



No. 364. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8th, 1918.

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

Price 2d.

GILLET & 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, 1918.
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 authorized 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

ANTIQUARIAN INTEREST OF BELLS.

It is said with truth that there are many sides of interest in our art and its associations, if only the ringer will take the trouble to discover them. A man who learns to pull a bell sets out on a path with new inducements ever before him to explore in different directions. He may keep to the main road of practical ringing, which will take him simply in progressive stages from one method to another; he may take time to branch off in the direction of theoretical studies, of composition or of method building, and if he does he finds himself in a sphere of ever-widening interest.

But in addition there are many by-paths which offer to a ringer opportunities of discovery, and not the least of these in point of fascination is that which leads to antiquarian research. There is a wonderful allurements to the person who seriously endeavours, for instance, to trace out the history, not merely of bells, but of the art of bell-founding in the centuries that have passed. There is something particularly interesting in reading of the men who, six hundred years ago, carried on with their primitive methods, yet successfully, the work which is being done by the more famous foundries of to-day. And it adds to that interest when we learn that there still exist in our churches specimens of the handiwork of those old masters. Such relics as remain to us from those distant days are objects to be treated with veneration by ringers.

The short article which we publish in another column dealing with some of the earliest of the London bell-founders will be read, we are sure, with interest. The information there given does not pretend to be original, but it has not probably been put before the ringing public before. We have always felt that ringers must gain in interest in the art if they can but learn the history, not only of change ringing and the great performances of the past, but something of the historical associations of the bells themselves. There will be a gain, too, in another direction. To many a man, even now, a bell is but a bell, though to others there must always be a feeling of greater affection for a bell that has come down to our care through the long centuries than for one that, good as its qualities may be, is the product of but yesterday. Many an ancient bell has been lost to us through the careless indifference of a man who had no thought for the preservation of the venerable instrument entrusted to him, and if we could have our way, every one of these old relics of this ancient industry would be released from the risk of damage and be preserved in some honoured niche in the church. No longer should it go into the melting-pot to come again, mixed with new metal, in shape, with its ancient inscription reproduced. No, these ancient bells should be preserved intact as objects of interest to future generations.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sir,
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

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKET
REST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

HANDBELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 20, 1918, in One Hour and Fifty-eight Minutes,
IN THE TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's each called differently.

MAURICE SYMONDS ... 1—2 | STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 3—4

ARTHUR SYMONDS ... 5—6

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to celebrate the 15th birthday of M. Symonds. It was his first peal. This is supposed to be the first peal of Minor rung double-handed by father, son and grandson in the Ely Diocese.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, March 1, 1918, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL, 32, EDGELEY ROAD,
CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

ALFRED B. PECK ... 1—2 | HERBERT LANGDON ... 7—8

HARRY R. PASMORE ... 3—4 | WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 9—10

CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 5—6 | CHARLES H. HORTON ... 11—12

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire, EDWIN HORREX.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Horrex, who was 80 the previous day. Mr. Horrex also rang in an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples at St. George's in the Boro', S.E., on Saturday, which was unfortunately lost after 2½ hours' ringing through a rope breaking.

YOUNG HANDBELL RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. T. E. Slater, of Glensford, has replied to my inquiry in your last issue as to the youngest double-handed peal ringer in the Ely Association, and informs me that at the age of 14, Mr. Lewis Watson rang 1—2 to a peal of Minor (seven 720's called differently) at the residence of Mr. G. D. Coleman, St. Neot's, Hunts, on July 17th, 1903.—Yours faithfully,

A. SYMONDS.

From the record in this column it will be seen that on his 15th birthday, Maurice Symonds has rung his first peal, and the performance is unique, from the fact that father, son and grandson took part in it.

LONGEST TOUCH ON ANCIENT BELLS.

On Saturday last, the ringers of All Saints' Church, Llanbadach, journeyed to Bedwas, where several touches of Grandsire Doubles were rung, including a quarter-peal, by the following: Jack Gwilym 1, Frank Boucher (conductor) 2, Miss Mabel Griffin 3, Stanley Voysey 4, William Burgess 5, James Phillips 6. The longest touch of Doubles for the ringers of the 1, 3, 4, 5. It is believed to be the longest touch of method ringing on the bells, which date back many centuries.

