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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd, 1917.

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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 and 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.

EVENING RINGING RESTRICTIONS.

The regulation under the Defence of the Realm Act, which prevented the ringing of church bells after dusk, on account of hostile aircraft risks, has been modified in the Metropolitan Police District, and permits ringing to take place up to 9 p.m. This much we were able to announce last week. What, at that time, seemed strange was that nothing of the modification was known to the police—who are responsible for seeing that the regulations are carried out—in the City of London and the country generally. With a view to ascertaining what the position actually was in the matter, we communicated with the Home Office, who, of course, are responsible for framing the Defence of the Realm regulations. The prompt and courteous reply which we received will be found in another column, and from this it will be seen that the modification of the order rests with the Competent Military Authority in each district. This accounts for the fact that, up to the present, the extension of the hours for the ringing of church bells has been made in one district only.

The modification that has taken place in London, however, is an encouraging precedent. If it is safe for bells to be rung in the Metropolis up to nine o'clock at night it should be safe for them to be rung up to the same hour in every part of the country, except, perhaps, the easternmost fringe. Indeed, the restrictions on ringing, elsewhere than in those counties exposed to the first attacks of raiding aircraft, have always seemed strange to us. In no instance, we believe, have hostile aircraft come in over the country until a considerable time after dusk; and while everyone is ready to welcome restrictions which would preclude any possibility of bells serving as a guide to the enemy, it is difficult to understand why, say, Worcestershire or Herefordshire, or Lancashire or Dorset, or any of the western or even midland counties, should require the same restrictions in regard to the ringing of bells as counties like Norfolk, or Suffolk, or Lincolnshire, and others on the borders of the North Sea.

But the letter from the Home Office seems to hold out the prospect of a relaxation of the regulations, if only the proper steps are taken. If ringers will get their clergy to write to the Competent Military Authority for their respective districts, and point out what has been done in London, there ought to be a reasonable possibility of getting the same modification in most of the military districts as now prevails in the Metropolitan area. Such a relaxation of the regulations would enable Sunday evening service ringing to be restarted at once, and would also permit evening practices to take place. The clergy generally would be very glad to have the evening service ringing again resumed, and ringers will be rendering good service if they bring this matter to the notice of their incumbents.

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.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS
FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
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Chiming Machines.

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MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS
BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
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MEMORIAL TO FALLEN RINGER.

At St. Michael's Church, Maidstone, on Sunday week, a memorial, erected to the memory of the late Lance-Corpl. Percy Hassock, D.C.M., who was a ringer and chorister at the church, was unveiled and dedicated. The tablet, which is in oak, occupies a place in the belfry, and was unveiled by the captain of the ringers, Mr. W. J. Day, in the presence of the other members of the band, the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Best), the churchwardens and subscribers. The dedication prayer, pronounced by the Vicar, was in the following words: "I solemnly dedicate this memorial to the glory of God and in memory of our dear brother, Lance-Corpl. Percy Hassock, who died the death of honour, fighting for his King and country in the just and noble cause, and who was formerly member of this belfry; also a member of the choir. May we in the same spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion learn to labour and spend ourselves for the good of others, and for the benefit of all mankind."

A short service was also conducted by the Vicar, Psalm cl. being chanted by the choir, and a passage of Scripture read.

The memorial is made of evergreen oak with a panel, with an elliptic Gothic arch in the top, and a shingled roof, carried by two pillars with moulded verges, a cross surmounting the front gable. The inscription reads: "In memory of Lance-Corpl. P. Hassock, D.C.M., who died the death of honour in the Great European War, 1914."

The memorial was designed and executed by Mr. Wm. J. Day.

After the ceremony, six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung in 28 mins., by: L. Mannering 1, T. Mannering (conductor) 2, A. E. Gasson 3, Pte H. Coast 4, F. Wellard 5, W. J. Day 6. The bells were also rung before the ceremony, while the choir proceeded from the chancel to the belfry.

THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES.

