

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 232. Vol. IX.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 27th, 1915.

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Price 1d.

## GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912  
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

### THE ART OVERSEAS.

The difficulties of planting our art outside our own isle seem to be almost insuperable. Bell ringing, as we know it, appears to defy all efforts to transplant it beyond the confines of these shores. We have only to look at ringing history to see what little success has attended past endeavours to establish it overseas to realise the task that lies before the pioneer. But the poor results of past efforts in various parts of the globe only serve to increase one's admiration for the bold attempt which Dr. Nichols, of Boston, has made to get ringing to take root in the United States. The article in the "Boston Globe," which we quoted last week, recalled some of the attempts which have been made in Boston to establish ringing in that district, which is more favoured in the matter of bells than any other part of the western hemisphere, but all of them in the past have failed to come to fruition. Dr. Nichols' experiment, of importing sufficient men to make up a band, however, bids fair to meet with better success than previous attempts, although local conditions seem to provide many obstacles to practice. They have got the bells, they have got the men, but the opportunities seem to be few.

Elsewhere throughout the world, towers possessing peals of bells are so widely scattered that it is not surprising that ringing fails to maintain itself above a low ebb. It is practically only those ringers who go out from the old country who do anything to keep the art alive in the Colonies, and a band which is weakened by the loss of a member has to wait until the chance arrival of another ringer from home gives them the opportunity of making a fresh start. From the information which comes to hand from time to time from various parts of the world—from New Zealand to Vancouver—only one conclusion can be drawn, and that is that only those who have grown up on the soil of England and have got born in them the love of bells ever take to bell ringing. Few arts, we think, can have this peculiarity.

Whether the efforts of the Boston Guild will, in America, break down the barrier which seems to keep ringing within a pale for Englishmen only, remains to be seen. The education of the American people by such excellent articles as that to which we have referred, may do something in Boston to help matters, and if only the art can get a fair start it would doubtless be carried forward with all that wonderful spirit of enthusiasm which, on this side of the Atlantic, we associate with the American as characteristic of his work and of his play. At present, of course, our cousins know nothing of the fascination of the art, but if once they got within its grip we have no doubt there would be "some" ringing.

## MODERN WORK.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



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MODERN WORK.**

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-liaising the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

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Smethwick.

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## TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, August 21, 1915, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5160 CHANCES;**

Tenor 24½ cwt.

JOHN FLINT... .. Treble	*ALBERT H. WARD ... .. 6
WILLIAM LAMBERT ... .. 2	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... .. 7
GEORGE HOLLIS... .. 3	SAMUEL WESLEY ... .. 8
*GEORGE DAVIES ... .. 4	WILLIAM J. THYNG... .. 9
ARTHUR KNIGHTS ... .. 5	WALTER ALLWOOD ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and  
Conducted by BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS.

\* First peal of Oxford Royal.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CHURCH STRETTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

(THE ST. CHAD'S SOCIETY, SHREWSBURY).

On Saturday, August 21, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANCES;**

Tenor 11 cwt. 0 qr. 5 lbs.

*JOHN TUDOR ... .. Treble	GEORGE JONES ... .. 5
WILLIAM C. BROOKES ... .. 2	†EDWARD V. RODENHURST 6
WILLIAM J. TAYLOR... .. 3	ALFRED E. FULLOCK ... .. 7
JOHN W. JONES... .. 4	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK, and  
Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

\* First peal. † First peal of Major. First peal of Bob Major on the bells. All the band belong to St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, excepting John W. Jones, who hails from Newport, Mon., and was elected a member before starting.

PENDLEBURY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH).

On Saturday, August 21, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,  
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

REEVES' VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM WALTON ... .. Treble	CHARLES SEDDON ... .. 5
DAVID HINDLEY ... .. 2	DANIEL HOWARD ... .. 6
THOMAS LINGARD ... .. 3	JOHN HOWARD ... .. 7
ALBERT WALLWORK ... .. 4	JOHN EDGE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS LINGARD.

Rung with the bells fully muffled as a token of respect, and in dear memory of the late Vicar (the Rev. William John Hull), who passed away on Saturday, August 7th, at Blackpool, and was interred at Houghton Parish Church on Thursday, August 12th, 1915.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 18, 1915, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

Being 42 Six-Scores with nine different callings.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lbs.

JAMES H. COX ... .. Treble	LUKE VERRALL ... .. 4
FREDERICK J. MARTIN ... .. 2	ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... .. 5
ALBERT E. ANSCOMBE ... .. 3	ALBERT MARTIN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

Rung on the occasion of the institution and induction of, and as a welcome to, the new Rector of Barcombe, the Rev. H. W. Farrar, M.A.

**HANDBELL PEALS.**

GREAT HAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.  
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION  
(SOUTHERN BRANCH).

On Saturday, August 21, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,  
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

MISS ELLEN M. JOHNSON	1-2	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	...	5-6
FREDERICK J. JOHNSON	3-4	JAMES HEMMING	...	7-8

Conducted by Miss E. M. JOHNSON.

Umpire: JOHN HAMPTON.

First peal of Triples as conductor. The Vicar of Great Hampton (the Rev. D. FitzMaurice), heard the last half of the peal.

**EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.**

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION  
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, August 22, 1915, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
IN THE BELL TOWER,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6003 CHANCES;**

*MISS ELLEN M. JOHNSON	1-2	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON	...	5-6
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	3-4	HARRY MIDDLETON	...	7-8
JAMES HEMMING	...	...	9-10	

Composed by JAMES GEORGE, and  
Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

Umpire: HENRY J. PHIPPS.

\* First peal of Caters. First peal of Caters on handbells by all the band and for the Association. This was the conductor's 25th peal. The composition, which contains the 5th and 6th each their extent behind the 9th, and the 6th six courses behind the 8th in the hand-stroke home position, is now rung for the first time.

The above two peals were rung as a birthday compliment to Miss E. M. JOHNSON, who was 15 years of age on Sunday, August 22nd, the band wishing her many happy returns of the day.

**NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.**

The following further subscriptions to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged .....	113	8	3
Several members, Ashford District, Kent Association .....	0	5	0
Romney Marsh and District Guild (2nd donation) .....	0	5	0
	113	18	3

**ROLL OF HONOUR.**

The following is a further list of ringers serving with H.M. Forces:—

Spr. Alan G. King, of St. Barnabas, Linslade, Bucks, Royal Engineers, now at Thetford.

W. Nye, of St. Anne's, Bagshot, Surrey, Canadian Band, now at Shorncliffe.

Lance-Corpl. J. Kinchin, of St. Mary's, Richmond, Yorks, Royal Engineers.

Lance-Corpl. S. Thorpe, of St. Mary's, Richmond, Yorks, 4th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment.

Walter Henry Sherwood, of Aldington, Kent, Wireless Section, Royal Flying Corps.

