday, August 13th.—J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—A meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 12th, at St. Paul's, Whitley Bay. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District. —A meeting will be held at Laceby on Saturday, August 15th. Bells (5) ready early. Service 4.15. Tea (1/- per head) 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea to Messrs. Graham Bros., Laceby, Grimsby, by Thursday, August 13th.—H. I. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Sharnbrook on Saturday, August 15th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Everyone heartily welcome.—Percy C. Bonnett, Hon. Dis. Sec., Rose Cottage, Stagsden, Beds.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Biddulph on Saturday, August 15th. Tea will be provided for all who notify Mr. J. Cottrell, 36, Congleton Road, Biddulph, before August 13th.—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, August 15th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. Bracewell, Hon. Sec., 8, Regent Street, Bacup.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Shipbourne (6 bells) on Saturday, August 15th. Tower open at 2.30, service at 4.30. Tea in the Club Hall (free) after service, followed by business meeting. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Wednesday, August 12th. As this meeting is arranged by invitation of the Vicar in connection with the Jubilee of the church, a good muster of members is desired.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The Bolton Borough Police have again placed their athletic ground in Bromwich Street, Bolton, at the disposal of ringers on Saturday, August 15th. A bowling match will be arranged during the afternoon—Police v. Ringers. Social in the evening. Usual arrangements as to food. Names please by Aug. 12th to Peter Crook, 203, Devonshire Rd., Bolton.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—Meeting at Burwell on Saturday, August 15th. Bells (5) available at 3. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Ringing at Fordham (6) during the evening.—K. Willers, Dis. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, August 15th. Bells at liberty 5 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, August 15th. Bells (8) 2.30. A service in church at 4.30, followed by tea and meeting at 5.15. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, August 12th. A good attendance is desired.—A. E. Coombes, Hon. Sec., 8, Council Houses, Galleywood, Chelmsford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Fairfield (Buxton) on Saturday, August 22nd. Bells of St. Peter's (6) available afternoon and evening. Tea 1/- each to those who notify Mr. S. Boundy, 19, Queen's Road, Buxton. Burbage bells (6) may also be available. Visitors welcome.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Brownedge R.C. Church on Saturday, August 22nd. Bells available from 2.30. Election of branch officers. A good attendance is requested.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Arley on Saturday, August 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. Tea announcement later.—D. E. Lewis, Gen. Hon. Sec., Firholm, King Edward Rd., Nuneaton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, August 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30, at 9d. All ringers welcome. Please advise for tea, and oblige.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

POKERWORK PEAL BOARDS are designed by a ringer to meet the needs of the ringing community. Prices range from 2/6 to 15/. Colours are introduced into the larger sizes, thus giving a distinctive touch to any belfry. A small specimen for inspection will be sent on request.—H. Gilbert, Paddock Wood, Kent.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Yorkshire Association.—Southern Division.—Will members address all correspondence to 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster?—F. Clark, Hon. Sec.

MARRIAGE.

BLACK—YORK.—At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Kettering, by the Rev. H. D. E. Rokeby, on August 1st, 1931, Robert G. Black, of Geddington, to Doris E. York, of Kettering.

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