On Sunday week a last tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes by some of his brother ringers at the Church of St. Margaret, Westminster, S.W., where, for the best part of the last two years, he had acted as towerkeeper, on behalf of Mr. J. E. Davis, who is at present serving with the army in France. The whole pull and stand funeral peal was rung by the following: Chellis F. Winney (conductor) 1, J. Bailey 2, E. F. Pike 3, C. Dean (Croydon) 4, F. Perrin 5, W. A. Alps 6, S. J. Collins (a native of Debenham, and an old school chum of the deceased) 7, W. Hewett 8, R. Sanders 9, T. Langdon 10. Afterwards a short touch of Stedman Caters, conducted by W. Hewett, who was one of the band who first met Mr. Grimes when on a peal trip to Debenham, and who had the pleasure of ringing several peals with him at Debenham and district, and enjoying the hospitality of his father, Mr. W. Grimes. Among other ringers present were: E. Gibbs, H. Springall, T. H. Taffender, H. Ellis.

Undoubtedly, writes an old friend of the deceased, one of Mr. Grimes' best performances was during a tour in the Norwich district, when he rang the tenor at St. Peter Mancroft to Treble Twelve without a fault, and finished "as fresh as a daisy." I think at that time it was the heaviest bell he had rung to a peal. He had also rung Ipswich tenor to Treble Twelve, and he often said he would like to ring Yarmouth tenor, and so complete a peal on the tenor of each of the three towers in the Eastern Counties (at that time). But this he did not live to do.

THE LATE REV. J. H. PILKINGTON.

On the occasion of the funeral of the late Rev. J. Holme Pilkington, Rector of Framlingham, Suffolk, whose death, at the age of 60 years, we recorded recently, the bells of the parish church of St. Michael were rung deeply muffled as a mark of esteem and regret by David Collins, the veteran of Worlingworth, William and Hector Crickmer and Walter Miller, of Earl Soham; John O'Neill, of Halesworth; Albert J. Cornish and James Wardley, of Dennington; William Flory, Horace C. Howlett, Willoughby E. Maulden, and George E. Symonds, of Framlingham. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob Major, were brought round after the service, conducted by G. E. Symonds.

The deceased gentleman, who was at one time a member of the Central Council, in addition to having the church and bells at Framlingham restored, always took the keenest interest in maintaining in a high state of efficiency everything pertaining to the belfry, and had the bells periodically overhauled by a firm of experienced bell hangers.

DEATH OF MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

VETERAN MASTER OF THE DUDLEY GUILD.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Samuel Spittle, which took place at his residence, 6, Great Hill, Dudley, on Friday last.

The deceased had been Master of the Dudley and District Guild since its formation, 18 years ago, and also of the Dudley Parish Church Society. For a number of years, too, he held the position of Master in the Worcestershire and Districts Association.

The funeral took place on Tuesday at the Dudley Parish Church.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

RINGING RESTRICTIONS AND THEIR FUTURE EFFECT.

A quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Loughborough on Saturday last, when the bells at Stanford-on-Soar and at the Bell Foundry were available for ringing, the methods rung ranging from Grandsire Triples to Superlative Surprise Major. Amongst those present were representatives from Burton-on-Trent, Cotgrave, Dorby, Duffield, Hinckley, Kirby-Muxloe, Leicester, Orston, Quorn, and Stanford-on-Soar, in addition to the local ringers, and at 5.30 these, numbering 37, were entertained to tea at the Temperance Coffee Rooms, by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

At the subsequent general meeting, the President (Mr. J. W. Taylor) occupied the chair, welcomed those present, and asked all to do their best to carry on the work of the Association amid the difficulties of the trying time through which the country was now passing, with the hope that soon the conditions might be more normal, and ringing take the stand it occupied previous to the war.

One new member was elected, and on the proposition of Mr. H. W. Abbott, seconded by Mr. B. Mitchell, the retiring auditors, Messrs. E. D. Taylor and Chas. Draper, were unanimously re-elected.

The President read out particulars of the peals rung during 1916. These were 13 in number, viz., nine on tower bells and four on handbells.

Mr. W. Willson, speaking of the restrictions imposed on ringers and ringing at the present time, and feeling that they might be used as a precedent in the future, by those antagonistic to ringing, said he thought it most desirable that the Central Council, at their next meeting, should consider this matter, and moved that a letter be sent to the secretary of the Central Council to that effect.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Stanford-on-Soar for the use of the bells, and to Messrs. Taylor and Co. for the use of the bells at the foundry, and for their kindness in providing tea. This concluded the business, and a social hour or two, with the handbells, pleasantly passed the time until the departure of the trains to the various destinations.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSED SCHEME FOR 'PEACE RINGING.'

