

No. 304. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
transmission as a newspaper.]

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.

## MODERN WORK

### A BELFRY DANGER.

From time to time we hear of valuable bells being damaged by the thoughtless or ignorant acts of those who have access to belfries. Another case has just been brought to light by the Master of the Winchester Guild (the Rev. C. E. Matthews), from whose letter in the "Winchester Diocesan Chronicle"—the official publication of the diocese—it appears, that at some church in the Winchester Archdeaconry a sixteenth-century bell has been irretrievably ruined by the bell being pulled off while the chiming apparatus remained in action. Such an accident as the cracking of a bell is always a matter for deep regret, but it is particularly lamentable when it occurs through avoidable causes; and the Rev. C. E. Matthews does useful service in calling the attention of incumbents to the danger to valuable church property which arises when proper instructions are not given, or remain unobserved, in regard to bells.

It was not long ago that a bell at Exeter Cathedral had to be recast, through cracking by coming in contact with the chiming hammer, and the loss of this old bell in the Winchester district emphasises the need for more general care. Most of the danger arises, we think, from the fact that it is not always the same people who use the chiming apparatus who ring the bells; and if incumbents are to frame instructions, one of the most important and the one that should be placed and remain in the most conspicuous position, is that directing the user of the chiming apparatus to put it out of gear immediately it is finished with. This is a much simpler operation than lowering and pulling up the bells between each service, which is another safeguard which the Master of the Winchester Guild advocates. This latter precaution is the counsel of perfection, but it is not always practicable between the services on a Sunday, while, where there is not a band capable of pulling bells up or running them down in peal, there is much to be said for avoiding, as far as possible, the jangling, which raising and falling the bells singly or in twos and threes, gives rise to.

Where a band is capable, there is nothing nicer, as a good finish to a well-struck touch, than a rhythmical lowering of the bells in peal; but where it cannot be done properly, there is nothing more grating to the ears of the public outside. Raising and lowering in peal is a thing which might with advantage be practised a great deal more, but even so, it would not always be practicable to run the bells down at every service. Whether they should be left up throughout the week is another matter, but the first precaution that is necessary to protect bells from damage by the chiming apparatus being left in gear, is to impress the danger of such an action upon the user of it, and to keep his memory alive to the subject by a conspicuous notice placed where he cannot fail to see it every time he goes to the ropes.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR  
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,  
Chelmsford.

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-hanging 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.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.  
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, report and tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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BIRMINGHAM**

**BELLS**  
**FOR CHURCHES,**  
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BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE.**

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 26th, 1916, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES COTTERELL ... .. Treble	PERCY J. JOHNSON ... .. 5
FIRTH HOPWOOD... .. 2	JOHN PALFRAMAN ... .. 6
ALBERT NORTH ... .. 3	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. 7
WILLIAM JOYCE ... .. 4	THOMAS B. KENDALL ... Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT and conducted by JAMES COTTERELL.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to Mr. Hopwood's only son and the following parishioners who have fallen in the war: W. Battye, W. Thornton, E. Clayton, and J. W. Horsfall.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Michael's, Stoke-in-Coventry:

Corpl. W. Pryce, XIVth Corps Schools, France.

Wheeler A. Roberts, A.S.C., now in Salonica.

Pte F. Perwin, A.O.C.

Pte F. Andrews, Royal Fusiliers, now in France.

Pte E. H. Johnson, 3rd Royal Warwicks.

From All Saints', Allesley:

Pte G. H. Kettle, 92nd T.R. Battn., Chisleton Camp.

From Christ Church, Mitcham, Surrey:

Sapper Alfred Miller, 6th Prov. Coy. R.E., Chatham (making the 8th member from this tower).

From St. Peter's Guild, Staunton-on-Arrow:

Sapper C. L. Powell, R.E.

From Beeston Parish Church, Notts:

Pte Albert Coppock, Notts and Derby Regt.

From Bolsover, Derbyshire:

Gunner F. W. Bemrose, R.F.A., now at Ripon.

From Bushey, Herts:

Air-Mechanic P. Parslow, R.F.C., now in France.