W. G. Dickens, treasurer to the Warwickshire Guild, Motor Transport, A.S.C.

Frank E. Pervin, of the Stoke-in-Coventry band, A.O.C.

Mr. "Bob" Hughes (second son of Mr. A. Hughes, of the White-chapel Foundry), who is serving with the colours in France, is now in hospital in Rouen, not wounded, but "run down" in health. Ringers will wish him a speedy recovery.

**RINGING FACILITIES FOR SOLDIERS.**

The Vicar of Fairfield, Buxton, has given over the bells every Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 for Royal Engineers stationed in Buxton. Any R.E.'s desiring to avail of this privilege should communicate with Corpl. C. H. Watts, or Lieut. Cole, R.E., Pavilion Hotel, Buxton.

**KENTISH GOSSIP.****INTERESTING ITEMS—HAPPY AND SAD.**

One of the charms of a ringing meeting is the news which one gets of friends and acquaintances and the gossip one hears of doings in familiar belfries. At Aldington, where the Romney Marsh Guild met last Saturday, there was some good and some bad news going the rounds. To deal with the happy side first. Many ringers in Kent—especially in the Canterbury district—are personally acquainted with Mr. P. H. Pierce, who took an active part in ringing, and scored a number of peals. On leaving Canterbury he went to live at Aldington, and now resides at Monk's Horton, a few miles distant. On August Bank Holiday he was married at Aldington Church to Miss Harriet Lear, daughter of Mrs. Lear, and the late Mr. Lear, of Aldington. The bells were rung for the ceremony, the ringers, including members of the Ashford district, Kent Association, and Romney Marsh Guild, being: Messrs. C. Slingsby, W. H. Sherwood, F. Wanstall and G. Hooker (Aldington), G. Paine (Marsham), — Finn (Brabourne) and Wood (Folkestone). The bridegroom kindly recognised the ringers' services, and it was decided to send the remuneration to the "Ringing World" for the National Relief Fund in the name of the two societies. The amount was slightly augmented by a "whip round" at the Guild meeting. We are sure Mr. Pierce's ringing friends will warmly congratulate him, and wish Mrs. Pierce and himself many happy years of married bliss.

Will the Ashford district possess a peal of twelve or at least a peal of ten at some future date, at present unknown? If rumour is correct, and something has probably been talked over, Headcorn is the tower where this augmentation may take place. Mrs. Gatehouse, the wife of the Vicar, is a keen change ringer, and while the matter has not been weighed over sufficiently to come to any decision, yet at the same time the minds of the Rev. and Mrs. Gatehouse have evidently turned to a consideration of it—but the first thing to do would be to recast the second and fourth of the present octave. If action be taken, it is hoped that the scheme will be launched the whole way and make Headcorn the first church in Kent to possess a peal of twelve. No one can say if such a thing will come about, but if it is taken in hand, the Exercise will wish the project every success.

Turning to the sad side it is with great regret the visitors learned of the death of William Winchester, who was killed in action on 29th April, having been at the front only a short time. The late Mr. Winchester was a married man with no family, and for a number of years rang at Aldington, being a very useful ringer. Several years ago he left the parish, going to Folkestone, but occasionally visited Aldington, and on those occasions was a welcome visitor to the belfry. Formerly he served in the 5th (Territorial Battalion) The Buffs, in which he rose to the rank of corporal. At the outbreak of war he had finished his period of service. However, he signed a householder's form, thinking that if called upon he could re-enlist in the Territorial Battalion. But the War Office notified him that they needed him for Lord Kitchener's Army, and he was obliged to accede to their command. Great sympathy is felt for his widow in the sad loss she has sustained.

Then, too, we heard that Sergt. Raymond Dunster is, or has been, home from France on sick leave. He is in the 5th Royal Sussex. This brave soldier was a member of the Kent Association and the Romney Marsh Guild, and one of the best ringers at Stone-in-Oxney before going to Ashford. Whether he has gone back to the front we do not know, but we wish him a safe return home when the war is over.

The third casualty affects the home of Mr. C. Tribe, the popular hon. secretary of the Ashford district. His son (who, if memory carries one correctly, has figured in the Tenterden belfry, and possibly other towers) went to the Dardanelles, and is now ill in hospital, but not wounded. He has had a very trying time. Writing home, he said he had been trench digging with his shirt off. Ringers will wish him speedy restoration to health and strength. G. B.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD'S DISAPPOINTMENT.**

Those members of the Warwickshire Guild who had been looking forward with pleasure to the meeting at Whitnash last Saturday had a disappointment, for, at the last moment, the Rector found it necessary to cancel the meeting.

**DEATH OF A COLNE RINGER.**

By the death of Mr. Abraham Lane, who passed away Tuesday, August 10th, at the age of 47 years, the Colne (Lancs.) ringers have lost one of their oldest members. He had been a member of the St. Bartholomew's company for 50 years, and had taken part in nine peals.

The deceased was carried to his last resting place by his fellow members on the 13th inst., and on Sunday week 504 of Stedman Triples was rung with the bells muffled, as a token of respect, by: A. Brook (conductor) 1, J. Foulds 2, Driver J. E. Foulds, R.F.A., 3, C. Mallinson 4, R. Foulds 5, W. H. Harrison 6, W. Mallinson 7, W. Heaton 8.

### FOUNDER OF BAGSHOT RINGERS DEAD.

By the death of Mr. C. Spooner, who died rather suddenly at his home at Bagshot, Surrey, on Tuesday, August 17th, at the age of 75, Bagshot loses the founder of the Bagshot company. He was born at Cranleigh (Surrey), where he learnt to ring, and left there for Bagshot when 20 years of age. At first he worked as a carpenter, and later started in business as a builder. In 1883 a new church was built, and Mrs. Michal Waterer gave a peal of six bells (cast by Messrs. J. Warner and Sons), with a tenor 21 cwt. In April, 1884, the church and bells were dedicated, and later were opened by the Cranleigh ringers. On May 2nd, 1884, a local company was formed, Mr. Spooner being elected captain. "Rope-sight" was served out to each member, and they started to ring Bob Singles. On April 8th, 1887, they rang their first 720 Bob Minor, which was conducted by Mr. Spooner. Then the company went on Kent, Oxford, New London, Violet, Woodbine, Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Grandsire Minor and Stedman Doubles. The deceased rang the tenor to a half-peal (2520 changes) made up of 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Plain Bob, and 360 Grandsire, in 1 hr. 45 mins. This was the longest length on the bells. The deceased rang one peal of Grandsire Triples at Yorktown on January 13th, 1897. Through ill-health he had done no ringing during the last few years, so he had not the pleasure of joining in touches on the new octave.