The first quarterly meeting for the year of the Northern Branch of the Worcestershire Association was held at Old Hill on Saturday week, and, considering the inclement weather, was very well attended. Ringing at the church commenced soon after 3 p.m., and was continued until service time. The service, which was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Canon E. Brewer), was attended by about 50 members. Before giving his address, the Rector extended a hearty welcome to the Association. He said he was sure their thoughts would go out to those members who had answered their King and country's call, and he trusted that it would not be long before all of them, when this war was over, would be back in their place again ringing out their beautiful bells.

After the service, the tea, which was kindly provided by Mr. A. E. Parsons and Mr. Harry Mason, was partaken of in the Schools, 58 members being present. Mrs. A. E. Parsons and her lady helpers served the tea, and attended to the wants of the guests.

The Rector presided over the business meeting, when apologies were received from the Master (Mr. S. Grove), the Rev. S. F. Marriott (Rural Dean), Messrs. A. H. and C. W. Bassano, Mr. T. J. Salter (who is happily recovering from a serious attack of pneumonia), Mr. N. Davies, Mr. S. Spittle (Master of the Dudley Guild, who was unfortunately confined to bed), Mr. W. Rock Small, and Mr. W. H. Laight. Three new members were elected.

Arising from the business transacted at a Central Committee meeting, held at Worcester the previous week, Mr. A. E. Parsons put before the district two questions brought forward by the general secretary (Mr. J. R. Newman). The first was a suggestion to reduce the quarterly meetings during the war, and the second a proposal to prepare a scheme for the ringing of bells when peace was declared.

With reference to the first, a very useful discussion took place, and it was eventually decided to hold the next quarterly meeting in June as usual, Selly Oak being selected.

With regard to the second question, it was pointed out that, owing to the number of ringers who had answered their country's call, many hands had been so depleted that it was impossible to get sufficient men to ring for Sunday services. It was suggested that bands be formed by the amalgamation of ringers from the towers who could muster one or two men, and when the happy day of peace came they should give their services, and go from one tower to another, covering as many as could be reasonably done in the day, and ringing for a short time only.

The idea was very favourably received, and it was left to the general secretary to draw up his scheme.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for arranging the service, and for his address, and also to the donors of the tea, was carried unanimously. The Rector, in responding, said he was very grateful for having the opportunity of arranging the service, and he was pleased to see the large attendance of ringers at his church. He also complimented and thanked Mrs. Parsons for the way in which she had put the tea before them. Mr. Harry Mason having also responded, a very pleasant and successful meeting was brought to a close.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH AT POTTERNE.

On Saturday last a monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Mary's Church, Potterne, and was fairly well attended, considering the great number of ringers from this neighbourhood who are now serving their King and country. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and was kept up until 5 p.m., when the Guild service was held in church, the Vicar of Potterne (the Rev. W. H. Kewley) kindly officiating, while the duty at the organ was performed by one of the lady ringers from Devizes, Miss M. L. Hillier. Tea was afterwards provided in the Parish Room, and 15 sat down and thoroughly enjoyed the repast, for it was a bitterly cold day. The ringers had assembled from the neighbouring towers of St. John's, Devizes; Holt, Southbroom, Potterne, Edington, Erchfont, and Bishop's Cannings.

After tea a short and sociable meeting was held, presided over by the Vicar. There was little business to be transacted, some handbell ringing and a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the service in church bringing a very pleasant meeting to a close.

KING'S CLIFFE TENOR.