## SUDBURY RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

The ringers of Sudbury, Suffolk, have lost a much-respected colleague, Mr. C. W. Lee, who was killed in action in France in November. The deceased was the only son of Mr. W. Lee, another well-known Sudbury ringer, who met with an unfortunate accident at Sudbury Railway Station siding some few weeks back. His brother ringers sympathise with him in the loss of his son, and wish him a speedy recovery from the effects of his accident. As a tribute to the memory of the young soldier, half-muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of All Saints' Church, on December 16th, by the following: C. Poulson, A. Symonds and S. H. Symonds (Lavenham), A. Perry, G. Tatam, A. Scott, S. J. Howell, A. Cardy (Sudbury).

## RINGERS IN ACCIDENT.

As the ringers were making homewards they were almost run down by a motor-car on the Market Hill, Mr. A. Symonds being nearly under the off-side front wheel, and Mr. Cardy, more unfortunate, was knocked down under the bonnet of the car, and slightly injured in the back. The rest happily escaped.

This accident provided a curious coincidence. On the 100th anniversary of the death of Lord Nelson the bells of All Saints' Church were rung, muffled, and Mr. Symonds, who had been assisting the Sudbury ringers, went up to the bells with Mr. Cardy, after the ringing, to remove the muffles. While they were doing this, Mr. Symonds slipped off the frame under the tenor, cutting his head and hurting his shoulder. After ringing muffled for the late Mr. Lee, the other day, the same two went up to take off the muffles, and Mr. Cardy reminded his friend of the previous accident, and warned him not to fall under the tenor again, little dreaming that he himself was so near a serious mishap. We are glad to state that Mr. Cardy was able to walk home after his accident.

## COMMISSION FOR BUSHEY RINGER.

A well-known Bushey ringer, Robert Stavert, who has been in the army since the early stages of the war, has been given a commission, and is now Second-Lieutenant in the 3rd City of London Regiment.

## CHRISTMAS PARCELS TO ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS.

Following their example of last year the ringers of St. George's Society, Clun, Salop, dispatched to their five absent members a Christmas parcel, each containing plum-pudding, plum cake, chocolates, cocoa and milk, and cigarettes. The parcels duly reached their destinations, and, needless to say, were much appreciated.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

**JOHN NICOLL,**

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer,**

**80, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.**

Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway.

**Late 185, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.**

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. SONNING DEANERY ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch was held on Saturday, at St. Paul's, Wokingham. Evensong was said in church at 5.30 by the Rector (the Rev. H. M. Walter). The Rev. F. M. Caulfield read the lesson.

An eloquent address was given by the Rev. S. M. Winter, Vicar of Wargrave, who, basing his discourse on Judges xiv. 14, graphically showed, by reference to the war, how out of peril came forth sweetness; out of death a new sort of life; out of dry bones a busy hive of industry; out of a barren field a fruit which shall be sweet to those that come after. The new binding love of the different parts of the Empire, the truly national government, the triumph of science over malaria, septic poisoning, and the prevention thus of war wastage, all gave cause for thanks to God. Applying the text to their belfries at home, he said the bells played their part—in peace and in war. In olden days they rang the alarm, now they hung in silent protest. Might they again ring out in due time, on the conclusion of peace—such a peace that they might thank God for, and that would advance His Kingdom. Could they not thank God already for many things in the belfry—this and that man readily answering the call of King and country, the noble self-sacrifice of those whose lives had been laid down? All, too, had learned more of the value of prayer, more of the old belfry rule that "Those who ring the bells to call others to church should themselves fill their place in God's house." They thought less of themselves, and were more determined to do their work; though there were none to praise them (visitors to the belfry being but few), they would have learned something that was good during the war, each man doing his part "as unto God, and not unto men." Thus they gave their answer to the riddle.

The discourse was followed with much interest. A short war intercession followed, and the service closed with the National Anthem.

Tea followed, in the Parish Room, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis presiding. Among those present were: Revs. H. M. Walter, B. Long (All Saints', Wokingham), A. P. Carr (St. Sebastian's, Wokingham), S. M. Winter, E. E. Broome (Hurst), branch hon. sec., and P. Nichols (All Saints', Wokingham); also Mrs. Broome and Mr. G. N. Durbridge (organist), and Mr. Saunders, an old ringer. There were also present 49 ringers, including three ladies. After the final grace, the National Anthem was sung.

At the business meeting, over which the chairman of the branch, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis presided, letters of regret for absence were announced from Lieut. Breach and the Rural Dean (the Rev. G. F. Coleridge).

### THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Hon. Secretary presented the report and balance sheet. Including former members now at the front, they numbered 194 members, made up of: Life members, 5; honorary, 29; change ringers, 132; probationers, 11; life subscribers, 9. Of a total of 152 ringers, 4 were on active service. The balance in hand was £7 13s. 8d., comparing well with the £3 18s. 1d. of last year. Mrs. Finch of Hurst, by death, and Mr. Hankey, Wokingham, by removal, had been lost as hon. members. He congratulated the Rev. A. E. Cousins, once a Sandhurst ringer, now a Chaplain of H.M. Forces, on winning the Military Cross. G. Collins and E. Lloyd were still missing, with a slight hope of their being prisoners of war. He regretted the loss (killed in action) of S. Gearing (Binfield) and A. V. Loader (All Saints', Wokingham).

The report and balance sheet were adopted. The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis was heartily thanked, and re-elected chairman. The Rev. E. Broome was thanked, and re-elected hon. secretary, the chairman remarking how excellently Mr. Broome had carried out his duties ever since 1892, when first elected.

The Rev. B. Long thanked the Vicar of Wargrave for his address, the Rector of St. Paul's for the use of the church and parish room, and the organist for his capable services. He also congratulated the Vicar of Wargrave on the restoration of his church and bells.—Each gentleman suitably responded. Foremen of towers were then re-appointed, viz.: Arbourfield, S. Embler; Barkham, A. Cook; Binfield, H. Bungay; Easthampstead, W. Newton (deputy); Finchampstead, W. Goddard; Hurst, Jos. White; Hurst (ladies), Miss Roe; Sandhurst, H. Watts; Sonning, G. J. Wright; Twyford, F. Dentry; Wargrave, W. Easterling; Wokingham (All Saints'), S. Paice; Wokingham (St. Paul's), T. Houlton. Messrs. Dentry, Moth, S. Paice and Wright were re-elected on the Guild General Committee.

The Chairman said if that year saw the end of the war, he hoped to see also their Guild Festival at Oxford, with their Bishop, if possible, again to preach the sermon. Their Guild Master (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) had, since their last annual meeting, won the Military Cross (applause). He would write and tell him how they applauded that statement. In printing the Guild report, expenses would be reduced to a minimum. The income was £105, expenditure £46 only. They had also £22 in the reserve fund, beside that balance of £60. Money would be wanted for the festival, which should be well done. He regretted Government regulations did not permit of ringing, as usual, after their meeting.

The Rev. B. Long thanked the chairman for his services of the past year.

## SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. DEVIZES BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

On Saturday last, the annual meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Guild was held at St. John's Church, Devizes, and there was also ringing towers of St. Mary's, Devizes, and St. James', Southbroom. The authorised Guild service was held at St. John's, the Rector (the Rev. A. H. T. Clarke) officiating, and Mr. H. H. Baker kindly presiding at the organ. Afterwards tea was partaken of at Mr. Gould's Cafe in the Market Place, to which 17 sat down, including the Rector and Mrs. H. Brownlee West, of Avalon.

The business meeting, which followed, was presided over by Mr. S. Hillier, supported by the hon. secretary, Mr. H. Brownlee West, and ringers from the towers of St. John's, St. Mary's, St. James', Southbroom, Holt, Chirton, Bromham, Swindon, and Bishop's Cannings.

The secretary's annual report was presented, from which it appears that eleven meetings had been held in the branch during the past year, with an average attendance of 26, a considerable increase over the previous year, in spite of the great depletion caused by the war. The towers of Holt and Seend had withdrawn from their affiliation to the Guild, but on the other hand, Bratton, Steeple Ashton, Erchfont, and Upavon, had again re-entered the fold. Eleven honorary members had kindly contributed to the support of the Guild, and three new life ringing members had been elected during the year. The total membership of the branch for 1916 stood as follows: Change ringers, 111; round ringers, 142; honorary members, 11; total, 264, of whom 81 are at the war.

The balance sheet for the year proved to be satisfactory. Although no subscriptions had been received from the 81 members with the forces, there was still a respectable balance to be carried forward to 1917.

The chairman, Mr. Hillier, and the secretary, Mr. H. Brownlee West, were, with unanimous consent, re-elected to office for another year, with many thanks for their past services, and a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of Devizes and the Vicar of Southbroom for the use of the church bells, and also to the organist of St. John's, brought a very pleasant and successful meeting to a close.