The funeral took place on Saturday last, the ringers sending a wreath, and some of them attending the funeral. In the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, was attempted by a local band, but came to grief after 42 minutes, through a missed bob: W. Wood 1, J. Corbett 2, F. Nye 3, H. Stapleton 4, T. Gould 5, F. Francis (conductor) 6, H. Gould 7, B. Berry 8.

### MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

Sunbury-on-Thames, famous as a riverside resort, is also famed for its beautiful peal of eight bells, with a tenor of 14½ cwt. It was here that the South and West District of the Middlesex Association held a successful meeting on Saturday last. Touches in various methods up to Double Norwich were brought round between 4 and 6 p.m., a service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. P. C. West), being held at the latter hour. In the course of this service the Vicar, followed by the members of the Association, proceeded to the church porch, and there conducted a short service for the unveiling of a peal board recording a peal of Grandsire Triples rung in May, 1914, in which two of the local band took part. In his address the Vicar said how well the peal board would serve, not only for recording the peal rung, but to remind them that the ringer of the Treble, Lionel Aiford, a good church worker, had rung his first and only peal before giving his life for his country.

Tea followed, and was much enjoyed by all, after which the business meeting was held, at which the Vicar took the chair. Twickenham was selected for the next meeting, with St. Peter's, Staines, as first reserve in case of unforeseen circumstances.—One new member was elected.

Mr. T. Beadle (District Master) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to all those who had made the meeting so enjoyable, the Vicar for the use of the bells, for the excellent address he had given them, and for so kindly providing the tea, the ladies for their kindly services, and also the organist, choir boys and steeplekeeper.—This was carried with loud applause, the Vicar briefly replying.

A move was again made to the tower, where more touches were brought round. During the afternoon and evening there were present ringers from Heston, Hounslow, Ealing, Leatherhead, Isleworth, Hershams, Croydon, Caversham, Hampton and London, together with several of the local band, and Pte F. G. Woodiss (Grenadier Guards, Chelsea).

### ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

Last Saturday the Romney Marsh and District Guild assembled at Aldington, Kent, a tower, containing a ring of six, which would make a very musical peal if the tenor were consigned to the melting-pot and recast. The members always enjoy a visit to Aldington, and look on it, perhaps, more as a summer outing, as most of them have to undertake a long journey to get there. A 720 of Bob Minor and other touches of that method and Grandsire Doubles comprised the ringing.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Slingsby kindly entertained the party to a bountiful tea, following which business was the order. On the proposition of Mr. C. Tribe, seconded by Mr. Balcombe, the place chosen for the September meeting was Stone-in-Oxney, on the third Saturday in the month.—One new member, Mr. G. Paine, of Mersham, was admitted, being proposed by Mr. Balcombe.

Mr. C. W. Player referred to the lamented death of Pte James Livermore, junr., R.A.M.C., of Christ Church, Blacklands, Hastings, who passed away in Flanders from wounds received. He moved that the hon. secretary send a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Livermore and family, the deceased being a member of the Guild.—Mr. G. Billenness seconded, and the resolution received approval in silence, the company standing.

Mr. C. Tribe voiced feelings of thankfulness and gratitude to Mr. and Mrs. Slingsby for their generous hospitality.—Mr. Player seconded, and after Mr. G. Paine had supported the motion, the company, comprising ringers from Tenterden, Hawkhurst, Stone-in-Oxney, Rye, Mersham, Woodchurch, Fairfield, and Aldington, unanimously passed a hearty vote of thanks to their genial host and hostess, Mr. Slingsby suitably acknowledging the compliment on behalf of his wife and himself.

### HAMPTON'S WONDERFUL JUVENILES.

#### THE JOHNSONS' LATEST PERFORMANCES.

Two handbell peals of very considerable interest are recorded in this issue. They were both rung to celebrate the fifteenth birthday of Miss E. M. Johnson, one of those very clever juvenile ringers of Hampton Evesham. The first of the two peals was Grandsire Triples and was rung on Saturday, Miss Johnson being the conductor. Despite her youth it was not her first in that capacity, although she had not conducted a peal of Triples before. Some time ago she called a peal of Doubles. When only eleven years of age she rang her first peal, and, it may be remembered, at the age of twelve took part in a peal of Doubles in which the other pairs were rung by a younger sister and an older brother, Ruth being then only ten and Joseph but thirteen. Those who have seen this family of ringing prodigies, marvel at the complete confidence and accuracy with which they ring two bells in touches.

Miss Ellen Johnson's birthday celebration was completed on Sunday, when she and her brother with their father and two others took part, at Evesham, in the first peal of Grandsire Caters rung on handbells by the Worcestershire Association. It was conducted by her sixteen-year-old brother and was the first peal of Caters by Miss Johnson, and the first on handbells by all the band. To make the performance the more noteworthy it was the twenty-fifth peal by Master Joseph Johnson, and these are so remarkable for one so young that they are worth setting out.

	Tower bells.		Handbells.	
	Rung.	Cond.	Rung.	Cond.
Doubles (in one to eight methods) .....	4	2	7	5
Minor (in one to five methods) .....	6	3	1	1
Grandsire Triples .....			3	2
Stedman Triples .....	1			
Bob Major .....			1	1
Bob Caters .....	1			
Grandsire Caters .....			1	1
	12	4	13	10

Thus, out of 25 peals he has called 14, no fewer than ten of them being conducted on handbells.

### MOTTRAM'S OLDEST RINGER.

#### DEATH OF MR. JOHN HARROP.

It is with deep regret we record the death on August 11th, as the result of an accident, of Mr. John Harrop, of Mottram. Visitors to St. Michael's tower will miss the genial face of this ringer, who for 47 years has been connected with this tower, and was the oldest member of the band.

The funeral took place on August 14th, the first part of the service being taken in the church by the Vicar. At the graveside four comrades rang a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells: Isaac Schofield 1—2, Samuel Stott 3—4, Charles Marsland 5—6, Joseph Goddard 7—8. This last tribute, before leaving a departed comrade amongst the trees and beautiful surroundings of this lovely country cemetery, was a most impressive feature of the obsequies.

The deceased was a member of the Chester Diocesan Guild and a life member of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, and had rung close on 100 peals, chiefly of Kent Treble Bob Major.

In the evening, by the kind permission of the Vicar, muffled touches of Kent Treble Bob were rung by his comrades of the tower, assisted by ringers from Oldham, Ashton, Stalybridge, Hyde and Glossop.

The members of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, on Tuesday of last week, rang touches of 992 Kent Treble Bob Major and 504 Stedman Triples at Ashton Parish Church with the bells muffled. The ringers, who express deep sympathy with the family of the deceased in their bereavement were: C. Bower 1, C. Broadbent 2, J. Broadbent 3, M. Oldfield 4, W. Wolstencroft 5, A. Adams 6, J. Harrison 7, S. Wood (conductor) 8. The funeral of the deceased took place at Mottram Church on Saturday, August 14th.