The contributions during the past week towards the recasting of King's Cliffe tenor are 2s. from Mrs. Johnson (King's Cliffe), and 13s. from the Wyke Regis ringers. Funds are urgently needed to complete the cost of this work, which it is hoped to have carried out by Easter. Donations should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, Peterborough.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

STOKE COVENTRY.—Warwickshire Guild. On Nov. 11th, at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: H. J. Balcome 1, O. J. Hunt 2, H. Argylo (Nuneaton) 3, H. Kettle 4, W. T. Cox 5, J. F. Clarke, junr. (Nuneaton) 6, J. H. White (conductor) 7, W. Clements 8. Arranged for Mr. H. Kettle, who shortly expects to join the colours.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.—On Nov. 12th, for the morning service, at St. Margaret's Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Peddle 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, P. Jones 3, W. Lawrence 4, E. Hancox 5, T. Smith 6, W. Henley (conductor) 7, P. Kedg 8.

BARNET, HERTS.—At the Parish Church, on Nov. 12th, for morning service, in 46 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. F. Chandler 1, R. Sturgeon 2, C. Dale 3, J. Sumpter (conductor) 4, R. Roffey 5, F. A. Milne 6, W. Soer 7, G. Herbert 8.—On Dec. 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. J. Eldred 1, R. Roffey 2, J. F. Chandler 3, R. Sturgeon 4, J. Sumpter 5, F. A. Milne 6, A. J. Trappitt (conductor) 7, W. Soer 8.—On Dec. 31, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, half-muffled, in 55 mins.: H. J. Eldred 1, W. J. Baldwin 2, R. Sturgeon 3, W. Childs 4, J. Sumpter 5, F. A. Milne (conductor) 6, A. J. Trappitt 7, W. Soer 8.

STROUD.—Gloucester and Bristol Association.—On Sunday, Nov. 12th, at the Parish Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1,916 changes), in 1 hr. and 9 mins., the ringers being members of the Stroud and Painswick Societies: H. Scrivens 1, A. Cook 2, A. Tatnell 3, W. Faulk 4, W. Hale 5, A. Wright (composer and conductor) 6, E. Paul 7, F. Cole 8.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, at St. Peter's Church, for evening service, 576 Forward Major: H. Page (conductor) 1, F. Wines 2, F. Lasbury 3, F. Chamberlain 4, G. Cross 5, T. Page 6, W. Page 7, J. Cross 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Forward Major, in 49 minutes. First quarter on the bells, and first quarter in the method by all: H. Page (conductor) 1, F. Lasbury 2, F. Wines 3, G. Cross 4, T. Page 5, G. Wines 6, W. Page 7, J. Cross 8.—On Monday, Nov. 27th, 336 Double Norwich: G. Cross 1, W. Page 2, F. Wines 3, F. Lasbury 4, T. Hamlin 5, G. Wines 6, J. Cross 7, T. Page 8.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—At St. Mary's Church, on Nov. 19th, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor: Driver E. Rivih (of Mansfield, 37th Reserve Battery, R.F.A.) 1, F. Walker 2, T. Floyd, junr., 3, T. Floyd, senr., 4, H. Golding (conductor) 5, W. Floyd 6, E. Watson 8.

WORDSLEY.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, at Holy Trinity Church, for evensong, 720 Bob Doubles: J. Slater 1, H. Quarry 2, Thos. Heathcock 3, C. W. Cooper 4, J. Bass (conductor) 5, A. W. Dodd 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Squire Cooper, of South Staffs Regiment, a former ringer at this church, who has been killed at the front.

POTNEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Nov. 19th, for C.E.M.S. service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: Art. Jones 1, H. Barret 2, G. Lee 3, A. Cutmore 4, C. E. Collis 5, T. Bolton 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, C. Collis 8.—On Dec. 3rd, for C.E.M.S. service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: Mrs. F. I. Haire 1, W. Stevens 2, P. Mackrill 3, A. Cutmore 4, C. E. Collis 5, T. Bolton 6, L. Attwater (conductor) 7, W. Elson 8.

STOCKPORT.—On handbells, at 22, Willis Road, on November 24th, in 38 minutes, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original), 1260 changes: A. Barnes (conductor) 1—2, W. Jackson 3—4, H. Jackson 5—6, E. A. Jackson 7—8.

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ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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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.

RINGING AFTER DUSK. HOME OFFICE STATEMENT.