5056 TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

BY H. PRICE, FISKERTON, NOTTS.

23456	M	W	H
52364	2	2	2
53624		1	2
26354		2	2
52643	2	2	2
62453		2	1
54263		2	2
43265	1		2
23645		2	1
63425		2	1
35426	1		2
52436		2	
25634	2		2
24534	2		1
25346		1	2
23456		1	2

ESTABLISHED 1760.

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 105, 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

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

**32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.**



**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

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.

**Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.**

A LONG PEAL AT NORWICH.

At St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, the scene of many of the renowned performances of the past, there is a tablet recording a famous peal, the anniversary of which falls to-day. The record runs:—

On March the 8th, 1737, was rung a peal of Grandsire Caters, which for excellency of its ringing, Harmonious changes, and ye number of them, was certainly superior to anything of its kind ever done in the World; and to Remove all doubt of the truth of the performance, several ingenious Ringers were abroad the whole time with proper rules to prove the certainty of ye same. Thus was this great peal perfectly compleated to the entire satisfaction and surprise and amazement of thousand of hearers in the space of 8 hrs. 15 mins. The number of changes were 12,603, rung by nine men of the company, then belonging to the company. The tenor singly by a young ringer 8000, then a second ringer rung her to the end of the peal. The persons names and the bells they rung as follows:—

Thos. Melchior 1 Wm. Pettingall 2, John Gardiner 3, Tho. Barrett 4, Robert Crane 5, Wm. Porter 6, Tho. Blofeld 7, Edwd. Crane 8, Chrstr. Booty 9, James Jerom, Roht. Liddamon tenor.

It is remarkable that this Grandsire Caters record stood unbroken to within the last 30 years. When rung, it superseded a peal of 12,000 rung in April, 1737, at Painswick.

LADIES' GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT CLIFTON.

A very successful meeting of the Ladies' Guild was held at Clifton Parish Church on Saturday last. There were about 30 ringers present, 20 of whom were members of the Guild, and the towers represented including Bridgewater, Bristol, Clapton, Paulton, Portishead and Westbury. During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples, were rung, including a touch of Grandsire Triples by eight members of the Portishead band.

A short service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. C. V. de Candole, and afterwards the meeting was held in the vestry. Mrs. H. S. Briggs, of Paulton, was in the chair.—The Secretary, Miss E. K. Parker, suggested that a quarterly meeting of the Western District be held, in order to keep in touch with all the members.—Paulton was proposed for the next meeting, which will be held in June, and the arrangements were left in the hands of Miss N. Gillingham, as the secretary would shortly be leaving the district for London. Nineteen new members were elected.—Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, Mrs. de Candole for presiding at the organ, and Mr. Clarke for having the bells in readiness.

THE SPIRE OF ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

The Birmingham Parish Church Magazine for March contains the following paragraph among "Rector's Notes":—

"It is a great source of regret to the Rector and Wardens to have to make known the unwelcome fact that the interior of our noble spire is not in as good a condition as it ought to be, and that acting on professional advice, we cannot ring the bells till it is put in thorough order once again. The same kind of mischief which was remedied some five years ago, so far as the outside of the spire is concerned, has been at work on the inside, and it is plainly our duty to complete the work that was then taken in hand and to erect a scaffolding inside the spire, so that the cause of the mischief may be reached and dealt with. The work is in the very competent hands of Mr. Buckland, the Diocesan Surveyor, and of Messrs. Bridgeman, of Lichfield, who carried out the external work in 1913; and we hope before long that the welcome sound of our splendid peal of bells may eloquently prove that all is again in thorough order, and that so far as we can possibly secure it, the fabric of our church is in thorough good condition, and rendered absolutely safe for many a long year to come."

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held at Hythe on Saturday last, but March dealt out a sample of the proverbial lion which greatly militated against a large attendance as none but an enthusiast would brave such elements. Enough, however, turned up to ring touches in Grandsire, Stedman, and Plain Bob, and to coach a lady ringer in the elementary stages of the art, "Dora" eventually put an end to the proceedings. Private Runham, R.F.C., formerly of Reading, was the only visitor in khaki. The members hope to be favoured with better weather for the next meeting, at Tenliden, on Whit-Monday.