### THE CENTRAL COUNCIL AND ITS CRITICS. CANON PAPILLON "OPENS THE CASE FOR THE DEFENCE."

Sir,—During the last few weeks the Central Council has been invited, in tones ranging from righteous indignation to sorrowful remonstrance, to show cause why so useless and unpractical a body should exist at all. Thus far, counsel for the prosecution have had matters their own way. But you, sir, have put in some pertinent pleas for a stay of judgment; nor has any member of the accused body yet been heard in court. May I open the case for the defence?

I have been a member of the Council from the beginning; first as a representative, latterly as an honorary member; I have attended all the London meetings, and a fair proportion of those held elsewhere, and I think that I know something of the work done. Let me at once admit that a good deal of time has been wasted—as by most assemblies, not excepting Parliament itself—in unprofitable discussion. We have at times been bored almost to despair by much hair-splitting over technicalities of composition, legitimacy (or "regularity") of methods, and other matters with which only a few experts are competent to deal. But change-ringing, we must remember, is a science as well as an art. If there are doubts or difficulties on its scientific side, they ought to be discussed, and, if possible, settled; and where or by whom so appropriately as by a conference of representative ringers, including competent experts in both the science and the art.

As to the necessity of such a central body representing and co-ordinating the associations all over the country, I can add nothing to the argument of your article in the "Ringing World" of August 20th, which, in my opinion, is unanswerable.

The main work of such a body is done through committees, and very useful work it has been in many instances—even where it might be thought that too much time is spent in discussing their reports, or that the output of work has been disappointing. The committee on legitimate methods, for example, has occupied a large slice of our time, but surely it is for the benefit of the Exercise to have some pronouncement on this matter by competent authority? Or take the work of another body, the "Literature Committee," of which I am a member, and for whose shortcomings I must accept responsibility—a body which is at present the naughty boy, or the standing joke of the Council. In its earlier stage as the "Press Committee," it did, I venture to think, very useful work in securing through notices, letters or articles in the Press, some wider recognition of ringers and their art. Some articles, e.g., which appeared in the "Guardian," a leading Church newspaper, were reprinted as a pamphlet headed "Church Bells and Bell Ringing," and a "leader" in the "Times" of Sept. 23rd, 1899, has now been reproduced in Sir Arthur Heywood's book, "Bell Towers and Bell Hanging." These journalistic efforts were an outcome of our "Press Committee," as also has been the article "Bell" in the new edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," which arose out of a strong protest by our late secretary, Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, against the ludicrously inadequate and inaccurate allusions to change-ringing in the corresponding article of the previous edition. Sir Arthur Heywood's book mentioned above represents recent efforts by the Council to promote a better understanding between Church architects, ringers and bell-hangers, which may have great re-

sults in the future. Nor ought we to forget the admirable pamphlet on "The Preservation and Repair of Church Bells, Frames and Fittings," issued by the Council in 1892. It is not the fault of the Council if clergy and church authorities have not used and profited by it as much as was hoped.

As to "practical matters," if the associations will take more interest in the Council and its doings, and submit questions of practical interest for its consideration, I do not think that they will find us indifferent or helpless. Legislation is another and more debatable point on which I will only say that if the Council is to legislate with effect, it must have power to enforce its decisions, and that power, as you say, must be given to it by the Associations themselves.

St. Albans, August 23rd.

T. L. PAPILLON.

### THE OPENING AT ERITH.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—It was not my intention to take any notice whatever of Mr. Groombridge's remarks at the Chislehurst meeting, but, when he sent you the report, his reference there was so worded that he misled your readers, and made it appear that there was confusion and muddle, which there certainly was not. I knew perfectly well what he was driving at. I want to make it quite clear that I have kept strictly to the rules of the Association. At the opening ceremony, and for some time after, the belfry was open to anyone, and many availed themselves of the opportunity to have a ring, but the peal in the evening, which was considered to be quite in keeping with the day's rejoicings on such a unique occasion, was entirely a private affair of my own, and nothing to do with either Mr. Groombridge or anyone else. All the band were prominent members of the Kent County Association, four of them being also members of the committee, and they knew full well the circumstances under which they were invited.

If I had included Mr. Groombridge, I could not have got a good representative band together. I had a previous experience of this last year in arranging a peal when no less than six ringers refused to ring if I included him in the band, and a seventh said he would ring, but preferred to be left out for the same reason. I therefore consider I was justified, under the circumstances, in leaving him out of the arrangements altogether.

I have been a ringer thirty-four years, nearly twenty-seven of which I have been a member, and more than twenty-three years an officer of the Kent County Association, and I am not afraid of any ringer, who knows me, accusing me of anything dishonourable such as has been imputed to me by Mr. Groombridge. Before he attributes dishonour to another he should first remember "Swanscombe," where we once met for Superlative.—Yours truly,

Crayford.

E. BARNETT.

### A YORKSHIRE OUTING.

The St. James' Society, Bolton, Bradford, visited Rotherham and district for their annual Bank Holiday week-end off. At Rotherham they were met by the secretary of the local branch and taken to the hotel, which was to be their headquarters. Here a substantial tea was awaiting them, and later in the evening they took car to Wath-on-Derne, where they found a nice ring of six on which touches of Oxford and Plain Bob were rung. The party then returned to headquarters for the rest of the evening. On Sunday morning ringing at the Parish Church on the fine peal of ten (tenor 31 cwt.) was the order, and here they had the pleasure of ringing Grandsire Caters and Triples. Afterwards a visit was paid to the historic church on the bridge, while in the afternoon a visit was arranged to the park and museum, which was very much enjoyed by all. Ringing in the evening was at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, where on the musical peal of eight (tenor 12 cwt.) a quarter-peal of Grandsire was attempted for service, but was lost after some good ringing. A short touch of Stedman Triples followed, and a very pleasant hour was afterwards spent with some of the local company.

The first place on the programme for Monday morning was Beighton, where the visitors were met by some of the locals, and touches of Oxford, Kent and Plain Bob tapped off. Eckington, four miles distant, was the next place of call, but the walk was amply compensated for by the bells, which in "go" and tone are the last word. Touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Kent and Plain Bob were rung, everyone being delighted with this glorious peal of bells. Slaveley was next visited, and the party were met by some of the locals. The fine ring of eight were set going to Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Major, and the ringing much enjoyed.

The return journey to Bradford was made by train, the whole party having spent a very enjoyable week-end. They take this opportunity of returning their best thanks to the Vicars, churchwardens and ringers at the various towers visited for the very kind way in which they were entertained.

