

THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 1931.

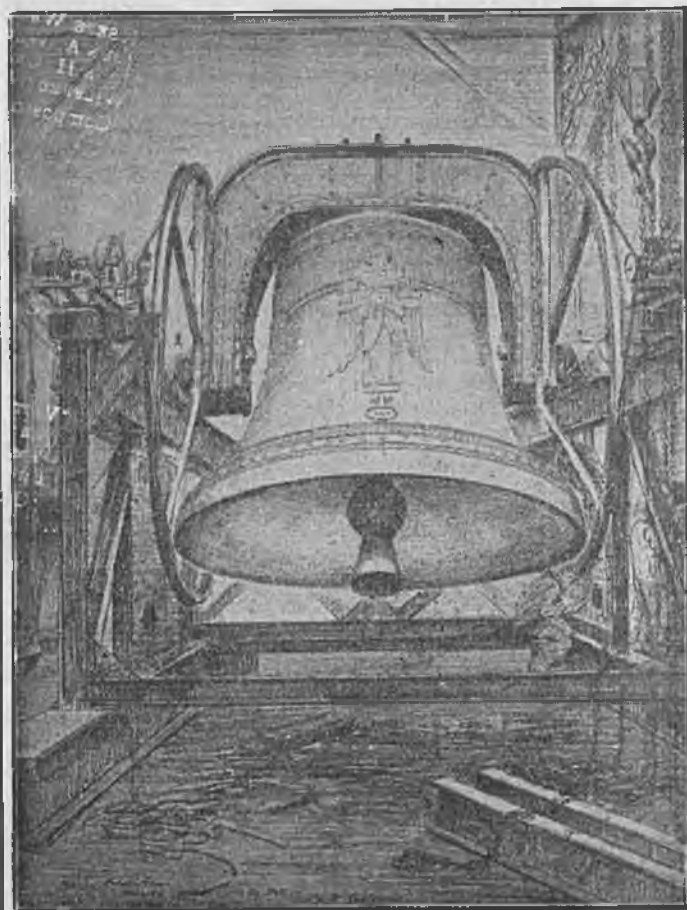
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THE 18 TON RINGING BELL,
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THE STEDMAN SPIRIT.

About eleven months ago 'The Ringing World' set out to organise a national commemoration of the tercentenary of Fabian Stedman's birth. Last Saturday that work was completed, and we may, perhaps, be pardoned if we say that the success of our efforts and the fulfilment of our aims is a matter of great gratification. No proposal ever put before the Exercise has captured the imagination of ringers as this scheme has done. It has revealed a wonderful unity of purpose; it has manifested, too, the extraordinary place which Stedman retains, after a lapse of three centuries, in the appreciation of the Exercise. What Stedman did, he did purely for the love of the art; he could have anticipated no reward except the satisfaction of knowing that he had done what in him lay to preserve whatever knowledge of change ringing existed and to consolidate its foundations and extend its boundaries so that those who came after him might have a more stable and more commodious structure in which to develop the science. There is a lesson in this for all of us. Too many ringers in these days want their ringing provided for them; they are willing to take all there is to be got out of it, but are not so ready to put into it all of which they are capable. If everyone was imbued with the spirit of Stedman, and was anxious to leave the art a little better than he found it, in his tower, in his Guild, or in the Exercise as a whole, ringing would be all the better and ringers more efficient in the service of the Church.

There was a remarkable enthusiasm about last Saturday's gathering at Cambridge, and among all those present the day, we feel sure, will remain an interesting memory. "Gratitude, thankoffering and thanksgiving" were, as the Vicar of St. Benedict's Church reminded the large congregation, the keynote of the service, and it has been in that spirit that the whole scheme has been carried out. The commemoration proposals were launched through 'The Ringing World,' but they could not have been carried to such a successful issue without the co-operation of the Exercise as a whole, and particularly of certain leading members of it, who threw themselves wholeheartedly into the scheme, and have given unstintingly of their expert knowledge, time and labour, in order that nothing might be left undone which would ensure that the work of restoration should be as complete and effective as possible. In this connection 'The Ringing World' gratefully acknowledges the assistance given by the president, the hon. secretary and the hon. librarian of the Central Council. Their work has been absolutely invaluable. Then, too, we have to acknowledge the enthusiasm, the courtesy and the help

(Continued on page 790.)

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of the venerable Vicar of St. Benedict's, the Rev. W. Greenwood, who has smoothed away difficulties, and, in fact, made the whole scheme possible.

From this time onward, as we say elsewhere, St. Benedict's will enshrine all our memories of Fabian Stedman; it will be hallowed ground to ringers in the generations to come. The tower, already a national relic in the antiquarian sense, is now a national possession in the eyes of the Exercise. More than any other place in the kingdom will it be looked upon as the first home of change ringing, and, enfolded as it is in the bosom of the University, we hope that in the future it may be a training ground from which many young men may go out into the world to promote the art, as Stedman himself went out as a 'missionary' more than two hundred and fifty years ago. If this end can be effected, the ringers' national memorial to one of the art's greatest pioneers will be something more than an act of gratitude shown in the restoration of an historical peal of bells; it will be a memorial in what we believe to be the true Stedman spirit, namely, a means of diffusing knowledge of the 'artes and mysteries' of change ringing.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WESTERHAM, KENT.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5066 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt. in E flat.

ROYDON DAVIES Treble	FREDERICK G. WOODISS ... 5
HERBERT J. SKELT 2	ALFRED J. TRAPPITT 6
*RONALD H. DOVE 3	DANIEL COOPER 7
EDWARD G. TALBOT 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by CHAS. MIDDLETON. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.
* First Surprise peal 'inside.'

EXETER, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(EXETER BRANCH.)

On Monday, November 23, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

EDWIN SHEPHERD Treble	WILLIAM RICHARDSON ... 5
WILLIAM LETEBRIDGE 2	WILLIAM HOWE 6
EDWARD BIFFIN 3	GEORGE BETTS 7
*FRANK GARDENER 4	*ALBERT WEBBER Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by EDWIN SHEPHERD.
* First peal of Stedman.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 24, 1931, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM HORAN Treble	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 5
TOM JONES 2	CHRIS GUDGON 6
*NORMAN HEAPS 3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY 7
F. FRANKLAND RIGBY 4	WILFRED J. MOSS Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by W. J. MOSS.
* First in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.
Rung for the 21st birthday of Norman Heaps.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 26, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOULE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 34½ cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS Treble	*J. W. MOORHOUSE 5
MRS. T. COLIN RYDER 2	ALBERT NASH 6
RALPH LONG 3	PERCY GLEDSTONE 7
JOHN H. BROTHWELL 4	T. COLIN RYDER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALBERT NASH.

* First peal in the method on tower bells. This composition, now rung for the first time by the association, contains the 4th eighteen times, and the 6th the extent, in 6th's, without 2 or 3 there.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, November 26, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5065 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

LESLIE G. BRETT Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 5
JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 2	GEORGE WHITING 6
GEORGE FRYKE 3	T. WILLIAM LAST 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 4	ERNEST E. LANHAM Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by LESLIE G. BRETT.

First peal of London as conductor. The conductor has now completed this 'circle' three times. This is the first time that a peal of London has been conducted by a local man at Framsdén.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, November 28, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF IPSWICH SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM HIBBERT Treble	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 5
FRANK W. PERRENS 2	WILFRED H. J. HOOTON 6
DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE 3	FRANK E. HAYNES 7
FRANK E. PERVIN 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

First peal in the method on the bells, for the Guild and by all the band.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 28, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE LADD Treble	JOHN G. AMES 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS 2	ARTHUR J. FARR 6
HORACE M. DAY 3	ARTHUR I. HOLMES 7
* JACK BRAY 4	ROBERT RICHARDSON Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by ROBERT RICHARDSON.

* First peal in the method.

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

On Tuesday, December 1, 1931, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR, 5760 CHANGES;

Consisting of 1,664 Rutland, 1,600 London, 480 Cambridge, 480 Superlative, 320 Lincolnshire, 320 Pudsey, 320 Yorkshire, 288 Norfolk and 288 New Gloucester. Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES BENNETT Treble	CHARLES T. COLES 5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 2	ALBERT W. COLES 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	HARRY KILBY 7
GEORGE R. FYE 4	WILLIAM FYE Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by WILLIAM FYE.

First peal in nine Surprise methods, and the longest spliced peal yet rung.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, October 18th, at the Church of St. Edward, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. R. Fye 1, W. Fye (conductor) 2, E. W. Fye (first quarter-peal) 3, W. Watson 4, E. W. Furbank 5, E. J. Butler 6, H. F. Dawkins 7, H. Perry 8.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

STANWICK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Sixteen six-scores of Plain Bob and 26 of Grandsire. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in B flat.

GEORGE W. JEFFS Treble	CYRIL WILSON 3
WILLIAM J. WHITMORE 2	ERNEST E. WHITMORE 4
REGINALD BUTCHER Tenor	

Conducted by REGINALD BUTCHER.

First peal on the bells, which have recently been augmented from three to five, the whole ring being fitted with ball bearings. The ringers were kindly entertained to tea by the Rector of Stanwick after the peal.

PATRINGTON, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 10½ cwt.

ERNEST E. TAYLOR Treble	GEORGE DOWLING 4
JOHN M. PICKERING 2	STANLEY WEBB 5
ARTHUR H. FOX 3	JOHN W. HOBSON Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY WEBB.

SANDAL MAGNA, WAKEFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of York, Plain Bob, New London Pleasure, Oxford and Kent Spliced, Violet, Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

* CHARLES E. NETHERWOOD Treble	HAROLD CHANT 4
* JOHN W. MOXON 2	* GEORGE CUTT 5
* JOHN W. ROBINSON 3	* ERNEST CUTT Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST CUTT.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung to commemorate a peal 48 years ago.