EARLY LONDON BELL FOUNDERS.

THE WYMBISH FAMILY AND OTHERS.

The ancient history of bell-founding is always a fascinating study to those who are interested in our art, and the following particulars about some of the earliest known bell founders of London, culled from the work published many years ago by Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, will, we are sure, be read with interest.

It is not until very near the close of the thirteenth century that any clear light is thrown on the bell founders of London. Prior to that date, we have here and there, in books dealing with London history—such as Stow's 'Annals,' the 'Liber Albys,' the 'Liber Costumarum,' and the Guildhall 'Letter Books,' so admirably epitomized by Mr. Riley in his 'Memorials of London Life,' and, above all, in the rolls of the Hustings Court—the names of citizens who may possibly have practised the trade of bell-founding, and who were almost invariably described as 'Potters.' It is safe to assert that the bell-founding trade was at that time strictly confined to one locality, namely, the extreme of the City, Aldgate and Portsoken Wards—the one inside and the other outside of the city walls.

A slight sketch of the geography may not be amiss. Leadenhall Street under that name did not then exist, Cornhill extending eastwards as far as St. Mary Axe. The church now called St. Andrew Undershaft was then known as St. Andrew-upon-Cornhill. The main thoroughfare thence eastward seems hardly to have any special name; if it had any, it was probably Allegate Street. It is called so in a deed of 1386. The 'street of St. Mary atte Naxe' is mentioned in a deed of 1335, the triangle formed by these last two streets and the city wall being almost entirely occupied by the Convent of Christ Church—the Priory of the Holy Trinity—whose prior was, by virtue of his position, Alderman of Portsoken Ward. Billiter (Bellyetere) Lane is first mentioned in 1310; Lymstrete in 1332.

The 'trade,' however, seem to have occupied chiefly the main street from St. Andrew's Church to that of St. Botolph-without-Aldgate, these two churches, but especially the latter, being pre-eminently the bell-founders' churches, as is proved by various wills.

One of the first names is to be found in 'Liber Antiquus,' at Guildhall. That book contains two different lists of the Sheriffs, in one of which the individual in question is called Benedictus Campanarius, in the other Beneit le Seynter. 'Campanarius' is, of course, bell-founder; 'Seynter' may be taken to be equivalent to girdler (ceinturier). Here the question arises, was he a bell-founder, with a name derived from another trade? or was he a girdler, the word 'campanarius' being a scribe's blunder in copying his surname, possibly Latinized into 'cinctuarius'? The former seems the more likely conclusion.

From the end of the thirteenth century we are able to trace a fairly clear chain of successful citizens who were, with more or less certainty, bell-founders. At this period we come across the family of the Wymbishes, taking their surname, doubtless, from the Essex village whence they sprang. Of these there were four—Michael, Richard, Ralph, and Walter—all 'potters,' and three of them undoubtedly bell-founders, their handiwork being still among us to testify thereto. Michael seems to be somewhat earlier in date than the rest. On the rolls of the Hustings Court, under date 1297, is a deed made between Michael le Poter and Adam de Wireles and Margaret his wife, daughter of the said Michael.

That the Michael of this deed was Michael de Wymbish we know from another deed enrolled in 1310, being a conveyance from 'Adam de Wyrle and Margaret his wife, daughter of Michael de Wymbish, later potter.' Michael's career was thus ended in 1310.

At Bradenham Bucks, are two bells by him, each bearing the inscription:—

MICHAEL : DE : VVYMBIS : ME : FECIT.

So far as is known these bells are the only specimens of his now in existence.

Richard de Wymbish was contemporary with Michael, but outlived him. The earliest mention of him in the Guildhall records is under date 1303. This name occurs several times on the Hustings rolls in the years 1307-1313 and 1315. It appears from these that his wife's name was Hilditha. Under the date 1312 there appears another mention of him in Mr. Riley's 'Memorials,' which is copied here, as it refers specially to the subject of bell-founding:

Richard de Wymbish, potter and citizen of London, came here before the Chamberlain on the Friday next after the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist (25th April), in the fifth year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Edward, and acknowledged that he was bound to Sir Ralph, Prior of the Church of the Holy Trinity in London, and the Convent of that place to make one bell, good, entire and well-sounding, and as nearly in tune, to the utmost of his power, with the greater bell of the church aforesaid. As the said bell was to weigh 2,820 pounds, of good and befitting metal, every hundred-weight thereof containing 112 pounds; the same to be ready by the Feast known as 'St. Peter's Chains' (1st August), next ensuing without any further delay. And should he not do so then he agreed, etc., as proved by his recognizance.