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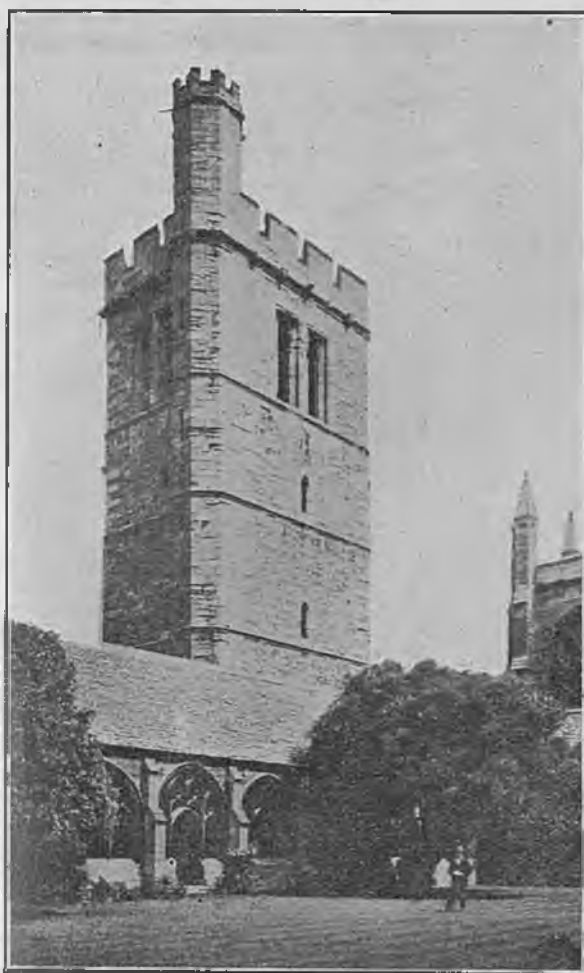
**F. W. COULTER** C/o 'THE RINGING WORLD'  
OFFICE, WOKING.

## BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

## NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD.

By J. R. JERRAM.

New College, Oxford, was founded by William of Wykeham, in 1379, under a charter of Richard II., and was formally opened in 1386. But it was not till some years later that the founder was able to obtain possession of the land on which the cloisters and tower now stand; these being consecrated on October 19th, 1400. For this reason the tower stands on the north side of the



THE TOWER OF NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD.

cloisters, quite apart from the chapel. It is 34 feet square, and occupies the site of a former bastion, which William of Wykeham was permitted to pull down.

How many bells it originally contained I have not been able to discover; but in 1655 there was a heavy peal of five there. In that year these were re-cast into a peal of eight by Michael Darbie, the surplus metal from the old bells more than covering the cost of the work. In 1712 two trebles were added, cast by Abraham Rudhall, and thus the present peal of ten was formed. Several of the original eight have been re-cast, as will be seen from the inscriptions, which are as follow:—

*Treble.*

MANNERS MAKETH MAN. A: R ♀ 1712 ††

*Second.*

MANNERS MAKETH MAN. W.W. A: R ♀ 1712.

*Third.*MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME. 1655. W.W. ♀  
[Arms of New College.]*Fourth.*

MANNERS MAKES MAN. W.W. A: R ♀ 1703.

*Fifth.*MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME. 1655. W.W. ♀  
[Arms of New College.]*Sixth.*HENRY KNIGHT OF READING MADE MEE 1672  
[Running pattern of dragons with foliage and acorns for tails.]*Seventh.*

PROSPERITY TO NEW COLLEGE. A: R ♀ 1712.

*Eighth.*MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME. 1655. W.W. ♀  
[Arms of New College.]*Ninth.*

MANNERS MAKETH MAN. A: R ♀ 1723 S.S.S.

*Tenor.*MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME. 1655. W.W. ♀  
[Arms of New College.]

The arms on the 3rd, 5th, 8th and tenor are:—Argent, 2 chevrons sable, between 3 roses gules (Wykeham) impaled by gules 2 keys interlaced, across them a sword in bend sinister (See of Winchester). The tenor is 49 inches in diameter; weight about 20 cwt.

A tablet in the belfry records the following peal rung on Easter Monday, 1815:—

"March 27th, 1815.—Rung in this tower a complete peal of GRAND-SIRE CATERS, containing 10,008 changes, in 6 hours and 42 minutes, by the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths.

Thomas Pavier	<i>Treble</i>	Charles Pavier	<i>Sixth</i>
William Parker	<i>Second</i>	Joseph Montague	<i>Seventh</i>
John Tagg	<i>Third</i>	Edward Nickolls	<i>Eighth</i>
George Pavier	<i>Fourth</i>	Jonathan Pavier	<i>Ninth</i>
Henry Carr	<i>Fifth</i>	Thomas Cook	<i>Tenor</i>

This was the greatest number of changes ever rung in the University of Oxford, composed and conducted by E. Nickolls."

It may possibly be remembered that in my account of Christ Church Cathedral bells in "The Ringing World" of July 19th, 1912, I gave an account of the visit of some London ringers to Oxford at Whitsuntide, 1733, taken from Hearne's diaries. I now give his account of several attempts at a peal at New College and its final accomplishment. Hearne writes as follows:—

"On Thursday, May 17th, they [i.e., the London ringers] began to ring at New College, proposing to ring the said number of changes, viz., 5040 there. They began a little before twelve, and rang about three quarters of an hour, when one of the ropes broke, and so they were stopped. . . . The next day, being Friday, May 18th, they were resolved to ring the above-mentioned number of 5040 changes upon New College ten bells, as they had begun to do before. Accordingly they began a little before twelve, and rang full two hours in the morning wanting two minutes, when one of the ropes broke and put a stop to the peal, for which all were very sorry, as they were at the fall of the great bell at Christchurch. For their ringing at both places, as well as elsewhere, was most surprisingly fine, without the least fault from beginning to end, such as never was before in Oxford, and 'tis a scandal that the bells should not be in good order."

Hearne next mentions an attempt to ring 6876 Caters at New College by the Oxford ringers on May 1st, 1734, which came to grief after ringing for about 2½ hours. The next record is as follows: "1734, September 28th, 4 Kal. Oct.—Yesterday being the obit of William of Wickham (founder of New College) and the festival of St. Cosmas and Damianus, some of the Oxford ringers agreed to ring at New College, proposing to ring 6876 Cator changes upon the ten bells there. They designed to have begun at eleven in the morning, but 'twas near twelve

before they began, for they had rung only two hundred changes when the clock struck twelve. They had so many gross faults that it is not worth while to particularise them all . . . at length when they had rung 2714 (which was 4162 of the whole) they were quite out, it being then three-quarters after one. Then they set the bells, and soon after began again, and rang 650 and made an end at very near half hour after two. . . . I was very apprehensive yesterday when they first began that they would not perform their task, the compass being too wide, and the person that rang the ninth bell making a bad step even at first. . . . As it will not be for their credit to have their names mentioned, so neither will it be for the honour of William of Wickham to discover who the persons were that perform'd so lamely on the day he died."