## RINGING DAY AT SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

Continuing a very old custom, the ringers of St. Mary's Church, Salehurst, assisted by a few friends, met at the belfry on New Year's Day to welcome in 1917. The bells were rung at intervals from 10 a.m. till dusk, and among other touches, 1260 Grandsire Triples (conducted by Mr. C. Tribe) and 1344 of Grandsire Triples (conducted by Mr. A. E. Edwards) were successfully brought round. In addition to the local ringers there were also present Messrs. W. Franks and W. Thomas (Battle), C. Tribe (Tenterden) and W. H. Lambert (Benenden). True ringers' grit was shown by Mr. Lambert, who, although well advanced in years, walked from Benenden and back, a distance of nine or ten miles each way. At 5 p.m. an excellent tea was partaken of at the Old Eight Bells Inn, when the Vicar, the Rev. C. E. Ward, M.A., occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. B. V. Leigh Smith, of Sealands, while Mr. W. H. Perry was in the vice-chair.

The Vicar heartily thanked the men for their regular attendance at Sunday ringing, welcomed the visitors, and expressed the hope that before their ringing day next year peace would be proclaimed. — In replying, Mr. Franks, of Battle, and Mr. T. Booth (local captain) both thanked the Vicar for his kind words, and remarked how lucky the Salehurst ringers were in securing the services of Mr. A. E. Edwards, late of Barcombe.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been honoured, the remainder of the evening was spent in handbell ringing and harmony. — At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Host and Hostess Kirby (ringers' true friends) for the excellent spread they had provided.

## LANCASHIRE RINGER'S DEATH.

### MR. CHARLES SHARPLES, OF AUGHTON.

There passed peacefully away, last month, at Aughton, Lancs, Mr. Charles Sharples, who for upwards of 25 years had been captain of the ringers of Christ Church, where he had been a ringer from the time the bells were installed, close upon 40 years ago. Deceased had taken part in about 50 peals in the standard methods, and had conducted a fair number of peals of Grandsire. He was a member of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild, and attended the last meeting of that society when it was amalgamated with the Lancashire Association.

His remains were laid to rest beneath the shadow of the tower he loved so well, the funeral service being conducted by the Rector of Aughton (the Rev. R. F. Markham, M.A.). Six of the local band acted as bearers, and before and after the service the bells were rung half-muffled in Stedman Triples, by: Messrs. W. Fairclough, W. Bentham, J. Eastham, H. J. Morley, W. Gibbons, W. Rimmer and J. Gardner (of Aughton), B. Counce (Liverpool), and J. Park and J. E. Sholicear (Ormskirk). Amongst the many beautiful floral tributes was one from the members of the band, of which he had been the respected head for so many years.

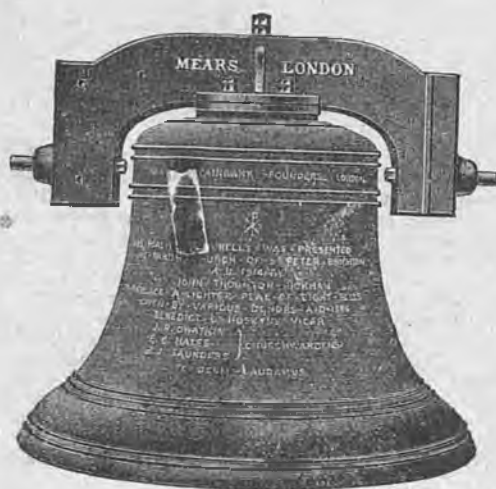


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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

*At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

## THE DANGER OF LEAVING BELLS "UP."

WINCHESTER GUILD MASTER'S APPEAL.