The same Prior also agreed to re-deliver unto the said Richard the great bell which he had formerly made for the use of him and his Convent; and that without delay, as soon as the same Richard should commence founding the bell aforesaid, upon view thereof by the said Lord Prior, or of such of his people as he should appoint to be present thereat.

Afterwards, Alan de Middleton, Canon and Sacrist of the said house, came and acknowledged that the said Richard had fully satisfied them as to the work aforesaid; and, therefore, this recognizance was cancelled.

It is not uninteresting to remark, in reference to the above, that a namesake, Richard de Wymbish, was Prior of the Convent from 1316 to 1325. If, as we may fairly surmise he was Sub-Prior in 1312, it would seem as if his influence had been used for the benefit of a relation or a fellow-townsmen.

Be that as it may, Richard must have had a good business, from the fact that he used no less than four different sets of stamps. There are six of his bells now in existence. The third bell at Goring, Oxon is inscribed:—

ORATE : PRO : PETRO : EXONIENSE :
EPISCOPO.

RICARD DE VVYMBIS : ME : FIST.

Peter de Quivil, the Bishop here alluded to, died in 1291, and, from the terms of the inscription, the bell would seem to have been cast during his lifetime. It is supposed to have been a gift to Goring Nunnery by Edmund, Earl of Cornwall (d. 1300), who was Lord of Wallingford and patron of the Convent. If this is correct, we may place Richard de Wymbish's date as 1290 to 1315 approximately.

The second bell at Great Bradley, Suffolk, is inscribed in large, handsome Lombardic lettering:—

RICARD : DE : VVYMBIS : ME : FECIT.

The 2nd at Burnham, Kent is inscribed in yet a different lettering:—

RICHARD DE VVYMBIS ME FECIT.

The lettering used here, together with the curious floral initial stamp, came some years later into the hands successively of William Schep (1347-49), and William Revil (1356), London bell-founders.

The Priest's bell at Slapton, Northants, bears the legend:—

RICHARD DE VVYMBIS ME FESIT,

the initial stamp being the same as at Burnham. A bell at Berechurch, Essex, was formerly inscribed:—

RICARDVS DE WIMBIS ME FECIT

in different lettering still. This bell was recast some 40 years since. At Rawreth, in the same county, the 1st bell bears the legend, in the same alphabet as the Berechurch bell, and with the same initial cross:—

I A M T E M P V S E S T.

Ralph de Wymbish, potter, is mentioned in Mr. Riley's 'Memorials,' under the date 1308, as a bondsman or bailman for one Adam de Blakesdale, hakeneyman. It is not certain whether he is a bell-founder.

The fourth of this family, Walter, cannot be fixed in point of date. There is a Walter the potter mentioned in the Hustings rolls, in 1287-8; but it is doubtful if it can be the same. Seeing that he drops the 'de,' it would be safer to place him somewhat later than the other three. He did not, however, apparently succeed to any of their stamps, as the only bell now extant of his is inscribed in quite different letters. That bell is the treble at Kingston-by-Lewes Sussex, lettered:—

WALTERVS WIMBIS ME FECIT.

It will be most convenient to mention here John Aleyn. He was apparently a successor to Walter Wymbish, for he uses the same lettering and cross, as appears from the first bell at Southease, Sussex, which bears the inscription:—

IOHANNES ALEYN ME FECIT.

There appears to be no trace of this citizen on the Hustings rolls, unless he be identical with John de Hadham, potter, who occurs there in the years 1309 and 1339; or John de Stowe, who is mentioned in 1341.