Hearne, however, appears to have changed his mind about concealing the names of the ringers who made the attempt above recorded; for later on, after some severe comments on a peal rung at Christchurch on November 5th, he goes on to say: "And now I have mentioned this 5th of November ringing, I will beg leave to take notice of the names who rang at New College (Friday), Sept. 27th last, being the founder of New College's obit, a thing I should not have done had not the ringers been so proud of this 5th of November at Christ Church, and been so much ashamed of that at New College. . . . That they are ashamed of what was done at New College appears from all accounts. In so much that they have endeavoured to conceal the names of those that chiefly erred or blundered in the ringing, which notwithstanding I have been able to find out. The names of the ringers are in order thus: 1 Mr. John Vickers, 2 Mr. Thomas Nash, 3 Mr. John George, 4 Mr. Guy Terry, 5 Mr. Thomas Yates, 6 Mr. John Broughton, 7 Mr. Richard Smith, 8 Mr. William Barnes, 9 Mr. Arthur Lloyd, 10 Mr. Nicholas Benwell. The day before the ringing, Mr. Vickers told me that Mr. Richard Hearne was to ring the first and himself the 5th, and Mr. Yates the 6th; but Hearne excusing himself from being one of them, Vickers thereupon rung the 1st, and Mr. Yates the 5th, and Mr. Broughton (who was not otherwise to have been one) the 6th. As to Mr. Vickers he is very ingenious in the art of ringing, and is excellent in calling the Bobs and managing the musick of ringing. I think he is one of the very best in England, as he is withall a very good ringer himself; and yet at this time he miss'd calling two of the Bobs (one of which was before they had gone two hundred changes), as at the same time did likewise Mr. Arthur Lloyd and Mr. William Barnes (otherwise two famous ringers), commit most notorious blunders, and these were the three chief blunders in the undertaking, and 'twas from their mistakes that the peal was spoiled; and yet it must be owned that it happened purely from their being much in liquor, whereas they ought to have been sober, as indeed there can never be any true ringing but by persons that come to it perfectly sober!"

Hearne then records at some length another unsuccessful attempt on March 12th following. He further records: "March 22nd, Saturday.—On Thursday last the Oxford ringers began to ring at New College at three-quarters after twelve o'clock, and rang completely what they had attempted several times before, 6876 Cator changes, finishing the peal about three-quarters of an hour after four o'clock. 'Tis the first time that such a number of Cator changes was ever rung in Oxford upon ten bells. I did not hear the ringing myself, for the same reason I have specified above under March 12th inst. [i.e., illness] but I have heard from good judges, that take it altogether, 'twas a glorious performance. For tho' there were two very great blunders and some other had ringing, yet considering the length of the peal, it was admirable ringing, such as can hardly be matched, unless it be by the Londoners, it being a thing as it were next to impossible to go through such a long tedious work without faults. The names of the ringers were as before:—

1. Hearne, the Taylor.
2. Mr. Vickers, second Butler of New College.
3. Mr. George, the Taylor.
4. Mr. Guy Terry, Pot-ash maker in St. Clements.
5. Mr. Yates, second Cook of Magdalen College.
6. Mr. John Broughton, Barber.
7. Mr. Richard Smith, Glover.
8. Mr. Barnes, second Cook of Christ Church.
9. Mr. Arthur Lloyd of Holywell, Carpenter and Bell Hanger.
10. Mr. Nicholas Benwell, who shews Great Tom.

They were much caressed when they had done, and were handsomely treated or entertained at New College, but Mr. Barnes could not be at the entertainment, being obliged as soon as the ringing was done to go to his brother the waggoner's in St. Aldate's then dying, who indeed died that very evening of a dropsy. He is the same Barnes that set up a waggon in opposition to the Vice-Chancellor."

Thomas Hearne, who wrote the above account, died the following year, June 10th, 1735, aged 57 years, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Peter-in-the-East.

### N.V.C. RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you allow me to ask if there are any ringers in Mid-Bucks who belong to the N.V.C., as the ringers from Linslade, who are members would like to meet them when they have another inspection together.

Linslade Platoon, Wing Company,

F. VICKERS

### GOOD SERVICE ACKNOWLEDGED.

PRESENTATION TO MR. JOHN E. WHEELDON.

Among the most esteemed members of the Stoke-on-Trent Association is Mr. John E. Wheeldon, who has just completed 15 years as leader of the tower at Norton-in-the-Moors. He began his ringing career at St. Mary's Church, Bucknall, Staffs, in the year 1889, under the guidance of the late Mr. William Twigg, and among the most notable peals in which he has taken part have been the first peal on the bells at Bucknall, on December 17th, 1891; the first peal of Treble Bob Minor ever rung in North Staffordshire (at Bucknall, May 2nd, 1893), and the first peal of Surprise Minor in the district, rung January 22nd, 1895. He conducted his first peal on May 14th in the same year and took part in the first non-conducted peal in the district on August 25th, 1896. His crowning performance, however, was at Bucknall, on April 6th, 1897, when he took part in a non-conducted peal of Surprise Minor in seven different methods, this being the first non-conducted peal of Minor ever rung in England. To show the determination of the band to accomplish this feat it may be mentioned that they practised every Tuesday and Thursday (without missing one practice) for six months. The ringers of this peal were: George Clarkson treble, William Wheeldon 2, John E. Wheeldon 3, Charles Preston 4, Daniel Preston 5, William Twigg tenor.

Leaving Bucknall, Mr. Wheeldon transferred his energies to Norton-in-the-Moors in 1900, as leader of that tower. Not content with ringing on all occasions at his own belfry, he has taken bands to outlying country towers to further the art of change-ringing, and conducted the first 5040 on the bells at Horton (near Leek) on October 26th, 1901, the bells having been hung in 1753. He conducted on March 8th,



MR. J. E. WHEELDON AND THE PRESENTATION INKSTAND.

1902, the first peal at Brown Edge, where the bells had been hung since 1855, and the first peal at Burslem on April 29th, 1911, these bells having been in the tower since 1818.

Although always attached to a six bell tower, Mr. Wheeldon has rung in a peal of Triples each at Wolstanton and Stafford, and took part in the first peal of Major on the bells at Fenton. His total number of peals rung at present reaches 32, of which he has conducted eight. His tact and system of teaching beginners in the rudiments of change-ringing and the more advanced ringers in the higher methods is well-known throughout the Stoke-on-Trent Association, and many owe their progress in the art to him.