Last week we were able to state that the Defence of the Realm regulations relating to the ringing of church bells after dusk had been modified in the Metropolitan Police area by the extension of the time up to which it is permissible to ring to 9 p.m. This enabled the bells to be rung for Sunday evening service and for practices, and this opportunity the various churches had gladly availed themselves of. There seemed, however, some uncertainty as to the exact extent of the area to which the modification applied, and, with a view to clearing up the question, we wrote to the Home Office asking if some definite information on the subject could be given for publication, so that we might be in a position to make an authoritative statement.

From the reply, which we print below, it will be seen that any extension of the relaxation of the regulations to other districts will have to be secured from the Competent Military Authority—which ought not to be difficult with the precedent of London to back up applications.

The reply by the Under Secretary of the Home Office, dated Jan. 24th, was as follows:—

"Sir,

"In reply to your letter of the 23rd inst., I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that the ringing of church bells up to 9 p.m. in the Metropolitan Police District has been authorised by the Competent Military Authority, under the powers reserved to him by Regulation 12 B of the Defence of the Realm Regulations. The Secretary of State has no jurisdiction in the matter, and if a similar relaxation of the Regulation is desired in other localities, it will be necessary for permission to be obtained from the Competent Military Authority concerned."

THE PRESIDENCY OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—If I were in Alderman Pritchett's place, I should be inclined to say, "Save me from my friends, and do not let them blow my trumpet too much or too often, in the Press or on the platform." My experience of governing bodies responsible for filling important posts is, that it does not help a candidate to be too much pressed upon their notice, as if they were not capable of judging for themselves. For instance, not very long ago the chances of a likely candidate for a certain headmastership were practically upset by a local dignitary, who pressed him upon the electors with such indiscreet, though well meant, zeal that they thought they scented a "job," and selected someone else.

I have not the honour of Alderman Pritchett's acquaintance, nor have I any axe to grind for anyone else as our new president. Moreover, it is probable that advancing years and high railway fares will make a Whitsuntide journey to Gloucester very difficult for me. — Yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Rugby, on Saturday week, when 18 members from Allesloy, Birmingham, Coventry, Nuneaton and Rugby, put in an appearance, together with Mr. C. C. Mayne, of Beaconsfield. The fine peal of eight bells at the Parish Church were kept going to touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Superlative Surprise Major, until 5.30 p.m.; after which the business meeting was held in the belfry, Mr. James George (the Ringing Master) occupying the chair.

It was decided that the annual meeting be held at Warwick on Easter Monday as usual.

The Chairman expressed regret at the loss of a life member of the Guild, by the death of Mr. Alfred W. Grimes, a letter of condolence having been sent by him to the relatives previous to this meeting.

Four young ladies of the Chilvers Coton tower (Miss Gladys Dodds, Miss Evelyn Dodds, Miss May Godderidge, and Miss Eva Lewis) were made members of the Guild.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the tower keeper for having everything in readi-

LONDON'S VANISHED CHURCHES.

BELLS WHICH ESCAPED THE GREAT FIRE. ALL HALLOWS, STAINING.

By J. R. JERRAM.

Although the church of All Hallows, Staining, escaped the fire of 1666, it got into such a dilapidated condition that it had to be rebuilt in 1694. It was a plain building with a square tower surmounted by a turret at the north-west corner, and stood until 1870, when it was condemned to be demolished.

The tower contained a peal of six bells, with a tenor of about 9 cwt.; the third being a rare specimen of foreign bell-founding. The inscriptions were as follows:—

Treble.

EDWARD GORNELL NATHAN DODSON CHVRCH WARDENS
1697 I. O. B. [Whitechapel Medallion as used by James Bartlet.]

Second.

Iosephus Carter me fecit, 1607

Third.

∴ X martine : es : minen : name : mun : gbelant : sy :
gode : bequame : gbemacret : int : jaer : m : cccc : lviii [i.e.,
"Martin is my name. May my sound be pleasing to God. Made in
the year 1458."]

Fourth and Fifth.

I. O. B. [James Bartlet's mark as on treble.]
JAMES BARTLET MADE ME 1682.

Tenor.

O [Anthony Bartlet's mark] A. B. MADE MEE. HENRY SWEET
AND THOMAS BEWLY CHVRCH WARDENS, 1647 [Diameter 37
inches.]