OLD BOLINGBROKE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

FRANK DEWEY Treble	JOHN YOUNG 4
WILLIAM WILKINSON 2	FREDERICK LEGGOTT 5
FRANK P. HARWOOD 3	WILLIAM E. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM E. CLARKE.

First peal on the bells, which have been recently rehung by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. P. Harwood.

DATCHWORTH, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's with different callings. Tenor 11 cwt. (approx.).

* ARTHUR CHILDS Treble	GEORGE CHERRY 4
FRANK TURNER 2	* D. C. MEARS 5
* ERIC CRESSWELL 3	WILLIAM LAWRENCE Tenor

Conducted by W. LAWRENCE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Minor on a bob bell and first attempt. The ringer of the 3rd is 16 years old, and only learned to handle a bell seven months ago.

SWANAGE, DORSET.—On Sunday, October 4th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,280 changes): R. H. Tomes 1, W. Brown 2, R. S. Bastable 3, A. Hill Brown 4, G. F. Hayson 5, C. H. Tomes 6, W. J. Bastable (conductor) 7, T. Davis (first quarter-peal) 8.

STEDMAN TRICENTENARY COMMEMORATION PEALS

LINCOLN. THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. (NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
IN ST. HUGH'S TOWER, AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

CHARLES MCGUINNESS Treble	*† JACK BRAY 7
JOHN WALDEN 2	JOHN A. FREEMAN 8
FREDERICK W. STOKES 3	H. LESLIE PASK 9
LEWIS SNELL 4	*GEORGE W. CREASEY 10
HAROLD MARCON 5	HAROLD WALKER 11
C. BERT CHESTER 6	*ARTHUR H. A. MARCON Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † 100th peal.

CHELTENHAM.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

WILLIAM T. PATES Treble	*ROBERT G. KNOWLES 7
*FRANK LAWRENCE 2	*DENNIS R. MORRIS 8
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	HAROLD F. MARTIN 9
JOHN AUSTIN 4	CYRIL TANSELL 10
ARTHUR J. MARTIN 5	CHARLES CAMM 11
*THOMAS W. LEWIS 6	†ERIC CRUMP Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † First peal on twelve bells.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

HERBERT T. PIPER Treble	FRANCIS BROTHERTON 7
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	WILLIAM SAUNDERS 8
FRANK E. PERVIN 3	WILLIAM H. LAWLEY 9
WILLIAM A. COOPER 4	THOMAS SMITH 10
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 5	WALTER FARLEY 11
ROBERT PICKERING 6	HARRY BOSWELL Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

* First peal on twelve bells.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

*ALBERT GORRINGE Treble	EDWARD CAENCE 6
WALTER FISHER 2	GEORGE R. NEWTON 7
JOHN WILKINSON 3	LESTER L. GRAY 8
THOMAS W. GILMOUR 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON 9
THOMAS HAMMOND 5	*JOHN BROWN Tenor

Composed by G. NEWSON. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5065 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

TOM TEBBUTT Treble	*ARTHUR H. TAYLOR 6
BERTIE O. SODEN 2	HARRY MARLOW 7
JOHN T. HENSMAN 3	WILLIAM ATTERBURY 8
*WILLIAM R. PARKER 4	W. JACK DOVE 9
WILLIAM ROGERS 5	†HENRY WILKINS Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES.

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal on ten bells. First peal of Stedman Caters as conductor.

NORTHFIELD, BIRMINGHAM.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. (NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, November 30, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb.

ARTHUR CHAMBERS Treble	SAMUEL GROVE 5
GEORGE E. FEARN 2	*ALEX. HOWE 6
*H. JAMES TURNER 3	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT 7
JOHN WITHERS, JUN. 4	JOHN WITHERS, SEN. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung in connection with the Stedman Tercentenary celebrations.

MELKSHAM, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, November 30, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

W. A. CAVE'S TRANSPOSITION OF J. W. WASHBROOK'S.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JESSE FRANCIS Treble	NORMAN V. ANDREWS 5
WILLIAM C. WEST 2	HARRY MOCKRIDGE 6
JAMES BILBY 3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS 7
SAMUEL J. HECTOR 4	HERBERT F. COCKELL Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES F. ANDREWS.

Rung to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 2, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

JOSEPH J. PRATT Treble	JAMES H. LUCAS 5
FREDERICK W. GOODFELLOW 2	*CHARLES A. NICHOLLS 6
PERCY E. JONES 3	FRANK CORKE 7
EDGAR HANCOCK 4	WILLIAM HONER Tenor

Conducted by FRANK CORKE.

* First peal of Stedman 'inside.' Rung for the Stedman Tercentenary.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS STEPHENSON Treble	HAROLD B. DITCHBURN 5
GEORGE S. TAYLOR 2	JOSEPH W. PARKER 6
FRANK AINSLEY 3	ROBERT L. PATTERSON 7
JOHN J. LEIGHTON 4	WILLIAM ARMOUR Tenor

Conducted by R. L. PATTERSON.

Rung in honour of the Stedman Tercentenary.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN BASS Treble	*ERNEST PARSONS 5
SIDNEY THOMPSON 2	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 6
WILLIAM POTTER 3	THOMAS HEMMING 7
ROBERT MATTHEWS 4	HECTOR BIRD Tenor

Conducted by T. HEMMING.

* First peal of Stedman 'inside.' First peal in the method as conductor. Rung to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
(NUNEATON SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, December 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... Treble	ARTHUR BEAMISH ... 5
MRS. A. BEAMISH ... 2	JOHN THOMPSON ... 6
*HARRY BUCKLER ... 3	HAROLD D. ARGYLE ... 7
ERNEST STONE ... 4	*ERNEST YORK ... Tenor

Conducted by H. D. ARGYLE.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung for the festival of St. Nicholas and to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AMBROSE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.

BERTRAM C. WORSDELL ... Treble	WILLIAM A. CAVE ... 5
JOHN W. JONES ... 2	JOHN G. JEFFERIES ... 6
SAMUEL PHILLIPS ... 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 7
HENRY PRING ... 4	FRANK SKIDMORE ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE.

Rung to celebrate the Stedman Tercentenary. There were three members of the Central Council in the above peal.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

*MISS K. BURCHNALL ... Treble	ERNEST BARTRAM ... 5
*MISS GRACE BURCHNALL ... 2	SIDNEY PROCTOR ... 6
WILLIAM G. THORPE ... 3	R. HENRY BARTRAM ... 7
ROGER W. DANIELS ... 4	ARTHUR W. WARD ... Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY PROCTOR.

* First peal of Stedman and first attempt. Rung in honour of the Stedman Tercentenary.

BINGHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

FREDERICK S. PRICE ... Treble	EDWARD FOSTER ... 5
FREDERICK W. BAILEY ... 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER ... 3	PERCIVAL PRICE ... 7
ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN ... 4	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Nancy Farrow, granddaughter of Mr. F. S. Price. Also in honour of the Tercentenary celebration of Fabian Stedman.

PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

E. ROGER MARTIN ... Treble	JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... 5
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... 2	*HAROLD DAVIES ... 6
JOHN T. BIMSON ... 3	FRED HARWOOD ... 7
WILLIAM SHARPLES ... 4	WILLIAM TAYLOR ... Tenor

Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

* First attempt for a peal in the method. The first peal of Stedman on the bells and rung for the Stedman Tercentenary.

LEICESTER.—On Armistice Sunday, November 8th, at St. Margaret's for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples half-muffled: E. Tanser 1, T. Bent 2, J. Morris 3, L. H. Whitehead 4, L. Johnson 5, W. Tanser 6, Ernest Morris (conductor) 7, E. Cattell 8.

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(CHESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WILDE'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb.

*ALBERT E. RICHARDS ... Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY ... 5
GEORGE R. JONES ... 2	JAMES MORGAN ... 6
*J. WILLIAM CLARKE ... 3	PERCY SWINDLEY ... 7
ROBERT SPERRING ... 4	WALTER THOMAS ... Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

* First peal in the method. Rung for Fabian Stedman Tercentenary.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

MISS O. MURIEL SANDERS Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 5
GEORGE F. SWANN ... 2	RICHARD C. INGRAM ... 6
JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... 3	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH ... 7
JONATHAN PRESTON ... 4	GEORGE F. GARRISON ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Arranged and rung to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary, and as a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. B. Preston. G. F. Swann has now conducted a peal of Stedman from each bell in this tower.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 27 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb.

ALFRED H. MARTIN ... Treble	CHARLES W. CLARKE ... 5
HENRY W. GAYTON ... 2	G. DENNIS DEIGHTON ... 6
AMOS SMAY ... 3	WALTER PERKINS ... 7
THOMAS R. HENSHER ... 4	HORACE DUNKLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER PERKINS.

Rung to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary. It was also a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble and 4th. T. R. Hensher's 60th peal of Stedman.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt.

THOMAS STEPHENSON ... Treble	ROBERT L. PATTERSON ... 5
GEORGE S. TAYLOR ... 2	JOSEPH W. PARKER ... 6
HAROLD B. DITCHBORN ... 3	WILLIAM SHERATON ... 7
ROBERT PARKINSON ... 4	CHARLES H. HUMPHREY ... Tenor

Conducted by J. W. PARKER.