Geoffrey of Edelmeton (Edmonton) was also from the style of his lettering, of this date. In 1309 a citizen of this name is mentioned, but as he is described as a cutler, he can hardly be the man. He is, perhaps, much more identifiable with Geoffrey le Porter (doubtless a scribe's blunder for 'potter') named in connection with Richard Wymbish and other 'potters' in 1303, in the extract from Mr. Riley's 'Memorials.' At Billericay, in Essex, was a bell by him, bearing the inscription:—

GALFRIDUS DE HEDENTUN ME FECIT.

THE DANIEL PRENTICE FUND.

The following further contributions to the Daniel Prentice Fund are acknowledged: Mr. Lewis W. Wiffon, Wyke Regis, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Alfred Rose (per Mr. L. W. Wiffon), 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. C. Hunt, Beeston, Notts, 5s.; Mr. Arthur Knights, Chesterfield, 2s. 6d.; "Grandsire," 2s. 6d.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Saturday, Feb. 23rd, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 44 mins.: G. T. Mitcheson (first quarter-peal of Major) 1. T. Miller 2. A. T. Scrivens 3. W. F. Webb 4. M. J. Morris 5. J. George 6. A. E. Norman (first quarter-peal of Major) 7. J. B. Collett (composer and conductor) 8.

BOSTON, Lincs.—On Sunday February 10th, at the Church of St. Nicholas, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Coleman 1, Harold Palmer 2, A. Swain 3, Gnr. W. Welling 4, Harry Palmer (conductor) 5, J. Kirk 6.—On Sunday, Feb. 17th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, the band as above.

GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.—On Sunday, February 24th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: P. Almonds 1, Corpl. F. Souter 2, G. Jennings 3, E. Eady 4, J. Souter 5, W. J. Nevard (conductor) 6. Also 360 Plain Bob: J. Souter 1, Corpl. F. Souter 2, J. Howell 3, E. Eady 4, W. J. Nevard (conductor) 5, A. Coles 6. After service, a touch of Kent Treble Bob. Also two courses Double Court Bob. The ringers hail from Tendring, Great Bentley, one local, Great Bromley, and Mistley. Rung as a welcome to Corpl. F. Souter, 2nd Essex Regiment, home on leave from France.

ACTON.—On Sunday evening, March 3rd, for service, at St. Mary's Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins.: Miss E. Jones (West Ealing) 1, E. Maurice Atkins (London, W.) 2, W. Hibbert (Caversham) 3, A. W. Davis (Shepherd's Bush) 4, W. H. Hollier (Chiswick) 5, W. Lawrence (West Ealing) 6, R. T. Hibbert (Caversham), conductor 7, C. Edwards (West Ealing) 8. First quarter-peal Stedman Triples by Miss Jones. Mr. Robert Holloway gave the visitors a welcome and kindly stood out.

HILLINGDON.—St. Andrew's.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening song, Thurstan's quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: Miss G. Bateman (first quarter in the method) 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, W. H. Hewett (conductor) 3, W. Henley 4, J. J. Pratt 5, A. Mason 6, H. A. Chandler 7, T. Smith 8.

ISLEWORTH.—Middlesex County Association.—On Sunday, March 3rd, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), from Holts' Original, in 47 mins.: T. Beadle 1, C. Tricker 2, C. Edwards 3, W. H. Lidbetter 4, C. Bird 5, G. R. Fardon (conductor) 6, A. Beckensale 7, Percy Norton 8. Arranged for Mr. Norton, and was his first quarter-peal. This was the reopening of ringing for the evening service.

LIVERPOOL.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening service, at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, in 54 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), from Shipway: J. Megann 1, W. Fisher 2, G. R. Newton 3, Pte. A. W. Seviour, 8th Worcesters, 4, G. Fisher 5, Pte. F. S. Macey, M.T., A.S.C., 6, J. Elton 7, J. Martin 8, W. Davies (conductor) 9, J. Turner 10. Rung as a farewell compliment to Pte. A. W. Seviour, of Bristol, who has kindly assisted regularly in the Sunday ringing for several months past, and was about to leave Liverpool shortly. Pte. F. S. Macey, hails from Sittingbourne.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—On Saturday, March 2nd, the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild attempted Thurstan's four-part peal of Stedman Triples, as a birthday compliment to the conductor, who would be 66 on March 4th (and who rang for the wedding of the late King Edward on March 10th, 1863), but the attempt unfortunately came to grief through a change course, and stand was called at the end of the 15th part, in 2hrs. 15 mins.: W. T. Tucker 1, G. Williams 2, W. Jones 3, Alf. Meares 4, W. G. Ryves 5, C. Goodenough 6, W. H. George (conductor) 7, E. Dumper 8.