When the church was pulled down four of the bells are said to have been used to provide part of the metal for casting the peal of six at St. Paul's, Homerton. The third was taken to the Grocer's Hall and preserved as a curiosity. Mr. H. B. Walters, in his *Church Bells of England*, considers this bell to be a Flemish one.

In the churchwardens' accounts for 1587 there appears a payment of one shilling for ringing at the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Northampton District was held at Ecton on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: St. Edmund's, St. Giles', St. Peter's and All Saints', Northampton; Kingsthorpe, Boughton, Duston, Weston Fawell, Cogenhoe, Earls Barton, Isham, Easton Neston, Pattishall, Irthlingborough, Finedon, and the local ringers. A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Canon Jephson), and tea was served at the Three Horseshoes, 33 sitting down.

The usual business meeting followed, presided over by Mr. J. Strike, vice-president. It was decided, on the recommendation of the committee, that the next district quarterly meeting be held at Boughton on July 9th.

Ten new members were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Canon Jephson for the use of the bells, and for the service; also to the local ringers for having the bells ready.

The following methods were rung during the afternoon: Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

WINCHESTER GUILD.

A combined practice for the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild was held at Horsell, Surrey, on Saturday afternoon, when ringers attended from Yorktown, Pirbright, Hersham, Woking, Bramley, and Cranleigh, as well as some of the local men. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob were brought round, several of those present being able to attempt something which was new to them. At the conclusion of the ringing, the visitors were very kindly entertained to tea in the Village Institute by the Vicar (the Rev. Norman Pares, R.D.) and Mrs. Pares, the latter adding to the indebtedness of the party by waiting upon them.—A vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. Pares was passed, on the motion of Mr. F. E. Dawe, and afterwards a few short touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung on handbells.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT REIGATE.

Three main causes contributed to a small attendance at the annual meeting of the Surrey Association, at Reigate, on Saturday week. First, the war claims a large number of members, then the weather—a combination of snow and bleak wind, which made some members wish the annual gathering was held in mid-summer instead of mid-winter—kept others away, while some who might have attended were prevented by the present railway facilities. But although small, the meeting was a representative one, the towers from Hersham in the south to Burstow in the west, as well as the Croydon district, supplying members. The ten bells of Reigate Parish Church were utilised during the afternoon, and at 5 p.m. the ringers attended shortened evening prayer, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. C. Davies), who gave a brief address, in which a hearty welcome was coupled with words of encouragement for these dark days. He urged all ringers to do their part in the great crisis, not only by keeping church bell ringing going, but also by striving to do their best in whatever sphere each one found himself placed.

A capital meat tea was provided at the Parish Hall, presided over by the Vicar, who took the chair at the business meeting which followed, and was supported by the Master, Mr. J. D. Drawett, of Mitcham, and by one of the churchwardens (Mr. Temple Newell), and the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. Chas. Reading).

SATISFACTORY FINANCES.

The audited accounts for the two years ended 31st December last were laid upon the table, and showed a balance in hand of £34 odd. Of this £15 is invested in War Loan, and it was resolved not to disturb the balance in the G.P.O. Savings Bank for the sake of investing at an increased rate. The reduced income of the past year had just met the expenses incurred.

Letters were read from the President (the Lord Bishop of Southwark), commending the work of the Association and the individual efforts of the members in their respective parishes, and from the representatives of the late hon. secretary of the Western District (Mr. A. Shepherd) and Mr. A. A. Johnston, of Croydon, returning thanks for sympathy and for funeral flowers.

It was reported that no peals had been rung in the district since the date of the last annual general meeting, and that the number of new members elected during the past year had been four only—against the 50 who had been called to the colours since the outbreak of hostilities. The names of these 50 do not cover the number of ringers of the Association who have exchanged the rifle for the rifle, and the Master appealed to the representatives of the towers to see that a complete record was kept, whether members of the Association or not, in order that a complete and permanent record might hereafter be prepared. It was reported that Gunner Dewdney (Christ Church, Mitcham), and Pte F. Woodiss, Grenadier Guards (Hersham), were both convalescing from wounds—and the names of Ptes W. Streeter and H. Dennis, both of Redhill, and of the Queen's Regiment, were added to that of Alfred Bashford, of Nutfield, all three of whom had made the Supreme Sacrifice.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The President and Ringing Master were re-elected, as also was the hon. secretary, Mr. Cyril F. Johnston, Grenadier Guards, and the hon. secretary of the Southern District, Mr. H. Ewins, of Reigate.—Mr. W. Shepherd kindly consented to accept the hon. secretaryship of the Western District, held by his late brother. The Rev. A. S. W. Young, the Vicar of Kingston, who for 36 years has acted as hon. treas., was also re-elected, and in like manner the hon. auditors, Messrs. Allan Gomer, Alfred Gear, and F. Brown, were again elected. To all of these the meeting passed a unanimous resolution of thanks.