First peal in the method on the bells and by the ringers of the 4th, 7th and tenor, who belong to the local band. The rest of the band are from St. Ignatius, Sunderland. Rung in honour of the Stedman Tercentenary.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM C. PARKER ... Treble	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 5
LEONARD STILWELL ... 2	ARTHUR HARDING ... 6
*ERNEST GOATER ... 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7
MISS K. M. BRADFORD ... 4	CECIL W. PIPE ... Tenor

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung in honour of the Stedman Tercentenary.

HILLINGDON WEST, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

EDGAR HANCOX Treble	GEORGE E. SWIFT 5
JAMES H. LUCAS 2	WILLIAM HONER 6
PERCY E. JONES 3	FRANK CORKE 7
GEORGE M. KILBY 4	CHARLES A. NICHOLLS ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK CORKE.

Rung for the Stedman Tercentenary.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

HUGH J. BALCOMBE ... Treble	JOHN NOBES 5
RICHARD RICE 2	ALBERT E. LOCK 6
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK ... 3	GORDON CAUDWELL 7
FREDERICK MESSENGER ... 4	FRANK W. BUNCE ... Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. LOCK.

Rung in honour of the Stedman Tercentenary.

TIPTON, STAFFS.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

*HOWARD N. WILLIAMS ... Treble	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 5
†FRANK WILLIAMS 2	JESSE SCREEN 6
JOHN BASS 3	WILLIAM FISHER 7
THOMAS W. CATTELL ... 4	GEORGE HUGHES ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

* First peal. † First peal away from the tenor. Rung for the Stedman Tercentenary.

DORKING, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

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

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

The first peal of Cambridge on the bells and as conductor. Rung for the Stedman Tercentenary, and as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*FRANCIS L. BARNES ... Treble	MISS AMY R. JOHNSON ... 5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 2	†RALPH HARRISS 6
†MRS. RALPH HARRISS ... 3	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 7
JOHN HALL 4	*JOHN LAMPITT ... Tenor

Conducted by F. J. JOHNSON.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Triples. Rung to celebrate the Stedman Tercentenary. First peal on the bells since they were augmented from five to eight by Taylor and Co., Loughborough, and the first peal for the Worcestershire Association in which husband and wife have taken part. The above are all regular Sunday service ringers except the ringer of the fourth, who hails from Bretfordon.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

MRS. R. J. WILKINS ... Treble	HENRY PRING 5
EDGAR GUISE 2	*ALBERT L. GALE 6
WILLIAM KNIGHT 3	JOHN A. BURFORD 7
HARRY BENNETT 4	URIAH BRAVEN ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. BURFORD.

* First peal on eight bells. Arranged in connection with the Stedman Tercentenary.

WOLLASTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 1, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... Treble	THOMAS HEMMING 4
*HARRY PERRINS 2	SAMUEL THOMPSON 5
*SIDNEY THOMPSON 3	*PERCY RICHARDS ... Tenor

Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles. First peal of Stedman Doubles as conductor. Rung to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary.

ZEALS, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb.

H. JIM RALPH ... Treble	HARRY J. SANGER 4
FRANK H. BALL 2	LOUIS A. PERRETT 5
EDWARD G. L. COWARD ... 3	ALBERT E. BAVERSTOCK ... Tenor

Conducted by L. A. PERRETT.

First peal as conductor. First peal of Stedman by all but ringers of treble and 3rd, and first peal of Stedman on the bells. Rung to commemorate the Tercentenary of Fabian Stedman.

BRIDSTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings.

Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM T. POSTON ... Treble	EDWIN H. FOSTER 4
ALFRED T. POULTON 2	WILLIAM POSTON 5
DONALD G. CLIFT 3	HARVEY H. WYNNE ... Tenor

Conducted by W. POSTON.

First peal of Stedman Doubles for all, and the second by the Hereford Guild. Rung to celebrate the Stedman Tercentenary, the band having met short for Stedman Triples.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, December 6, 1931, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, with ten callings.

Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.

FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY Treble	JOHN BRASSINGTON 4
HARRY PARKER 2	ALBERT CRAWLEY 5
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY 3	REGINALD WRIGHT ... Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

Rung for the Stedman Tercentenary. First peal of Stedman Doubles by all the band and first peal of Doubles on the bells.

GODMANCHESTER, HUNTS.—On Saturday, October 3rd, at the Parish Church, an attempt for a peal in connection with the harvest thanksgiving had to be brought round, owing to illness near the church, after ringing 3,328 changes of Kent Treble Bob, the band being: J. Smart (longest length Treble Bob Major) 1, F. G. Gleaves 2, B. Wayman 3, M. Ginn 4, F. C. Ginn 5, J. Ginn 6, R. Smith (longest length Major) 7, F. Warrington (conductor) 8.

REV. F. J. O. HELMORE—OCTOGENARIAN.

The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, for more than 30 years hon. secretary of the Kent County Association, on Wednesday of last week celebrated his 80th birthday, and received many congratulations, in which ringers not only in Kent, but the country will join. He has been connected with Canterbury Cathedral, of which he is a Minor Canon, for over 50 years, and has served under five Archbishops and six Deans.

To him more than to any other single individual the Kent Association owes its present proud position, and the ringers at many towers rang the bells in his honour. Peals were rung at Brenchley and Sittingbourne, and among the touches were the following:—

At St. Nicholas-at-Wade, on December 2nd, 720 Bob Minor: A. Prett 1, G. H. Gore 2, P. Gore 3, W. Laws (conductor) 4, H. Beake 5, F. Beake 6.

At St. Martin's, Herne, on December 2nd, 720 Bob Minor by the local band.

At St. Vincent's Church, Littlebourne, on December 2nd, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Stringer 1, J. P. Cobbold 2, P. W. Smith 3, W. Savage 4, H. Bramble 5, A. Johnson (conductor) 6.

At St. Mary's, Dover, on December 2nd, St. Mary's Society rang a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): G. Eagles 1, S. A. Wells 2, J. Eagles 3, C. R. Millway 4, H. J. Saunders 5, R. T. Clark 6, C. Turner (conductor) 7, H. Whitehead 8. First quarter of Bob Major by the treble and 6th ringers.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN WARD.**A VETERAN LONG EATON RINGER.**

The death occurred on November 29th, at 59, Regent Street, Long Eaton, of Mr. John Ward, who had reached the advanced age of 81 years. Mr. Ward was one of the first members of the Midland Counties Association, having joined in 1883. In his earlier days he was associated with Mr. John Taylor, sen., and later with Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., also with the late Sir Arthur Heywood. He was a man with a striking personality, bluff and hearty. He was an able conductor.

He recently had a seizure, from which he never recovered. He attended the last annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association and looked forward to being at the jubilee meeting next year. It was interesting to hear him talk of his old days, and his recollections of men like William Cooter, Murray Hayes, Ted Horrex and other and London ringers since departed.

The deceased was buried in Long Eaton Cemetery on December 2nd, the Rev. T. A. L. Phillips officiating. The bells of Long Eaton Parish Church were rung half-muffled at all services on Sunday, December 6th.

NEW SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR RECORD.**MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION BAND'S PERFORMANCE.**

The Middlesex Association band that in the last year or two have made history in peal ringing by their Spliced Surprise Major performances carried their records one step further last week, when they rang the longest length on this plan—a 5,760 in nine methods. It is an outstanding performance upon which the ringers and particularly the conductor are to be congratulated; while the ingenuity of the composer, Mr. A. J. Pitman, of Port Talbot, also deserves recognition.

THE COMPOSITION: 5,760 IN NINE METHODS.

23456	M	W	H	Methods
42356	—	—	—	One lead of New Gloucester
63254	—	—	—	*Rutland Superlative Rutland
(23456)	—	—	—	Rutland Pudsey
64352	—	—	—	Norfolk Superlative Rutland
35642	—	—	—	Rutland Superlative Rutland
63542	—	—	—	London Yorkshire London
56342	—	—	—	Rutland Lincolnshire London
(36245)	—	—	—	London Pudsey

Repeat as from 42356 four times, ringing Norfolk at * in lieu of Rutland in each repetition, and ending with a lead of Rutland and a bob H for—

34256	M	W	H	
25346	—	—	—	Rutland Yorkshire Rutland
32546	—	—	—	Rutland Cambridge London
65243	—	—	—	London Cambridge London
26543	—	—	—	London Cambridge London
45362	—	—	3	London Lincolnshire Rutland and New Gloucester

Repeat this part four times, omitting last two bobs at H, and the two leads of New Gloucester, in the last part.

Note.—The course-ends bracketed do not actually appear, the Norfolk cutting out the H lead. Norfolk has to be rung with 4th's place bobs.

KIDDERMINSTER.—At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): Joseph Davies 1, G. Davies 2, C. H. Woodberry 3, T. J. Salter 4, J. Woodberry 5, Keith Salter (first quarter-peal as conductor) 6, J. Smith 7, A. Wright 8. A compliment to A. Wright and T. J. Salter on their 37th and 65th birthdays respectively.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. Harry Mason, of Hagley, Stourbridge, has been appointed by the directors as chairman of Lloyd's South Wales Testing House Co., Ltd., Cardiff. Mr. Mason has had a lifelong interest in ringing, and is a member of many ringing associations and guilds.

Which is the oldest ringing society in the country? The question is asked by a correspondent because he has discovered in the Lancashire Association's report that one of its members was admitted in A.D. 1028. Our correspondent suggests that this ringer might have known William the Conqueror, let alone Fabian Stedman, and, we understand, he is still on the active list.

Among the peals rung to celebrate the Tercentenary was one at St. Ambrose's Church, Bristol, when Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, Mon, and Mr. Samuel Phillips met for peal ringing for the second time in their lives. The first occasion was a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Caerleon in 1889—forty-two years ago!

CORNWALL CELEBRATES THE TERCENTENARY.

A HAPPY GATHERING AT TRURO.