In the "Winchester Diocesan Chronicle" for January, the Rev. C. E. Matthews, Master of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, draws the attention of church authorities to the danger of leaving bells "up." He writes:—

"May I call the attention of all incumbents and churchwardens who possess a chiming apparatus in their bellfries, to the urgent necessity of having some definite and printed regulations as to its use? A most unfortunate accident occurred lately in the Winchester Archdeaconry. The bells had been left 'up' between the morning and afternoon services. By some means or other, the chiming apparatus had not been thrown out of gear. The consequence was that a valuable old bell, cast in A.D. 1582, was hopelessly cracked, and must be recast. In these times, when most of the older and more experienced ringers are serving their country, many willing but inexperienced lads have taken their places, and sometimes it may happen that the foreman or steepie-keeper is absent. The authorities in charge of all peals should (1) make some fixed rules that either the bells should be rung, or the chiming apparatus used at certain services; (2) issue an order to the ringers that the bells are never to be kept 'up' between services, but always lowered. The custom of keeping bells 'up' is both dangerous and lazy, and is entirely unnecessary."

## METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir.—In reply to your two correspondents of last week—Mr. Cleal and Mr. H. W. Fright—let me once more reiterate that we have passed the stage of theorising in method construction, and we know as an absolute fact that Touches, Methods, Principles and Systems, are produced by bobs (or by bobs and extremes) made in the Quick and Slow primary principles, separately or in combination.

In both Quick and Slow primary principles the fundamental row is always first, and on all numbers of bells from three upwards, the last row before the fundamental row comes up again in a simple transposition row.

Every Touch, Method, Principle or System in which the bobs (or bobs and extremes) have been properly duplicated in the first lead or division also have a simple transposition row at the lead end or division end, as the case may be.

There are never more than two round blocks of any Touch, Method, Principle or System, starting from the fundamental row, which, when proved by Reciprocal proof, will have only one false row—a simple transposition row—and the one false row on all numbers—Even or Odd—is the lead end or the division end which comes at hand-stroke.

Reciprocal proof is proving row against row by transposition, using the altered positions of the bells from the fundamental row, and once it is fully understood there is no further use for argument on Method construction, everything becomes as simple as the fact that twice two make four.

At some future date, with your permission, I will try and explain to readers of "The Ringing World" the two kinds of proof—Reciprocal and Equivalent—that I make use of in examining methods, but at present I have not the spare time to go into the matter.—Yours faithfully,

Brighton.

GEORGE BAKER.

## "DIXON'S VARIATIONS."

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir—I was interested in reading the account of "Dixon's Variations" in J. J. J.'s article on "Ancient Ringing Performances." I may say that I knew the composer, Mr. Dixon, in years gone by, also Mr. Hollis and Messrs. S. Black, senr. and junior. The method referred to was very much practised in the district mentioned about 50 or 60 years ago. It is simply Bob Minor in which the following rules are observed:—A Bob is made in the usual way whenever the second or fourth lead, and whenever the tenor dodges behind with any bell except the fifth at a lead end. This rule affects the treble, as well as any other bell, if she happens to be in fourth's place when the call is made, thus:—

	514632
	541362
Bob	453126
	435162
	341526
	314256

A single is made in the usual way whenever the tenors dodge together behind, and an "extreme" whenever the tenor dodges in 3—4 at a lead end. Extremes are made thus:—

	125634
	126534

The peal contains 136 bobs, 6 singles, and 4 extremes. I have never heard of any attempt to apply the method to more than six bells.—Yours, etc.

J. R. JERRAM.

Salisbury.

## DEATH OF MR. ALFRED W. GRIMES.

### REMARKABLE RECORDS IN RINGING RECALLED.

It is with sincere regret that we have to announce the death of that splendid ringer and right good fellow, Mr. Alfred W. Grimes who, after an illness extending over many months, has passed away at the residence of his parents, at Debenham, at the comparatively early age of 35 years. The disease to which Mr. Grimes has succumbed was contracted from a chill, pleurisy and pneumonia subsequently supervening. For some time Mr. Grimes was in Ipswich Hospital, and after his discharge went to Debenham for a change before returning to his London home. For a while he seemed improved in health, but latterly he got much worse, and the end was not unexpected. Much sympathy will go out to his wife, who is left with a family of six young children (the eldest only nine and the youngest a month old), and to the other relatives who are left to mourn their loss.

Alf. Grimes was one of those great ringers who are born and not made. He was in the very first flight of practical exponents of the art, and no man ever did so much ringing in so short a time as he. He was the cheeriest of optimists, and his genial nature made him a host of friends. Ringers in London, where he did the principal part



of his ringing, will deeply regret his loss, and the Exercise generally is the poorer for his death, which took place on Wednesday of last week.