SELBY.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for evening service, at the Abbey Church, 1006 Grandsire Triples, from Holts' ten-part, in 41 mins., by: J. Jackson 1, H. Fairlam 2, E. Storr 3, A. Hall 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, Sergt. E. Morris (conductor) 7, G. Rippon 8.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Sunday morning, March 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, 504 Stedman Triples: also a short touch of Grandsire: Miss G. Bateman 1, W. Henley 2, Mrs. F. Hairs 3, T. Smith 4, G. T. Leader 5, G. H. Gutteridge 6, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7, C. Farr 8.

YORK.—On Sunday, March 3rd, for morning service, at York Minster, 575 Grandsire Caters: Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (conductor), 1, A. Haigh 2, F. Earnshaw 3, J. Thompson 4, G. Horner 5, E. Rickett 6, A. C. Fearnley 7, A. Hodgson 8, T. Haigh 9, A. Horner and W. Ayre 10.

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.—Meeting at the "King of Denmark" tomorrow, Saturday, March 9th, at 6.30.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.* Mr. H. J. Bradley will be in attendance.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (12) available from 3 to 6.30 p.m. Important business to follow, which will be held in the Wostenholme Hall. A good attendance is desired.—Frank Willey (Vice-President), 110, Petre Street, Sheffield.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, 9th March. Ringing will commence at 3.30 p.m. sharp till dusk. No. 6 Bus passes quite close to the Church. Business meeting to follow. All ringers invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Radcliffe, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available from 3.30, meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Woistencroft, Hon. Secretary.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1755).—The annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 16th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon Willink, Rector of Birmingham. The bells of the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5. Dinner tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 3/- each. Owing to the food difficulties it is advisable for all visitors intending to be present to apply for tickets *not later than Tuesday, March 12th*. Remittance should be enclosed with application.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Holbeck, Saturday, March 16th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 7 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at Writtle. Bells available 4 till 6. Business meeting in the tower after ringing.—F. W. Edwards, Hon. Secretary, Writtle.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horfield and Filton on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available at Filton at 3 p.m., service at 4.30 p.m. Ringing at Horfield at 6 p.m., followed by business meeting.—W. Stafford, Hon. Sec., 15, Queen's Road, St. George, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Heywood Parish Church on Saturday, March 16th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern and Eastern Districts.—A joint meeting will be held at Knebworth on Saturday, March 16th. The tower will be open during afternoon and until 7 o'clock. "War" tea will be provided at the "Lytton Arms," 5.30, no sugar. All members and friends will be made welcome.—F. R. Bacon, W. H. Lawrence, District Secretaries.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 21st for handbell practice, and on the 12th and 26th for general business, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Selby on March 23rd, 1918. Bells (10) all day. As the secretaryship of this district is about to change hands it is hoped a good number of the members will turn up. Tea at 5 o'clock, tickets (if applied for) 1/- each.—Thos. Smith, Hon. Dist. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting of this district will be held at SS. Peter and Paul, Swanscombe, on Saturday, March 23rd, 1918. Half rail fares up to 2/- allowed. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid on or before this meeting.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote (Warwick) on Easter Monday. Bells available, Leamington (8) 11 a.m. till 12.30, Emscote (8) all day, St. Mary's, Warwick (10), 6 p.m. till 7.30 p.m. Committee meeting at Emscote at 2.30; service at All Saints', Emscote, 3 o'clock, followed by business meeting in Emscote Schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Beaconsfield on Easter Monday. Ringing, 2.30. Service at 5, preacher, the Bishop of Bucks. Tea, on rations, at 6 p.m., only for those who notify the Secretary. Business to follow, the Rev. Canon Drummond in the chair. Subscriptions for 1918 became due on 1st January last. High Wycombe tower open 11 to 1 o'clock for 12-bell practice.—W. H. Fussell, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The meeting of the above proposed for Boughton in February will not take place, as it appears to be inadvisable to hold it.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

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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