A few short prayers, in which the Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella mentioned Fabian Stedman, in St. Kea Church, near Truro, on Saturday was the beginning of a happy gathering at Truro in connection with the celebration of the Stedman Tercentenary. Members of Truro Cathedral company were joined by Maj. C. F. Jerram and a few friends from Penryn, and the bells were kept going to Stedman Doubles and Grandsire Doubles and Triples. Afterwards a move was made to Truro, where about twenty sat down in St. Mary's Hall to tea, prepared by Mrs. W. H. Southeard and two of the lady members of the Cathedral hand. There was then just enough time to hand round tobacco pouches and cigarettes (and for the non-smokers to do the washing up) before going to the Cathedral, where over an hour was spent in ringing Stedman Doubles on the back six, Grandsire Doubles on the front six and Grandsire Caters before leaving for Kenwyn Church. The diocesan secretary saw that everyone present wrote their name on a special page in the visitors' book as having taken part in ringing on the day of the Stedman commemoration. At Kenwyn Church more Stedman Doubles were rung and a few touches of Grandsire Triples, and just after 8 o'clock the bells were lowered in peal. Thus ended the programme, which had been arranged to honour one who had given those who took part a method which is delightful to ring and musical to listen to.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

A quarterly meeting of the Eastern Division was held at All Saints', Hastings, on Saturday, December 5th, when about 20 members attended from Battle, Eastbourne (St. Saviour's), Hastings (Christ Church, Blacklands, and St. Clement's), Heathfield, St. Leonards, Lewes, Sedlescombe, Rye and Uckfield.

Good practice was had in various methods during the afternoon and evening.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. A. Penson) and the Rev. N. E. Hope, the latter giving a most interesting address upon Fabian Stedman, whose Tercentenary was being celebrated at Cambridge that day.

A splendid tea was provided in the Parish Room, the Rector presiding. Following the tea the Rector gave an interesting lecture on the history of All Saints' Parish Church bells, giving the dates when the original peal of five were provided, when they were augmented to six bells, and the provision of the full octave in 1922. He was pleased to record that they now had an enthusiastic band of ringers under the leadership of Mr. Levett.

At the short business meeting the Rector occupied the chair. The local secretary (Mr. G. W. Stokes) announced that the annual meeting of the division would be held at Eastbourne in March next. He also proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and for presiding at the tea and meeting. Mr. W. Franks also proposed a vote of thanks to the organist for his services.

The Rev. E. A. Penson, in responding, first congratulated the Rev. N. E. Hope on his address upon Fabian Stedman. He added that he was pleased to welcome the members of the County Association. He considered that they had a good peal of bells, and he hoped that the ringers had found enjoyment in ringing them that afternoon.

The members returned to the tower and kept the bells going up till about 8 o'clock. Two well-struck touches of Stedman were brought round to commemorate the Fabian Stedman Tercentenary.

THE CHAPEL YOUTHS OF STOURBRIDGE.

MISSING RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—The above society was the band of ringers attached to the Church of St. Thomas, Stourbridge. They took the name of 'Chapel Youths' because it was originally the chapel-of-ease to the Ancient Parish Church of Oldswinford.

The book containing the full records of the above society is in our district somewhere, and Stourbridge ringers would be very grateful if it were returned to the tower where it belongs. I have scrutinised it many times, but I have lost all trace of it since we buried Mr. A. W. Pugh, the old towerkeeper.

A. J. SKELDING.

7, Cecil Street, Stourbridge.

THE CELEBRATION OF STEDMAN'S TERCENTENARY.

DEDICATION OF THE RESTORED TOWER AND BELLS AT ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH.

A MEMORABLE DAY AT CAMBRIDGE.

The tercentenary of the birth of Fabian Stedman was commemorated on Saturday. The centre of interest was Cambridge, but in many other parts of the country ringers joined in the celebration.

At St. Benedict's Church, where the Saxon tower and the bells on which Stedman rang have been restored, a thanksgiving service was held and the work dedicated in the presence of a large gathering of ringers representative of the whole Exercise.

Ringers came from most of the counties in England and from South Wales; nearly every association and guild had one or more members present, and, having trod the hallowed spot which Stedman himself had frequented, and joined in the inspiring service, those who were privileged to share directly in the commemoration will retain lifelong memories of the wonderful gathering which met to do honour to one of the first and greatest pioneers of the art of change ringing.

THE COMMEMORATION SCHEME.

WHAT HAS BEEN DONE AT ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH.

Nearly three hundred ringers from all parts of the country made a pilgrimage on Saturday to the church which will for the future enshrine all our memories of Fabian Stedman, a pioneer of the art and science of change ringing, a founder of the Exercise. We know little of Stedman himself, but among the undisputed facts of his life there is nothing more definite than that he was a ringer at St. Benedict's Church. It was here that he practised the art in which he was destined to play so important a part; it was here that first was rung the incomparable principle which bears his name, and it was these bells that enabled him to develop the interest which eventually prompted him to write the first text books on the subject of bell-ringing.

But if to-day we know little of the man himself—we cannot be certain even of the place or date of either his birth or death—we are happily in possession of material things with which he was associated. There are still one or two copies of the original editions of his books; in St. Benedict's tower are five of the six bells upon which he rang, and they hang in the same frame in which they swung when Fabian Stedman was a ringer in Cambridge. The tower itself, which was ancient even in Stedman's days, still stands as a witness to the efficient craftsmanship of our Saxon forefathers. Age, however, had begun to take its toll; cracks had developed in its walls. The bells and the bell frame through years of neglect had also sunk into decrepitude. No longer was it considered safe to ring the bells—except for short periods very occasionally, when it was desired that some signal honour should be shown in connection with a parochial or national event, they had remained silent, and only the tenor was chimed for service by 'clocking.'

A NATIONAL RESPONSE.

Then came the year marking the 300th anniversary of that which tradition has always associated with Stedman's birth; how better could the event be commemorated than by restoring the bells? It was a unique opportunity for the Exercise, and the suggestion put forward in the columns of 'The Ringing World' by the editor was seized by the ringers of the land and responded to with alacrity. Never was any appeal to the Exercise so popular. Associations and Guilds, companies and individuals took up the proposal in a way that at once made its success assured as a national scheme. Carefully the ground was prepared. The sympathy of the church authorities was invoked and readily given, and here it should be mentioned that the Vicar, the Rev. W. Greenwood, not only entered wholeheartedly into the project, but gave invaluable assistance in all the many details into which local considerations entered. In such a scheme, however, there were other bodies to be consulted, and prejudices, if any, allayed. The tower is not merely a parochial possession; it is a national relic. Before any interference with such a building could be made, the agreement of antiquarian authorities was almost imperative if the assent of the Ecclesiastical Court was to be forthcoming. The plans had, therefore, to be very carefully gone into, and it was this phase of the scheme which was kindly undertaken by Mr. Edwin H. Lewis, president of the Central Council, one of the greatest living authorities on the very involved subject of the strains and stresses set up by moving bells upon the structure of church towers. The result of Mr. Lewis' investigations was a scheme to lower the bells 12ft. beneath their old position, and to carry the frame on a reinforced concrete corbel course running completely round the four walls of the building, thus bonding the tower together and spreading the stresses more evenly over the whole structure. In addition, the frame was turned so that the greater strains were taken by the stronger walls, which was not the case before the restoration. While the work was in progress the cracks in the walls were grouted with cement, and the tower is stronger now than it has been, probably, for hundreds of years.

THE RESTORATION.

When the plans had been definitely settled, the Central Council, representing the Exercise, was asked to take over the scheme, with

the result that the following committee was appointed to see the undertaking through: The president, the hon. secretary (Mr. G. W. Fletcher), the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (who has acted as hon. treasurer of the fund), Major J. H. B. Hesse, and Messrs. T. R. Dennis, J. S. Goldsmith and E. A. Young. The restoration involved two separate contracts. The work upon the tower itself was carried out, under the direction of Mr. Troup, an eminent London architect, by Mr. W. Sindall, of Cambridge. The contract for the restoration of the bells and frame was obtained by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The bells were removed to their foundry, where they were cleaned by sand blasting; two of the bells, the 3rd and 4th, were slightly tuned in the tap notes (anything in the nature of harmonic tuning having been expressly forbidden), the old clapper staples, which were cast into the bells and were, of course, liable to crack them, were bored out and new independent staples fitted. Entirely new fittings, including clappers, were provided, but in keeping with the character of the scheme, the canons were retained and the bells rehung on wooden headstocks, but with ball bearings.

When the old frame was taken to Loughborough it was dismantled and rebuilt. Only one or two of the ancient timbers had to be replaced, for it was in a remarkable state of preservation. Its massiveness would carry a much heavier ring of bells, and it has gone back into the tower further strengthened by iron angle plates and tie bolts. New main beams of oak of heavy section carry the frame, and most of the old beams have been left in position to add strength to the tower, some of the many openings in the walls having also been stopped up on the inside not only to help reduce the volume of sound outside the church, but to give an added strength to the upper part of the building.

In Stedman's days and up to the time of this restoration the bells were rung from a ringing chamber, above the tower arch. How it was approached formerly we do not know, but in later days it has been reached by a vertical iron ladder, which was both difficult and dangerous to negotiate by those not used to climbing, and which has deterred many from going aloft. It has been a valuable feature of the restoration from the ringers' point of view, and one which has been facilitated by the dropping of the frame, that the ropes have now been brought to the ground floor. A climbing apparatus has been installed, and another incidental improvement, making for the safety of the tower, has been a new iron stove pipe for the church's heating apparatus. This used to pass through the pit of one of the bells and was in somewhat dangerous proximity to the frame. When the tower was inspected it was long past its best days. A new flue has been erected, carried into the wall where it passes the frame, and everything that safety demands has been done to guard against accidental fire.