### PEAL RINGING EXTRAORDINARY.

Born at Copdock, near Ipswich, on January 30th, 1881, Alfred William Grimes spent the early part of his life at Debenham, where, under the tuition of his father, Mr. William Grimes, one of the best known ringers in the Eastern Counties, he learnt to master a bell at an early age, and had instilled into him that greatest of all good ringing essentials, accurate striking. His first peal was rung at Thornden on November 21st, 1896, and consisted of seven 720's of Bob Minor. His second was on February 27th, 1897, at Debenham, where, also, he culled his first peal. He rang over fifty peals in the Debenham district, and then migrated to London, where, for a time, he remained practically outside ringing. He re-entered it again in 1909, when, while on a visit to Debenham, he met some of the band from St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, who were spending a holiday in the district. He was invited to meet them when they all got back to town, and this he did, joining the society to which he continued to be attached. Opportunities for ringing came his way, not only at St. John's, but with the College Youths and the Middlesex Association, and other societies which touched the London area, and in addition to being always ready to take his place for service ringing, and at the many practices held in the Metropolis, he soon took enthusiastically to peal ringing, in which, in the years 1912 and 1913 he set up a record unequalled by any other ringer. In the first of these two years he rang 114 peals, and in the second 126, making exactly 250.

### SOME MEMORABLE PERFORMANCES.

Mr. Grimes was one of those ringers who was at home in any method and on any bell. He could strike a big one as well as a small one, and was always ready to tackle an awkward job. No method presented any difficulties to him, and he was just as happy ringing

Bob Major as he was Cambridge Maximus. To him the ringing was the thing, and, as long as it was good, he got pleasure out of it. He would always be relied upon, not only to be in his place when wanted out to ring his bell, however difficult the method, without a mistake many of his peals were notable. He took part in the 15,264 Bristol Surprise record at Hornchurch in 1912—the longest surprise peal ever rung—the first peals of Cambridge, Bristol and London Surprise in Cornwall, the first peal of London in Devon, the first peal of Norfolk Surprise in London, Kent, Essex and Norfolk, the first peal of Forward in London, and the first peal of Bristol in the City, the first peal of Cambridge Royal in Essex, and the first of Cambridge Maximus in Cambridgeshire, and the first peals of Waterloo Major and Brighton Surprise Major ever rung. Among the heavy bells which Mr. Grimes rang to peals was St. Peter Mancraft tenor (43 cwt.) to Treble Twelve, and that bell was never better rung, although many great men have turned her in. In the year when he made the individual record for twelve months—136 in 1913—the tower hall peals were rung in 71 bellries in 11 different counties. The last specially noteworthy performance in which he took part was the ringing of four Surprise peals in four different towers in one day, which was accomplished on April 13th, 1914. And, sad to recall, he is the second of that band to cross the valley.

Mr. Grimes' handbell ringing record is also a striking one, and although he was usually content to ring the back pair, he was equally competent when called upon to ring "inside" bells. His last tower bell peal was one of Bob Major, which he called at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Capt. H. J. Sudell, but his last peal of all was on handbells, on Feb. 15th, 1916, at 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow, where, by a coincidence, his intimate friend and colleague, the late Mr. Ernest Pye, had also rung his last peal. As far as we are able to say at the moment, Mr. Alf. Grimes rang 439 peals, of which 88 were on handbells, and the following is the list:—

	Tower Bells		Handbells	
	Rung.	Cond.	Rung.	Cond.
London Surprise Major	15			
Bristol Surprise Major	41			
Superlative Surprise Major	28	1		
Norfolk Surprise Major	9	1		
Brighton Surprise Major	1			
New Cambridge Surprise Major	4			
Cambridge Surprise Major	39	1		
Cambridge Surprise Royal	12			
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	2			
Duffield Major	1			
Forward Major	1			
Waterloo Major	1			
Double Norwich Major	54	4		
Oxford Treble Bob Major	20	2		
Kent Treble Bob Major	15	4	2	2
Kent Treble Bob Royal	17	2	2	2
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	6		1	
Bob Major	17	3	4	
Bob Royal			5	1
Bob Maximus			1	
Grandsire Triples	3		5	
Grandsire Caters			2	
Stedman Triples	19		13	
Stedman Caters	28		26	
Stedman Cinques	18		27	
On six bells	5	1		
Totals	351	19	88	5