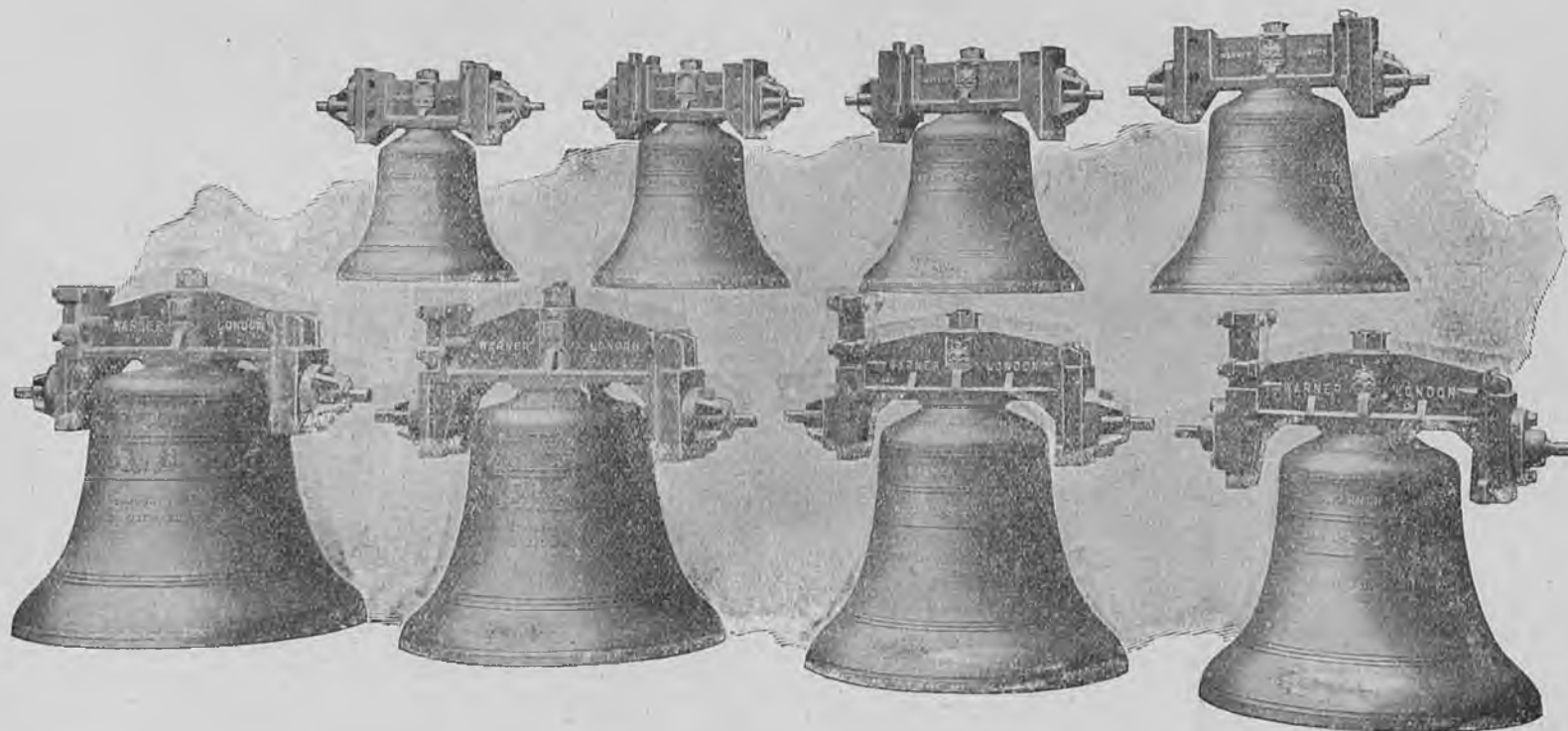
In recognition of his 15 years' service at Norton-in-the-Moors the members of the tower, past and present, have presented him with a handsome gift, consisting of a silver inkstand in the model of a bell, a silver pen-holder and blotter. The priest-in-charge (the Rev. J. A. Burroughs) presided over the gathering, which took place in the tower, and Mr. George W. Walker made the presentation on behalf of the ringers (he being an old ringer of 28 years ago). He referred to the very able manner in which the belfry was managed and conducted, due to the efforts of Mr. Wheeldon.—Mr. Wheeldon suitably responded with deep feeling, and votes of thanks to the chairman and Mr. G. W. Walker closed a very pleasing function.

The inscription on the inkstand was:—"Presented to Mr. J. E. Wheeldon by the members of Norton Belfry to commemorate his 15 years' faithful service as leader of that tower. July 15th, 1915."



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## PERFORMANCES OF PAST CENTURIES.

## A RECORD PEAL OF TREBLE BOB.

To-day is the anniversary of one of the great performances of the past, for on August 27th, 1814, a peal of 12,320 Treble Bob was rung at Olley, Yorks, in 7 hrs. 15 mins., by a mixed band. The composition was one by Shipway himself, but the names of some of the band who took part in the peal seem now to have been lost. At least one ringer from Wakefield took part in the peal—William Woodhead, who rang the 7th, and, according to the late Mr. Jasper Snowdon's "History of Treble Bob," it is only in Wakefield tower that any record of the Olley peal remains. There, on a peal board recording a peal of Grandsire Caters, there is a mention made of William Woodhead's part in the peal, which at that time was the longest length in the method that had been rung. The tenor was rung by two men (J. Tebbs, of Leeds, and J. Inman, of Keighley), and the peal was called from manuscript by a Keighley man who did not take part in the ringing.

## THE FIRST PEAL OF GRANDSIRE.

Still more interesting, however, is the anniversary which fell yesterday, for it was on August 26th, 1718, that the first peal of Grandsire Triples was rung. This performance was accomplished at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, and is thus recorded on a peal board in the belfry. "On the 26th of August, 1718, was rung that Harmonious Peal called Grandsire Triples which have been ye study of ye most ingenious men of this Age who delight in ye art of variations, but all their projections have proved errors until it was undertook by JOHN GARTHON who, with long Study and Practice, have perfectly discovered those intricate methods which were hidden from the eyes of all the ringers in England; the extent of this peal being 5040 changes have oftentimes been rung with changes alike, but the first time that ever it was rung true was in three hours and a half without any changes alike or a bell out of course, by these men whose names are underwritten against their bells as they rung."

James Brook .....	Treble	Henry Howard .....	5th
John Briggs .....	2nd	Wm. Callow .....	6th
William Fulmer .....	3rd	Thos. Melchior .....	7th
Robert Crane .....	4th	Tho. Barrett .....	Tenor

Old writers, including Shipway, discredited the performance as a false peal, but the researches of Mr. Snowdon go to show that, while it cannot be absolutely proved either way, certain figures came to light which tend to uphold the claim that the peal was in reality true.