The restoration has thus been complete. It was designed by men of unsurpassed experience; it has been carried out with superb craftsmanship. The ringers of the world have not only enabled a great task to be undertaken, but they have by their generosity ensured its being done in the best possible way. The commemoration work has been rounded off by placing an explanatory tablet in bell metal on the north wall of the tower, where it will remain imperishable for future generations to read and to bear witness to what the Exercise has done to perpetuate the memory of one of the greatest figures in our art.

A GREAT DAY.

THE SERVICE AT ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH.

Saturday was one of the greatest days in the annals of the Exercise; it was unique in ringing history. Ringers came to Cambridge from all parts of England to share in the event, and, when the great thanksgiving service in St. Benedict's began, the church was filled to capacity, many being unable to find seats. It is estimated that close upon four hundred people were present. There was only one disappointment, and that was that illness prevented the Right Rev. Bishop Price (Archdeacon of Ely) from attending to dedicate the work. His doctor had refused to allow him to leave his bed, and the ceremony, in consequence, was performed by the Rural

Dean, Canon Adams. In addition to the Vicar, the Rural Dean and Canon G. F. Coleridge, the preacher, many clergy robed, including Professor Barnes, D.D., Professor Whitney, D.D., the Vicar of Great St. Mary's, the Vicar of St. Andrew's the Great, Dr. Chaytor (St. Catherine's College), Rev. W. W. Lucas, Rev. E. R. Ostrehan, the Vicar of St. Mary the Less, the Rector of St. Botolph's, the Rev. C. G. Wilkinson (the veteran senior curate of St. Benedict's), the Rev. R. Copeman (formerly hon. secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association), the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake (present hon. secretary of the association), the Rev. H. Drake (hon. secretary, Suffolk Guild), the Rev. J. F. Amies (Vicar of Ravenstone), etc. Among the congregation were the Mayor and Mayoress of Cambridge, the Vice-Chancellor, and the Master of Downing, while Dr. Giles, Master of Emmanuel, who was engaged at the Senate House, was represented by Mrs. Giles.

There was no choir, but the volume of the voices that rose with the opening bars of the processional hymn, 'Now thank we all our God,' must have thrilled everyone. When the clergy had reached the chancel and the hymn had ended, the Vicar spoke a few sentences of introduction.

'The keynote of this commemoration,' he said, 'is gratitude, gratitude in its fulness; thanksgiving; gladsome recognition of the genius of Fabian Stedman and his clear call to serve the church, every man according to his ability and opportunity. And the people of this parish and congregation join in the tribute paid to one of its most famous men and recognise that a great work has been done for the Church, a work altogether beyond our powers to have accomplished. And so we rejoice together and together give thanks.'

Evening song was said up to the second lesson. The psalms were 122, 'I was glad when they said unto me: we will go into the house of

ring, in the manner in which Stedman gave it to the Exercise, namely, with two 'extremes.' Heard in peal, the bells were decidedly pleasing; and, considering their varied age, by no means a poor ring. At the conclusion of the ringing Canon Coleridge held the rapt attention of the large congregation while he preached the commemoration sermon.

THE ADDRESS.

Canon Coleridge selected an extremely appropriate text upon which to base his sermon. It was from Ecclesiasticus xxxix., 9: 'Many shall commend his understanding: and so long as the world endureth, it shall not be blotted out; his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation.' Here, he said, we have reference to one who was truly wise; the words are almost prophetic of him who is so much in our memory to-day: they are well suited to the unique occasion which has brought us here. Such a concourse of ringers, assembled for the commemoration of the life and work of a single man, marked out among his fellows, has never before been seen in our history. We all know why we are assembled here—to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the birth of Fabian Stedman, the father of all true change ringing; to rededicate the bells on which he rang, on which he practised and taught his matchless Principle; to make good for generations to come the old Saxon tower in which the bells have been hanging since his day; to erect a tablet setting forth the occasion: the whole a permanent memorial to that gifted man. It is a memorial such as has commended itself to ringers throughout the land: the ready way in which the subscriptions, big and small, have been voluntarily tendered up to £480 shows in no uncertain way how dear is the name of Stedman, how determined we are to perpetuate his memory in a very tangible way; to see to it that he is no longer 'numbered among those who have no



THE MEMORIAL TABLET, CAST IN BELL METAL AND LETTERED IN RELIEF.

the Lord,' and 150, 'O praise God in His holiness.' The Rural Dean read the first lesson from Numbers x., 1-11, and the second lesson, from I. Corinthians xiv., 1-15, was read by the Vice-Chancellor.

THE CENTRAL ACT.

Then, during the singing of the hymn, 'Lifted now within the steeple,' a procession was formed to the tower for the central act of the service. Headed by the Churchwardens, the Architect (Mr. F. W. Trapp), the Bell Founder (Mr. E. Denison Taylor), the President of the Central Council (Mr. E. H. Lewis) and other members of the representative band chosen to open the bells, walked to the tower in front of the Rural Dean and clergy. Here the President of the Council drew aside the covering of the memorial tablet and requested the Rural Dean to dedicate the work 'in memory of Fabian Stedman, to the glory and praise of God.'

The Rural Dean then offered prayers and formally dedicated the work in these words: 'In the Faith of Jesus Christ we dedicate this work to the glory of God and in memory of His servant, Fabian Stedman, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.'

It was an impressive moment; it consummated the work to which ringers in Great Britain and many parts of the world had set their hands and of which they had individually and collectively borne the cost.

Handing the ropes to the Vicar, the Rural Dean committed the bells to his care as a sacred trust to be ever and only used in God's service and for His Glory, and then, as the clergy retraced their steps to the chancel, the bells pealed out, rung by Mr. J. D. Matthews (Master of the Royal Cumberland Youths) 1, Mr. E. H. Lewis (President of the Central Council) 2, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild) 3, Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Essex Association) 4, Mr. William Pye (Master of the Middlesex County Association) 5, Mr. J. S. Hawkins (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths) 6. An extent of Stedman Doubles was

memorial, 'perished as though they had never been.' 'Honoured in his generation—the glory of his times,' his name and his works do follow him, untarnished through the centuries. We want to show that we hold him in no less honour in our own day than was meted out to him when he composed his Principle and gave it once and for all to his fellows in the Exercise. Knowing the Principle as set out by him on five bells—soon to be extended to higher numbers—knowing how highly it is esteemed among ringers; how frequently peals are rung (for myself, I want nothing better), I can confidently echo the words of my oldest ringing friend, who wrote a book on Stedman, the Rev. Charles Douglas Percy Davies, where he says, 'There is no more delightful method than Stedman: ringers of methods of all degrees of intricacy find in it a continual freshness and charm. If we are to seek for the grounds of such a well-deserved popularity, we shall probably be right in ascribing it chiefly to the varied nature of its work, while at the same time its music has a peculiar, smooth and mellow cadence.'

We know the method, we love to ring it, but do we know the man who produced it? We know something, but not much. 'A printer in Cambridge'—that was his profession—but we do not know where he was actually born: there is no mention of his name in any register in Cambridge: we do not know for certain whether he was baptised, or whether his name was accidentally omitted. Registers in those days were only written up for the most part annually. It may be that his mother gave him birth in some outlying village with better air and more healthy surroundings, for, about the time of his birth the Plague was raging in the town itself. We do not know. If we did, if only we knew the actual date and place of his birth or baptism, much that is obscure might be easily cleared up. Learned men have done their best, they have searched the records and registers and rolls of Cambridge without result. All we are certain about is that he was 'a printer at Cambridge,' of necessity several years after his birth. Of his earliest years we know nothing;

of his latter end we are no better informed. True, some 30 years ago a will was produced, signed by one Fabian Stedman, but on careful examination and analysis we must come to the conclusion that in all probability it was the will of some other man. Our man was 'a printer in Cambridge': this man was connected with the Excise and lived in London. I should like myself to think that they were one and the same. I should like to think that Fabian Stedman, the printer at Cambridge, came to London and was appointed head of the printing office in the Excise and Customs Department; that he held a lucrative post under Government, and 'died in a good old age, full of riches and honour,' but the evidence is too flimsy to admit of such a supposition. The will, however, is full of interest. The testator leaves numerous legacies to his sisters, nephews, nieces and great-nephew and nieces and to cousins; nothing to wife or children, from which we may gather that he lived and died a bachelor—an uncle evidently mindful of his nearest relatives. He leaves smaller legacies to those with whom he came into daily contact—'to the maid who cleans my office,' to 'the four watchmen of the yard,' and, what is of most interest to us, 'to the poor of the parish where I was born, £10, and to the poor of the parish where I shall die, £5.' This £5 was duly paid by his executors to the parish of St. Andrew Undershaf in the city of London. It appears in the churchwardens' accounts. That he died and was buried there is certain. His name is entered in the registers, November 16th, 1713, though no memorial in stone or marble can be traced. But, 'the parish where I was born,' that is the point in question. If only we could discover that, we could supply many after details. We could, moreover, say with absolute certainty whether the Fabian Stedman who was 'a printer at Cambridge' was one and the same Fabian Stedman who was in the Excise in London and left a notable will, whose place of burial we know without any manner of doubt. As it is, the evidence is not sufficient for adequate proof. There is a lesson attaching to this will which ought to be learnt by all of us—the lesson to be perfectly accurate and explicit in the smallest detail when making our last will and testament. We all ought to make our wills, even though the possessions we wish to leave are but of small intrinsic value. 'The place of my birth,' for example, is not sufficient. We should give the name of the parish, the name and situation of the house or number of the street, to be on the safe side. And if, for instance, we should wish to leave a small legacy in appreciation, say, of a valued servant, who had served faithfully for perhaps the best part of a lifetime, we should take care that the name is given in full, that the intended recipient is not described as 'my gardener,' or 'my housekeeper,' otherwise long and faithful service might be passed over, the executors paying the legacy, as in duty bound, to him or her who held those positions on the day of the death of the testator, possibly having held them but a few weeks. The will would take effect to their benefit to the entire exclusion of those whose benefit the testator fondly, but vainly, imagined he had secured. But this is only advice given for what it is worth by an executor who more than once has been puzzled to know and 'do the thing which is right' in the absence of explicit directions.