Mr. Grimes was a member of the College Youths (in which society last November he was elected to the office of Senior Steward), London County, Middlesex, Norwich Diocesan, Kent, Oxford, Hertford, Sussex, Warwickshire, Devon and Fly Associations; St. Margaret's Society, Westminster, and the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

### RINGERS' TRIBUTE AT BISHOPSGATE.

The funeral took place on Saturday, and on Sunday last, for morning service, the bells of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, City, were rung fully muffled, as a last mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, who frequently attended there for service ringing. On the same afternoon, several of his intimate ringing comrades attended, and rang the "whole pull and stand" (half muffled). Mr. C. F. Winney, who was visibly affected, repeated the 130th Psalm (De Profundis), which tended to make this solemn rite most impressive. The ringers stood as follows: C. F. Winney (conductor) 1, W. G. Matthews 2, W. A. Alps 3, T. Walker 4, H. Mance 5, W. Hewett 6, T. H. Taffender 7, A. Pettitt 8. Following this, touches of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Major were brought round, the following taking part: R. Sanders, J. Barry, W. Essery, T. Coledge, E. Brett, and F. Pike, the conducting being shared by Messrs. Alps, Sanders, and Taffender. The last occasion on which Mr. Grimes rang upon tower bells was the 30th April, 1916, at St. Botolph's, in a touch conducted by Mr. W. A. Alps. The state of his health at that time can be gauged by the fact that his request was to ring on the front, a desire quite foreign to the Alf. of former days. R.I.P.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

The December meeting of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Pudsey, when about 30 members attended, representing 14 towers. During the afternoon the fine peal of bells were kept going in several methods. Subsequently the visitors adjourned to the White Cross, where the local company had kindly provided refreshments.

The business meeting was held in the evening, Mr. G. B. Bolland (President) presiding, supported by Mr. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), Mr. J. Cotterell (Treasurer), and members of the committee. Mr. Herbert Scott (of Birstall) was elected a member of the Association.

The venue for the annual district meeting in March was left over for the committee to select a suitable tower.—Mr. P. J. Johnson proposed a vote of thanks to the church authorities for the use of the bells, and to the local company for making the necessary arrangements, etc.—Mr. J. Broadly, of Shipley, seconded, and Mr. P. Cordingley replied for the local company.

Afterwards, handbell ringing in the following methods brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close: Grandsire (Caters, Royal, Triples, and Major), Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Minor.

**RINGER'S WEDDING.**

An unexpectedly fine day brought together a good gathering of ringers at Uxbridge on a recent Saturday, when Mr. Win. Welling, of Old Windsor, was married to Miss Gertrude E. Marchant, of Uxbridge, at the old Parish Church of St. Margaret's. This church adjoins a quaint old town hall and market place on a triangular site in the High Street, entirely surrounded by business houses and shops, so that permission to ring at all was a favour on a busy market day. Mr. A. Marchant was best man, while the bride was given away by her father. The bridesmaids were the Misses E. Fuller and Marjory Baskerville, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Livesey. Of course, the steeplekeeper (Mr. Kedge) was present, and had the bells in going order. The base of the tower also forms the porch, and here the handbell party stood—a party of Bills (Henley Burden, Fussell and Lawrence), under the leadership of Mr. J. J. Parker—who kept the double-handed cymbals going until the motor-cars had sped away with the company. Eight parishes were represented by the tower bell band in a touch of Stedman Triples—extra hands taking part in some Grandsire, including two of the bridegroom's pupils, who are now equally eligible for a peal, the army, or matrimony. The others present were Messrs. Smith, Jones, Hancox, Honor, Chandler, and Gutteridge. War-time fashion decrees a quiet time and economy, but afterwards the ringers drank "Health and happiness to the Bride and Bridegroom" at a neighbouring hostelry, while the wedding reception went forward at the bride's home.

A visit was paid by the ringers to the neighbouring tower of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, for an hour, where Mr. Peddie had everything ready for the visitors, and touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Treble Bob were brought home. Further reinforcements arrived here, including Messrs. Horne, Blackmore, and Pte F. L. Bradley, of Sedgely, Staffordshire (44th Canadian Regiment), who has been away from England 11 years, and now took his first pull in Triples after his long rest spell.