## AN EARLY PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

Last Monday saw the anniversary of the first peal rung for the Cumberland Society by William Shipway. In the peal book of the Society it is described as "5184 Grandsire Caters on Stedman's principle, being the second peal ever performed in that method." It was, of course, what we know as Stedman Caters. It was rung at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on August 23rd, 1788, by John Reeves (composer and conductor) 1, Jno. Frazier 2, George Gross 3, Will Shipway 4, Will Gibson 5, Anthony Cavalier 6, Thos. Morris 7, Jas. Purser 8, Wm. Stephens 9, Robt. Mann tenor. The previous peal had been rung on May 28th, 1787, by the College Youths at St. John's, Horsley-down.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

## ENJOYABLE MEETING OF BRISTOL BRANCH.

A monthly meeting of the Bristol branch was held at Abbott's Leigh on Saturday last. Beautifully situated about four miles from the city on the Somerset side of the Avon, Abbott's Leigh is reached by a pleasant walk, and a goodly number of the members found their way to the tower. At about a quarter to four, sufficient ringers having arrived, the bells, which are a nice peal of six, and in good going order, were raised in peal and started to Grandsire. Other methods followed until five o'clock, when a short service was held in the church, the Vicar giving an appropriate address.

The company, numbering about twenty-eight, then adjourned to the schoolroom for tea, to which, needless to add, full justice was done. A business meeting followed, at which one new member was elected.

Mr. R. J. Wilkins then brought forward a suggestion to come up at the annual meeting of the branch, viz.: "That the branch be divided into districts of several towers each, and that it be arranged which districts be visited for some time ahead, only leaving the tower to be proposed. This, he pointed out, would ensure every member of a chance to visit a meeting in his own district."

The honorary secretary (Mr. George W. Tomkins) asked for an assistant hon. secretary to be appointed, as he found the work rather too heavy for one to manage.—Mr. R. J. Wilkins proposed, and Mr. C. Rawlings seconded, that Mr. Arthur W. Seviour be appointed. This was carried, and thanks were then accorded Mr. G. Tudball for kindly offering to accept the post, he afterwards standing out for Mr. Seviour's nomination.

The next meeting was fixed for Saturday, September 18th, at Henbury, where it is hoped to add one more to the number of successful meetings, which the branch has held during the present year.

The ringers then returned to the tower, and various methods were rung until a quarter-past eight. During the day some of the ringers took the opportunity of ascending to the top of the tower, from which a fine view of the neighbouring country was obtained. The meeting proved a most pleasant and enjoyable one.

## NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—Ringing for Divine service at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every Monday at 8 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Howden on Saturday, August 28th, 1915. Bells available all day. Tea at 4.30. Tickets 1s. each.—Thos. Smith, Honorary District Secretary.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—A quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at Christ Church, Oldbury, on Saturday, August 28th. Bells available for ringing at 4 o'clock. Service in church at 5 o'clock.—Herbert Sheppard, Honorary Secretary, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Barlow Moor, on Saturday, August 28th. Bells from 4.30, meeting at 7. Nominations for general meeting to be sent in at this meeting.—W. Woistencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Mobberley on Saturday, August 28th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Secretary, New Mills.

**CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Mears Ashby on Saturday, August 28th. Bells ready 3 o'clock.—W. Perkins, District Secretary, 6, Addington Road, Irthlingboro.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, August 28th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock. Meeting at 7.30. A good attendance is requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Lamberhurst on Saturday, August 28th. Tower open at 3.30. Tea at the Rectory (free) at 4.30, followed by business meeting. Service in Church at 5.45. By kind permission of Squire Morland, the grounds of Court Lodge will be open to members.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on August 31st for business, at St. John's, Hackney, on the 24th for practice, and at 6 p.m. on the 15th for service. Also at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, for practice on Saturdays at 7.30 p.m. The others at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South Western Division.—A bye meeting will be held at Dagenham on Saturday, September 4th. Bells available from 3.30. Short service at 5 o'clock. Tea, for which a small charge will be made, in Church Hall after service.—H. Rumens, Honorary District Secretary, 32, Verulam Avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Bramley, on Saturday, September 4th, 1915. Bells available from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m. in the Cardigan Arms.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, September 11th. Bells (10) available from 3.30. Tea at 5.30, 6d. to those members who inform me by September 9th of their intention to be present. Members and friends cordially invited.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Secretary, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION (South Eastern Division).**—The annual meeting will be held at Prittlewell on Saturday, September 11th. Will all those intending to be present please notify F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Brighouse on Saturday, September 11th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Tea, 1s. per head, at 5 p.m., in Schools, to all giving notice to G. Drake, 3, Empsall Row, Bonegate Road, Brighouse, not later than 7th prox. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. District Secretary, 12, Willoughby Avenue, Holbeck.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, on Saturday, September 11th. Bells available at 5 p.m., meeting 7 p.m.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

**PEAL BOOKS.**—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

#### HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

**RINGERS** and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

#### RINGERS' PRESENT TO VICAR.

The Vicar of Saffron Walden (the Rev. J. J. Antrobus) has just been made the recipient of a gift by the members of the Saffron Walden Society, to mark the occasion of his marriage. The presentation took place after the return of the Vicar and his wife from their honeymoon, the Rev. and Mrs. Antrobus being invited to the belfry to meet the ringers on their practice night. The gift consisted of a handsome antique copper fire screen, surmounted by a bell. In making the presentation, the Master of the Society (Mr. F. Pitstow) asked the Vicar to accept it, not so much for the value of the thing, but as a token of the respectful regard they had for him. They all wished him and Mrs. Antrobus a long and happy wedded life, and hoped they would remain with them for a long time to come, but if circumstances occurred to call him away, they hoped the screen would remind him of the pleasant time spent with the Saffron Walden ringers.—The Vicar, in accepting the gift, thanked Mr. Pitstow for his kind words, and the company for the nice present, which he should always prize very much. It was of a handsome design. He hoped to remain with them for some time to come, as he had brought his wife into her native town. He also hoped to work with the ringers in the future as in the past.

The screen was suitably inscribed. A short touch of Grandsire Caters followed the presentation.

**NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.**—On August 23rd, 1915, at St. Nicholas' Cathedral, for evening service, 975 Stedman Caters: J. B. Keen 1, G. T. Potter 2, W. W. Sinclair 3, W. Story 4, J. Foreman 5, B. Horton 6, A. F. Hillier 7, Lieut. J. H. R. Freeborn 8, R. Richards (conductor) 9, Petty Officer J. W. Noblett, R.N., 10. The ringer of the 8th bells from Kidlington, and of the tenor from St. Patrick's, Dublin, and both Navy and Army were thus represented in this touch.

**TRING.**—At the Parish Church, on August 22nd, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: F. Fitkin 1, F. Reeve (conductor) 2, H. Lovell 3, Pte R. Holder (4th Royal Sussex) 4, Pte Worgan (5th Somerset) 5, W. Grove 6, H. Heley 7, W. Redman 8. Pte Holder and Pte Worgan are now stationed at Halton Camp, near Tring.

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