With this digression let us look at Fabian Stedman as the author of his book, 'Tintinnalogia, or the artes, mysteries and fancies of diffusing of sweet musick.' There is a delightful account given us in Mr. Ernest Morris' book, 'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' a book which ought to be in the possession of every ringer throughout the length and breadth of the land—or at least a copy for reference should be deposited in every tower. Experience has taught me that Parochial Church Councils are as ready to supply ringing books for the belfry as they are to provide hymn books and psalters for the choir. Here in this book we can read a most instructive account of a visit paid by Stedman to Leicester in 1669, where not only was our hero honoured by the ringing of the bells, which during his visit 'discoursed sweet musick nightlie,' but was also entertained 'sumptuously,' a large sum, as money went in those days, being expended on 'meates, wines, beere, tobacco and pipes.' After attending morning service at St. Martin's, Fabian Stedman entertained his friends at his inn—a goodly number, for the great hall was filled when, after the midday meal, he addressed his guests at length on 'the artes and mysteries of bell ringing.' An acceptable discourse, we may gather as we read the account, 'for the gentlemen and youth, with many others, clergy and gentlemen, were mightily pleased, all departing for their homes neare seaven of the clock.' Nor did they fail to speed the parting guest on the morrow, not a few accompanying him on his way for a certain distance towards Cambridge.

We pass on to his efforts to disseminate more knowledge in the Metropolis itself. He knew all about the College Youths. He paid several visits to them; he was appointed steward in 1677 and attained the office of Master five years later. Possibly these honours came to him as a signal mark of regard and appreciation, he having dedicated his book to that ancient and honourable fraternity, changing its name to 'Campanologia.' We can well imagine that the London ringers were as quick to recognise his skill and abilities as were the Leicester men, and, seeing how early Stedman was rung there, we might add the Norwich men as well. And there we must leave him—imparting instruction wherever he went. His dust mingles with that of others, we know not of a certainty where. Even his birthplace is not known to us—would that we could discover it. Search, as I have said, has been diligently made in the registers of Cambridge with no

result. Would it be too much to ask the clergy or parish clerks of villages, say within a 15 mile radius of Cambridge, to search their registers for the magic name 'Fabian Stedman' about the years 1651 to 1713 for his baptism or burial, and also the churchwardens' books for an entry made in 1713 as to the receipt of £10 for the poor of the parish? If only such entries could be found, much that is obscure would at once come to light; incidentally the gratitude of the whole Exercise would be tendered to him who makes the discovery; richly rewarded would be he who finds them, he would ever be assured of a warm place in the hearts of all to whom the name of Stedman is dear. I can only say that if I happened to be an incumbent anywhere in this neighbourhood I should at once set to work on an investigation of my church registers and parish books. I am fully persuaded that not a few of my clerical brethren would do the same; should they hear of what is wanted they would at once respond, in the good old words of the Church Catechism, 'Yes, verily, by God's help so I will.' May their search be crowned with success! I have said enough: all our thoughts are on the work of remembrance, which is this day dedicated to the glory of God—the ringers' memorial to one of the greatest among them—the restoration of the old tower and bells, in which and on which he practised and taught; with the tablet of commemoration setting forth the occasion, testifying to what has been done by the ringers of the present day, who, as they leave this hallowed spot, as they think to-day and in days to come of him whose memorial we have set up, will not be unmindful of those words with which I began, and with which I will end: 'Many shall command his understanding, and so long as the world endureth, it shall not be blotted out: his memorial shall not depart away, and his name shall live from generation to generation.'

Special prayers were afterwards offered and the inspiring service concluded with the 'Te Deum' and the Blessing.

Several representative bands next rang the bells, the first being members of the Ladies' Guild: Miss V. Robinson (Wokingham), Miss K. Willers (Trumpington), Miss E. Steel, president (Bedford), Miss H. Bill (Norwich), Mrs. R. Richardson (Surfleet), Mrs. A. D. Barker (Slough). After them came a band of secretaries: C. T. Coles (Middlesex County Association), Mrs. E. K. Fletcher (Ladies' Guild), J. S. Goldsmith (Guildford Diocesan Guild), F. M. Mitchell (Kent County Association), E. Morris (Midland Counties Association), G. W. Fletcher (Central Council). Others followed, in which were many men widely known in the Exercise, and the bells were kept going throughout the rest of the evening until shortly before 9 o'clock, by which time everyone who desired to do so had had the opportunity of a ring on the bells.

HOW THE RINGERS WERE ENTERTAINED.

There has probably never been so much ringing in Cambridge on one day as there was on Saturday, for the bells of St. Benedict's, the twelve at Great St. Mary's, the eight at Great St. Andrew's and the heavy ring of eight at the Roman Catholic Church were at times all going together. Facilities for this ringing were readily granted by the various incumbents, and ringers are greatly indebted to them, and to the authorities at many other churches around Cambridge, where the use of the bells was offered, for the kindly spirit of co-operation which they showed in helping to make the event the success it was. Some intensive work was put in during the day by members of the Commemoration Committee, including particularly the president and hon. secretary of the Council and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, and they received valuable assistance from members of the Society of Cambridge Youths and the Cambridge University Society, who acted as stewards and directed the activities at the various towers.

The morning of the day was pleasant and fine, and early arrivals made a tour of the many places of interest, while the various towers were filled during all the hours that they were open. Lunch was served to a company of 150 in the handsome dining hall at Corpus Christi College, which had been kindly assigned to the use of the ringers for the day by the Master and authorities of the college. Here there was an amusing incident. The president of the Council, who is a Cambridge man, presented to Canon Coleridge (whose Oxford 'patriotism' is well known) a copy of the Commemoration Souvenir, tied with a huge bow of Cambridge ribbon, at the same time expressing the hope that it would remind Canon Coleridge that Cambridge had done a little for change ringing. This rejoinder to the Canon's speech at the Oxford Guild's jubilee was greatly enjoyed.

There were on view, both during lunch and tea, some unique photographs, showing the inscriptions on St. Benedict's bells in their actual size. These had been kindly produced at the expense of Mr. Denison Taylor, and it is hoped they may find a permanent home in St. Benedict's Church.

A company of about 250 partook of tea in the College Hall. It was a happy and informal gathering, but opportunity was taken by the Vicar of St. Benedict's to propose a vote of thanks to those who had been responsible for carrying out the work.

EDITOR, EXERCISE AND EXECUTIVE THANKED.

Rising during tea, the Vicar of St. Benedict's said he desired to propose a vote of thanks to those chiefly concerned in the commemoration. First, to the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' who had brought about this commemoration—the ringleader, he would call him. He congratulated him upon his success. It was one thing to

issue an appeal, however, it was another thing to get an answer, and that took him from the Editor to the Exercise. It was the way in which the Exercise had responded to the appeal that enabled them to meet and rejoice that day over the completion of the work. From the Exercise he must pass in his thanks to the Executive, but here he hardly knew where to begin. From the time the proposition was made it would not have been possible for the scheme to have been in better hands. When they learned that the tower was to be in the care of a distinguished architect, that the bells were to be in the hands of the great Loughborough firm and the building part of the scheme in the hands of Mr. Sindall, there was nothing else to be said, but to be thankful that it was in such excellent keeping. He wanted them to understand that the tower and its contents belonged not to them as a parish, but to the universe. The parish were only the guardians and caretakers of the wonderful old tower and of Stedman's bells, and, in a sense, the eyes of the world, especially the ecclesiastical and antiquarian world, were upon them, to see that they kept the tower intact and likewise its contents. Let them suppose—horrible thought—that disaster had befallen their precious relic. What would it mean? It would mean a double disaster. It would mean that not only the casket, but the jewels contained in the casket would be lost to them—the destruction of both the tower and Fabian Stedman's bells. To their immense relief this restoration had taken place, and he could not tell them how thankful they were that the bells could now be rung without trepidation and without the nervousness which they had experienced about their ringing in the past. If they had been unduly nervous in the past it was because, when he came there as incumbent 25 years ago, the diocesan surveyor and architect informed him that there were no less than 20 cracks in the grand old Saxon tower, and it was for that reason they had not allowed the bells to be rung regardless of time and regardless of other considerations. Now there was no obstacle to their being rung in reason, bearing in mind the proximity of the college and surrounding business premises. In conclusion, the Vicar said he would also like to include in the vote of thanks their preacher. It had recently been said by someone that clergy were incapable of speaking sense for more than five minutes at a time (laughter). That statement had been completely falsified that afternoon (applause). He proposed a vote of thanks to the Editor, the Exercise, the Executive and all who had been kind enough to help in making the commemoration the great event it had been (applause).

The Editor of 'The Ringing World' first responded, 'because he was the cause of all the trouble' (laughter). Although the suggestion for the commemoration, with the restoration of Stedman's bells, first came from him, many others had taken a large part in carrying it through, and he desired to acknowledge their help. The response of the Exercise to the appeal had been extraordinary, and it was a source of intense gratification to him that the scheme had proved the huge success which they had seen that day (applause).