**NOTICES.**

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION**—Western Branch.—A District Meeting will be held at Watford Parish Church, on Saturday, January 20th. Ringing from 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting afterwards.—F. A. Smith, and F. Edwards, Secretaries, 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxhey, Watford.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION**.—Northampton District.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Ecton, on Saturday, January 20th. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. Service 4.40 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—T. Law, District Secretary, St. Peter's Cottages, Weston, Favell.

**SITUATION WANTED.**

**WANTED**.—Situation as GARDENER, 22 years' experience in all branches;  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years in present place; not eligible for the army, change ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells. Glamorgan or Monmouthshire preferred.—Apply F. Edwards, 38, Ludlow Street, Penarth.

**HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.**

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

**NOTICES.**

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION**.—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District will be held at Burton Latimer on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells ready 2 p.m.; short service 4.15; tea 5 o'clock. Kindly notify me by Wednesday, Jan. 10th.—Robt. F. Turner, Dist. Sec., 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**.—Portsmouth District.—The quarterly meeting of the District will be held at Fareham on Saturday, January 13th. Bells available 3 to 5. Tea at Miss Foster's, West Street, at 5.30; business meeting after. Will members kindly let me know by Tuesday, 9th, how many will require tea, which will be provided free; visitors 1/-.—E. J. Harding, District Secretary, 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendleton (St. Thomas's) on Saturday, January 13th. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk; meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late the St. James' Society.—Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Giles', Camberwell, on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Tower open from 2.30 to 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow at the "Stirling Castle," Church St., at 6.30 p.m. Social evening with music to follow. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION**—Maidstone District.—A quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will take place at Bearstead on Saturday, Jan. 13th, 1917. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock. A short service at 5 o'clock. Tea provided at 6 p.m. Business meeting after.—S. Hazelden, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone Parish Church, on Saturday Jan. 13th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock till dusk, meeting to follow.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 132, Morton St., Middleton.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 16th and 30th; and for handbell practice on the 25th. All at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION**.—The annual general meeting of the Surrey Association will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Reigate, on Saturday, the 20th Jan., 1917. The ten-bell tower (tenor 20 cwt.) will be open for ringing from 2.30 to 5 p.m. Service 5.10. Tea in Parish Hall, Lesbourne Road, 5.45 (Members 9d.). Please notify intention to be present before Thursday, 18th, to Mr. H. F. Ewins, Eversfield Road, Reigate. It is hoped that those who can possibly do so will endeavour to be present at least at the meeting following tea, for the election of officers to "carry on" so far as may be possible.—Ch. Reading, Asst. Hon. Sec., Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD**.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Rugby on Saturday, January 20th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Committee meeting 4.30 p.m.; Business meeting in belfry, 5.30 p.m.—J. H. White, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.



**WORCESTERSHIRE & DIST. ASSOCIATION**  
—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Old Hill on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Service in the Church at 4.45. Tea will be provided, to be followed by the meeting in the schools after the service. Bells available for ringing from 3 p.m. until service time. Will all those intending to be at the service and tea kindly let me know on or before Wednesday, Jan. 17th?—E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Rushall on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. A. T. S. Talbot), at 5.15; Tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 23rd inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Beckenham on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Service, with address by Canon H. Arnott, at 5 p.m.; Tea and business meeting to follow in the Church House. A charge of 1/- per head for tea, and this can only be provided for those who send their names to me by Tuesday, Jan. 23rd, the latest. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, January 27th. Ringing from 1.30 p.m. until dusk at the Bell Foundry, and at Stanford-on-Soar. Visitors to Stanford should make up their band previously and notify Mr. Harry Whittle. Committee meeting at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and general meeting for the election of auditors, etc., at 5.30 p.m., in the Coffee Rooms, Market Place. The tea will be free to ticket holders only. Application for tickets, giving each member's name, must reach me not later than first post on the previous Thursday.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**  
—Annual meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Tower open 2.30 to 5. Tea kindly provided by the Vicar in the Vestry Hall at 5.30 to those who notify me by the 24th.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The Hon. Gen. Sec., Mr. Clement Glenn, having joined the R.N.V.R., all official communications should, for the present, be sent to the President or Hon. Treasurer.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—The Honorary Secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles, having joined H.M. Forces, all communications should be sent to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, until further notice. Will members and others please note?

**THE LADIES' GUILD.**—I beg to remind Members that the annual subscription is now due.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**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.

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