The Master and Mr. Chas. Dean kindly promised to carry out the duties of the assistant hon. secretary if it should become necessary to "place that office in commission."

The Rev. Donald McDonald, of Christ Church, Mitcham, and the Rev. G. E. G. Hoare, of Godstone, were added to the hon. members of the committee in the room of the late Mr. A. A. Johnston and Mr. Percy Sylvester.

A vote of thanks, none the less real because of custom, was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens of Reigate for their kindness of the day, as well as for their presence, and to Mr. Ewins for making the local arrangements.

The place of the next annual general meeting was fixed for Croydon, and the question of any quarterly meetings for ringing was left to the discretion of the representatives of each of the three Districts.

WHY!

"Punch" last week had the following: "The other day a Farnham bell ringer, after cycling seventy miles, rang a peal of 5940 changes. It is not known why." We all enjoy "Punch's" humour, but "Punch" is not a bell ringer.

BRIERLEY HILL. — On Sunday, January 7th, at St. Michael's Church, 720 Bob Minor for the men's afternoon service: W. Stinton 1, J. Slater 2, J. Bass 3, C. Wm. Cooper 4, W. Potter 5, A. E. Whitmore (conductor) 6, E. T. Lloyd 7.

NOTICES.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, February 3rd, 1917. Bells of both churches available until dusk; service in All Saints' Church at 4.45 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow.—H. Williams, Sec. *pro tem.*, New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Hythe, on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 2 o'clock till sunset. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who will have fallen in the War and who have served in H.M. Forces. A good attendance is hoped for.—C. Tribe, Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Coggeshall on February 3rd. Bells ready 2 p.m. until sunset. Tea at W. S. Mount's, 5.30, 9d. each. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., Rayne.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available 2.30; Divine Service 4.30; tea at the Café, 5.30; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, February 3rd. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting at Glass's Restaurant to follow. Bells (8) from 2 o'clock till service time.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Somerset.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on February 8th and 22nd for handbell practice, and on the 13th and 27th for general business. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bretforton on Saturday, February 10th. Service in church at 5 p.m. Tea for those who send me their names not later than the previous Tuesday. The bells (6) will be available till service time.—James Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Raunds on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) available 2.30, Service 4.45, tea 5.15 p.m.—F. Stubbs, District Secretary, Bridge Street, Raunds.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch, will be held at Great Marlow, Bucks, on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Ringers' service at the Parish Church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at St. Peter's Schools at 5.45.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec., Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The annual general meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Church, Newent, on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells (6) available at 2 p.m. till dusk. Short service in the church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the Parish Room, provided free by the Rector.—Ex-Sergt. Joseph Williams, Acting Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's (Deansgate) on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock to dusk. Meeting to follow.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Henbury on February 10th. Bells at 3 p.m. till 5. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those intending to be present notify by February 6th? — Chas. J. Walton, 14, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Shere on Saturday, February 10th, 1917. The bells (8) will be available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at the White Horse Inn at 5.30. Members 6d., visitors 1s. 3d.—J. J. Jones, Honorary Secretary.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, February 10th, 1917. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. to dusk. Business meeting in the tower after the bells are ceased.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Short service, 4 p.m. Tea at 6, and meeting at the Cherry Tree, 6d. each, to members who advise me by Feb. 7th.—W. H. Oram, Honorary Secretary (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society, Established 1824).—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 10th, at St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark. Ringing from 2.30 to 5 p.m.; also at St. George's, Borough, from 6 to 7.15 p.m. Business meeting at the Southwark Tavern, Southwark Street, S.E., at 7.30 p.m. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Honorary Secretary.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHANGE RINGERS.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Champion McGill), at Isleworth, on Saturday, February 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. McGill, in the Hartlands Road Mission Hall at 5. Ringing afterwards until 9. The honorary secretary earnestly appeals for all outstanding 1916 subscriptions to be sent to him before the date of the meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Honorary Secretary, Church Road, Heston Hounslow.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 24th next, at six o'clock. The chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, M.A., Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. — A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRIDGEND, GLAM.—Llandaff Association.—At St. Iltyds Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: R. Evans 1, J. Evans 2, A. J. Stanley 3, C. H. Perry 4, A. J. Pittman (Port Talbot) 5, Sapper D. R. James 6, J. Cox (conductor) 7, B. Toby 8. Arranged for Sapper James, who was home on leave from France.