The President of the Central Council replied for the Exercise and the Executive. He said they greatly appreciated the fact that they had been allowed to do this important work in St. Bene't's Church and put the bells into ringing order. With regard to the future ringing of the bells—a question raised at the very beginning of the scheme—although no definite arrangements had been made, they believed it would be possible for the Cambridge Youths to ring the bells for service once or twice a month (applause). They also hoped they would be available for visiting hands. The bells had been lowered 12ft. in the tower and some of the openings had been blocked up, but if it was found by experience that the noise outside was still somewhat excessive in the immediate vicinity of the church, the committee would be quite prepared to have the sound modified. It was most important that the sound should be properly moderated both inside and outside the tower, particularly outside, so that the public should have no real cause of complaint (applause). The committee would like to hear the opinion of the college, of the nearby banks and of the general public as to the volume of sound which now escaped from the tower, and they would do their best to get the amount of sound properly adjusted. As far as the Executive were concerned, the scheme had given them great gratification. The Vicar and the parochial officials had been most kind to them and had met their views in every way, so that there had been no difficulties (applause). The origin of the scheme had been entirely due to Mr. Goldsmith, who had done a great deal towards carrying it through as well, and he would also like them to know that as far as the details of the restoration were concerned the work had been done very largely by Mr. Fletcher (applause).

The brief speechmaking concluded with a vote of thanks to the authorities of Corpus Christi College for the use of the hall, and to the college staff for the catering arrangements, proposed by Canon Celeridge.

Heavy rain had begun to fall during the service in the afternoon and continued for most of the evening. This, however, did not deter many from making their way after tea to the various towers, but a large number took advantage of the accommodation provided for their use and comfort at the Lion Hotel, where in one of the great rooms a social gathering was held. Old friends met, new friends were made, healths were pledged, and the time passed happily and all too quickly. Gradually the inexorable calls of train and home thinned

the ranks, but it was getting well towards midnight before the last of the party broke up and an historic day was brought to a close.

It was a matter of sincere regret that age and infirmity prevented the attendance of the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, whose work for ringing through the Cambridge University Guild, for more than fifty years, has borne such valuable results; and it was also a disappointment that illness caused the enforced absence of Mr. W. W. Worthington, of Lichfield, a generous donor to the restoration fund. Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Recorder of Lincoln, and Presiding Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, was prevented from attending by duties at Birmingham Assize Court.

RINGING FOR THE COMMEMORATION.

At a large number of towers up and down the country special ringing took place on Saturday and Sunday to commemorate the Tercentenary. Perhaps the most unusual ringing of this kind took place at St. Lawrence's Parish Church, Caversfield, Oxfordshire, where there are three bells hung for ringing. Before evensong on Sunday, 720 Stedman Singles were rung in 32 minutes by three members of the Oxford Guild: Cyril Kinch, treble; Leslie Evans, 2; Frederick Sharpe, tenor. This is claimed to be the first 720 on the bells, although Stedman's sixes are rung on them for almost every Sunday service. In addition to the three bells hung for ringing, there is another bell of about 3 cwt. cast between the years 1200 and 1219.

On Saturday, in 47 mins., at Immanuel Church, Streatham, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): John Lee 1, W. J. Ames 2, E. E. Bish 3, E. A. Reeve 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, W. Essery 6, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 7, W. J. Anscombe 8. Also touches of Stedman Triples at St. Leonard's Church by the same band, with R. Grater taking part.

After a peal attempt had failed, at Swindon, Wilts, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,301 changes) was rung in 52 mins.: R. G. Townsend 1, N. Allnatt 2, H. W. Badger 3, L. A. Wilson 4, H. W. Bishop (conductor) 5, J. Berry 6, S. Palmer 7, E. Bishop 8, W. B. Kynaston 9, E. Coombes 10.

The ringers of Wicken Parish Church made an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples on December 5th in honour of the Stedman Tercentenary, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2 hours 55 mins. with only three more courses to ring. The ringers were all local: J. A. Green (aged 14) 1, T. Roberts 2, T. Read 3, F. Case 4, L. Smith 5, G. Cooper 6, A. J. Green (conductor) 7, C. Warner 8. This was the first attempt of Stedman for the treble ringer and the first attempt for a peal by the tenor man.

At St. Mark's, Swindon, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Stedman Doubles was rung on Saturday with two 'covers' after meeting short for Triples (owing to illness): N. Allnatt 1, J. Penny 2, S. Hopper 3, W. B. Kynaston 4, J. Woodroff 5, F. Weston 6, G. Lawrence 7.

On Saturday, at St. Giles' Church, Reading, Berks, 672 Stedman Triples: W. Osborne 1, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 2, J. Swain 3, L. T. Osborne 4, A. Bailey 5, P. Dyke 6, A. Jeffery 7, H. Osborne 8. On the same day at St. Mary's Church, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Osborne 1, L. T. Osborne 2, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 3, A. Bailey 4, P. Dyke 5, J. Swain 6, A. Jeffery 7, H. Osborne 8.

For the celebration of the Tercentenary, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) was rung by the St. Mary's Society, Dover, in 45 mins. (Brooks' Variation): S. A. Wells 1, T. W. Robinson 2, H. J. Saunders 3, C. George 4, C. R. Millway 5, R. T. Clark 6, C. Turner (conductor) 7, C. Hardeman 8. First quarter of Stedman by the ringers of the 2nd and 4th.

At St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth, on Saturday, in 49 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in honour of the Tercentenary: E. F. Hondley 1, H. R. Bennett 2, E. Waters 3, A. V. Dent 4, C. R. Forfit 5, H. A. Mitchell 6, A. V. Davis (conductor) 7, C. Chandler 8. Conductor's first attempt to call a quarter-peal of Stedman.

At Fairfield, Glos, on Saturday, between the hours of 2.30 and 4 p.m., touches of Stedman Doubles were rung with 6, 7, 8 covering, the band meeting one short for Triples: Miss F. M. Hope 1, J. Hope (conductor) 2, W. Hayward 3, J. Peyman 4, H. Acock 5, E. Gardener 6, A. King 7, E. Cooper 8.

At Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos, on Sunday, December 6th, for morning service, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Stedman Triples: W. Bennett 1, F. Davis 2, E. Hill 3, B. Phillips 4, R. Hick 5, C. Robbins 6, E. Pardon (conductor) 7, W. Ewins 8.

At Dunstable, Beds, on Sunday, December 6th, for matins, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Stedman Triples in 48 mins.: A. E. Sharnan (conductor) 1, G. H. Sentance 2, A. G. Matthews 3, G. W. Harris 4, G. Heley 5, C. Rollings 6, A. J. Smith 7, F. Ramsay 8.

On Sunday, at the Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, London, for evensong, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Hewett 1, E. Stith (Port Talbot) 2, F. Digby 3, E. F. Pike 4, W. R. Madgwick 5, H. Belcher 6, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 7, J. E. Davis 8.

On Sunday, at St. Andrew's, Holborn, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: Joseph S. Hawkins (conductor) 1, Henry C. Alford 2, Arthur Cutmore 3, Robert W. Green 4, Charles J. Choat 5, Frank H. Crook 6, Albert C. Darrell 7, Richard G. Bell 8. Arranged for Messrs. F. H. Crook and R. G. Bell, of Watford, and rung in commemoration of Fabian Stedman.

At Tunstall, Kent, an attempt for Thurstans' four-part unfortunately came to grief at the half-way single: W. A. Wood 1, S. B. Dobbie 2, E. J. Dobbie 3, W. Wood 4, S. E. Taylor 5, G. Kenward 6, W. Spice, sen. (conductor) 7, W. Gorman 8.

To commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary, at Bishop's Stortford, on Saturday, 504 Stedman Triples at St. Michael's Church: F. Springham 1, Rev. F. W. Lane 2, E. Hayden 3, W. M. White 4, H. Bull 5, W. T. Prior 6, F. Bird (conductor) 7, W. Wilkinson 8.—On Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') 1,260 changes, in 45 mins.: R. Hayden 1, F. Springham 2, H. M. White 3, E. A. Wacey 4, H. Bull 5, W. T. Prior 6, F. Bird (conductor) 7, W. Wilkinson 8.

At Burford, Oxon, on Saturday, December 5th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. by the local band: T. Bond 1, T. Timms 2, W. Brunsdon 3, T. Midwinter 4, R. Hudson 5, A. Bishop 6, F. Soden (conductor) 7, G. Faulkner 8.

At Pentre Rhondda on Saturday, December 5th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: G. Wines 1, W. Palmer 2, W. Cross 3, G. Palmer 4, T. Hamlin 5, J. Lovett 6, T. Page (conductor) 7, H. Crabb 8.

At St. Werburgh's, Kingsley, Staffs, on Saturday, December 5th, for the Stedman Tercentenary, a quarter-peal of Treble Bob Minor (1,296 changes), the methods being Killamarsh, Woodbine, Duke of York, Kent and Oxford: W. Edwards 1, G. Hulme 2, H. Carnwell (conductor) 3, E. Wood 4, F. Edwards 5, W. Carnwell 6.

On Saturday, December 5th, at St. Andrew's Church, Netherton, the local band rang several touches of Stedman Triples in honour of the Tercentenary of Fabian Stedman, including a 504, which was conducted by the leader of the company, Mr. A. Prestidge, sen.

At Stoke-on-Tern, Shropshire, on Saturday, December 5th, 720 Grandsire Doubles in 26 mins.: F. Price 1, T. Price 2, E. V. Rodenhurst (conductor) 3, W. Lycett 4, G. Berry 5, E. Gregory 6. Longest length by ringers of treble, 2nd, 5th and tenor. The 4th ringer hails from Stanton, the remainder are from Hodnet.

At St. Mary's Church, Reigate, 1,260 Stedman Triples was rung on Saturday, December 5th, in honour of the Tercentenary commemoration: *R. Fuller 1, *R. Tuffin 2, *C. Hygate 3, *P. Jeal 4, W. Claydon 5, *A. Willett 6, G. Hoad (conductor) 7, G. Stemp 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

At Henfield, Sussex, on Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): F. Parsons 1, Eric Morey 2, C. A. Barnes 3, Willie Morey 4, W. J. Alliss 5, A. E. Baker 6, C. Tyler (conductor) 7, A. Crutenden (first quarter-peal) 8.

On Sunday for evening service at the Church of St. Edmund, Warkton, Northants, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: G. W. Clarke 1, H. Patrick 2, E. J. Sargeant 3, H. O. Mutton 4, B. P. Morris (conductor) 5. Rung to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary.

GREATEST SINGLE EVENT IN HISTORY OF EXERCISE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Stedman Commemoration of last Saturday will stand out for all time not only as a landmark in the annals of ringing, but rather as the greatest single event in the whole history of the Exercise from its earliest beginnings to the present day. As one perforce obliged to take only a passive part in the proceedings at Cambridge, I ask leave to congratulate the author of this magnificent movement first and foremost on the splendid inspiration that prompted its initiation, on the wonderful response to his appeal, the masterly organisation of every detail and the signal success that has crowned the efforts of all those responsible for carrying the project to its triumphant issue. To all those privileged to be present the Tercentenary celebration was a thrilling experience, and I feel confident that the sentiments thus imperfectly expressed are those of every one of your readers.—Yours faithfully,

F. LL. EDWARDS,

Hon. Secretary, Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

SOUVENIRS.

Two splendid souvenirs of the Tercentenary have been prepared and may be obtained by ringers. One is a daintily got up booklet, which records the details of the Commemoration scheme, has a long and interesting article on Fabian Stedman and a description of St. Benedict's and its tower and bells. In addition there is a complete list of subscribers to the Tercentenary Fund. There are several illustrations, including, as a frontispiece, a fine picture of the Saxon tower. Every ringer should secure one of these souvenirs, which can be obtained post free 8d. each from 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking, Surrey.

The other memento of the unique event is an ash tray. A number of these have been turned up out of an ancient oak beam which was removed from St. Benedict's tower in the course of the restoration, and they form very charming souvenirs. Nearly all that were ready were disposed of at Cambridge, but more will shortly be on sale and will be obtainable at 2s. 3d. post free from the Hon. Secretary of the Central Council, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex. Early application for these is desirable, as the number is limited.

NOTICES.

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

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

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

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not met twenty times to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on December 17th and 31st; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 15th; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 29th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Cowden on Saturday, December 12th. Tower opened 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The next meeting will be held at King's Langley on December 12th. A service, tea and meeting will be arranged. Good bus service by the church.—J. Puppelt, Hon. Sec., Aylesbury Road, Tring.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Weybridge on December 12th.—Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30.—H. Hancock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Chobham Road, Ottershaw, Chertsey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—A joint meeting of the Doncaster and Dis. Society, the Barnsley and Dis. Society and the Southern Division will be held at Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (eight) available from 2 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 1s. each. Good bus service from Rotherham, Mexborough and Conisborough. Burrowes buses from Leeds, Wakefield and Barnsley pass the church every hour.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 12th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Neath on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at York, on Saturday, December 12th. The Minster bells (12) will be available from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Tea will be served in the Feasegate Restaurant at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting in belfry at 5.30 p.m.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Benhilton, Sutton, on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., tea and meeting following in the Church Hall. All ringers heartily welcome.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Lindley, Huddersfield, on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 2 p.m.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, 44, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Mr. Wm. Taylor will probably give a lecture on 'The Proving of Peals' at this meeting.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting is to be held at Lancaster on December 12th.—E. Jennings, Hon. Sec., Castle Oval, Kendal.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, December 12th, at the Church of St. Lawrence, Barnwood. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 p.m., by kind invitation of the Rector. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 15, Painswick Road, Gloucester.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Service in church at 4 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting at 5 p.m. at the King's Arms, P.R.H.A.—G. Preston, Christchurch.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Willington on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All welcome.—Percy C. Bonnett, Dis. Sec., Stagden, Beds.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Bridport on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5.15. Notification for tea to Mr. W. Trump, Greyhound Hotel, Bridport.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Luton on Saturday, December 12th. The bells (8) will be available from 2.45 p.m. During the afternoon the unveiling of a peal board will take place. It will help if names for tea are sent to Mr. A. King, 6, Tavistock Crescent, Luton.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Bulwell (8 bells) on Saturday, December 12th. Bells ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come and keep the bells going.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., 23, Shaw Street, Ilkeston.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF RINGERS.—Archdeaconry of Huntingdon.—A meeting will be held at St. Ives on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock.—D. Clarke, Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The next annual meeting will be held at Timberscombe on Saturday, December 12th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the Schoolroom at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., 6, Park St., Minehead.

SALISBURY GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Sherborne on Saturday, December 12th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. The bells at Milborne Port (8), Bradford Abbas (6), Bishop's Caundle (5), Lillington (5), Thornford (5), and Yetminster (5) also available. Those requiring tea please notify Rev. A. E. Nedham, Compton Abbas Rectory, Shaftesbury.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Please note. Owing to the illness of the Rector's wife at Witherley, the next monthly meeting will be held at Croft on December 12th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea in the Schools 5 o'clock. All ringers and friends welcome, and please turn up for tea.—W. A. Cope, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—On Saturday, December 12th, a by-meeting will be held at Gravesend. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at St. George's at 4.30 p.m. to be followed by tea by kind invitation of His Worship the Mayor of Gravesend, in the Church Hall.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Dis. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham, Kent.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The last meeting of the year will be held on Saturday, December 12th, at Worksop (8 bells), which will be open from 2.30 p.m. Tea provided for those who notify Mr. A. Johnson, 3, South View, Cheapside, Worksop. Good meeting hoped for. Good bus and train services to and from the town.—R. W. Stockdale, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Taunton, on Saturday, December 12th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Meeting and tea to follow in the schools.—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Wisbech.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 12th, at Whittlesey. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Edward Barker, Branch Sec., Shouldham, King's Lynn.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Cheltenham Branch will be held at Leckhampton on Saturday, December 12th. Bells open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30, by invitation of the Rector, Canon F. W. Sears. Business meeting after tea.—Walter Yeend, Branch Hon. Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

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SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.—The two new trebles to complete the octave will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Southwell on Saturday, December 19th, at 3 o'clock. All ringers welcome. Will those requiring tea please send word to Miss G. Burchnell, Sutton-on-Trent, Newark, by December 16th. Bells open for ringing after the service.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall (10 bells), on Saturday, December 19th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. All ringers and friends are cordially invited. Subscriptions due, and annual report to hand.—D. Brown, 140, Hulton Street, Moss-side, Manchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, December 19th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. For tea, notify Mr. Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Annes-on-Sea on Saturday, December 19th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30. Reports now ready.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec., 118, Dickson Road, Blackpool.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Saviour's Church, Bolton, on Saturday, December 19th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday afternoon, December 19th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Subscriptions are due. Reports to hand.—J. Bracewell, Hon. Sec., 8, Regent Street, Bacup.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Sandbach on December 19th. Eight bells. Ringing from three o'clock. Please note: Meetings for 1932 are compiled at Sandbach on this date. Will all members who intend to be present kindly let me know on or before the 17th inst?—Richard D. Langford, 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Wooburn (8 bells), on Saturday, December 19th, at 3.30 p.m. Tea for those who notify me not later than December 15th.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—An annual general meeting of the above district will be held at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on Saturday, December 19th. The bells of the Foundry Campanile will be available from 3.30 p.m. Anyone requiring tea please notify secretary by December 18th.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 145, Paget Street, Loughborough.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The bells of St. Nicholas', Dereham, will be reopened on Saturday, December 19th. A service will be held at 3.30, followed by an invitation tea. All ringers accepting invitation are asked to send postcard to Vicar, Canon Macnaughton Jones, R.D.

YATE, BRISTOL.—Reopening of bells (6) after re-hanging by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston will take place Tuesday, December 22nd. Service 7.15 p.m.; preacher, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Gloucester. Will those intending to be present please advise Canon E. F. Smith, Yate? Bristol ringers please advise me.—Edgar Guise, 48, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Newport (All Saints') on Saturday, December 26th (Boxing Day). Service at 4 o'clock. Business meeting to follow in All Saints' Mission Room, Lyne Road. The bells of both All Saints' and the pro-Cathedral available during the afternoon and evening, excepting during the time of service and meeting.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The second annual dinner will be held at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday, January 9th, at 6 p.m. Tickets (5/6 each) obtainable from the Hon. Secretary, J. S. Goldsmith, Southover, Hockering Gardens, Woking, Surrey.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—Preliminary Notice.—The diamond jubilee will be held on Saturday, February 6th. The secretary (Rev. W. C. Barrett, St. Thomas' Convent) will be glad to get in touch with all old members, whether able to attend or not.

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GRANTHAM.—At St. Wulfram's Parish Church, on Sunday, November 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes): E. Nidd 1, H. Thorpe 2, W. Thorpe 3, J. Royce 4, E. Roys 5, P. Turner 6, A. Parker 7, S. Proctor (conductor) 8, T. Hall 9, A. Ward (Bottesford) 10.

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