GLOUCESTER.—Gloucester and Bristol Association.—At the Church of St. Mary-de-Lode, on Nov. 25th, at a specially arranged practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Gillett 1, J. Austin 2, A. A. Waite 3, T. Baldwin 4, J. W. Jones (Newport, Mon.) 5, G. Condie (conductor) 6.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE. — On Sunday, Nov. 26th, at St. Peter's Church, 564 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, Ben Thorp 2, J. W. Holme 3, H. Holme (H.M.S. Victory) 4, Miss Thorp 5, John Harrison 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8.

ISHAM.—Central Northants Association.—On Sunday, Nov. 26th, for Matins, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: E. M. Atkins (conductor) 1, T. Garley 2, F. H. Talbutt 3, W. T. Wilson 4, G. A. Blexley 5, D. Mallett 6.

BOUGHTON, KENT.—On Nov. 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: E. R. Trondell 1, Pie W. Sadler (Braintree) 2, Corpl. F. Longshaw (Reading) 3, C. Hadlow 4, A. T. W. Bones 5, S. Fox 6, E. Trondell (conductor) 7, P. W. Price 8. Specially arranged for the two soldiers, who were stationed in the district.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOS.—On Sunday, November 26th, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, in 45 mins.: H. E. Gillett 1, W. Stratford 2, H. Packer 3, T. Bunning 4, W. Large (conductor) 5, J. Collett 6, H. Gillett 7, J. Buttler 8.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Dec. 3rd, 448 Bob Major: G. Beverley 1, A. Baldwin 2, F. Harrison 3, C. Wybrow, senr., 4, C. Tutill 5, J. Godfrey 6, C. Ebberson (conductor) 7, R. Cooke 8.—On Dec. 6th, on handbells, touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples by R. Cooke, C. Wybrow, C. Tutill, C. Ebberson, A. Baldwin, J. Godfrey; and on Dec. 9th, touches of Bob Major by W. E. Bason, R. Cooke, C. Wybrow, E. Ebberson, J. Godfrey.—On Dec. 10th, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 704 Bob Major: W. Bason 1, A. Baldwin (Snoring) 2, C. Tutill 3, C. Wybrow, senr., 4, W. Ayres (Syderstone) 5, J. Godfrey 6, C. Ebberson 7, R. Cooke (conductor) 8. The touches were arranged for C. Ebberson, a late member of the company, who was home on a short leave, after being wounded in France.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK. — On Dec. 3rd, for men's service, 1088 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Titterton 1, A. Keeble 2, G. Wilson (conductor) 3, E. S. Bailey 4, H. J. Button 5, J. G. Rumsey 6, C. Sampson 7, J. M. Bailey 8. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major by the same band. — On Dec. 10th, for men's service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Titterton 1, A. Keeble 2, H. J. Button 3, G. Wilson 4, J. G. Rumsey 5, C. Sampson 6, J. M. Bailey (conductor) 7, E. S. Bailey 8. Also 624 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: H. J. Button 1, J. M. Bailey 2, C. Sampson 3, A. Keeble 4, E. S. Bailey 5, E. H. Bailey 6, G. Wilson (conductor) 7, J. G. Rumsey 8. These bells can only be rung on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, and soldiers and other friends who may be in the district will be heartily welcomed, by communicating either with Mr. E. S. Bailey, Roberts Road, Leiston, or Mr. G. Wilson, Valley Road, Leiston.

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