



No. 385. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2nd, 1918.

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

Price 2d.

# GILLETT & JOHNSTON

## CROYDON, Surrey.

### BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

Senior (33 cwt.) the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.  
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 gives 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. BUCK.

Archdeacon, Diocese of Worcester

## ROUSING THE COUNCIL.

The persistent efforts which we have made to induce the Central Council to increase its utility to ringers have of late produced effects. The most substantial was, of course, the opening up of the subject in the Council itself; another has been that members of the Council have been induced to talk about it in their own associations. In regard to this latter phase it is quite natural that the position should be put by members in the light of their own feelings, and where the member has been sitting on the Council perhaps since its foundation, it is of course most unlikely he would see eye to eye with those who view the matter from the outside. As a result we are not surprised that our attitude should be criticised. The President of the Lancashire Association told a meeting the other day that he doubted whether our remarks had not been too laboured. But does anyone believe that a single thought would yet have been given to increasing the usefulness of the Council if we had not hammered at the subject as we have done? Even the most prejudiced of its members are now ready to admit that the Council has faults, and it is to get these faults remedied that we have for years been trying. Some day, perhaps, we shall see some result.

Our chief complaint is that the Council, in recent years, has met, but done nothing—at least nothing commensurate with the time involved and the expense incurred by the affiliated associations in sending their representatives. And the best argument in support of this contention is the Council's official record of its pre-war trienniums. That period, which took its members to London, Newcastle and Winchester, resulted in the passing of four resolutions, a debate without a motion, and the formalities connected with the reappointment of Committees. What we are afraid of is that a repetition of this kind of thing, when the average ringer comes to think it over, will bring ridicule on the Council and guide Associations to the decision that it is not worth while. If, by labouring the subject, we can bring the Council, or those who attempt to shape its policy, to see the danger of letting things go on as they are, merely relying upon the work of many years ago to justify the Council's existence, we shall consider that we have done a service to the Exercise. A central body to focus opinion and to co-ordinate effort among the associations is as much an essential as is an association to unite the individual towers in a diocese or county, but to be of value that central body must be alive. An association would be useless that did nothing for its members, and the Council is in no different position. It is to rouse the Council that our efforts are directed. They may be a little too persistent for the tastes of everybody, but prejudices often require a good deal of shaking.

## MODERN WORK

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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 BELLINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield

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Smethwick.

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

SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM

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and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc

## TEN BELL PEAL.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 27, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANCES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

GEORGE HOLLIS ... .. Treble	ALBERT H. WARD ... .. 6
FRANK JACOBS ... .. 2	JOHN HOLMAN ... .. 7
WILLIAM LAMBERT ... .. 3	*CHARLES E. HART ... .. 8
SAM THOMAS ... .. 4	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 9
CHARLES DRAPER ... .. 5	ARTHUR KNIGHTS ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by SAM THOMAS.

\* First peal of Stedman Caters.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

MARKET DRAYTON, SALOP.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 27, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,  
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

HARRY OVERTON ... .. Treble	ERNEST WEATHERBY ... .. 5
ALBERT CRAWLEY ... .. 2	WILLIAM WEATHERBY ... .. 6
RICHARD T. HOLDING ... .. 3	WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... .. 7
LEONARD HEWITT ... .. 4	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal of Kent Treble Bob on the bells and for the ringers of the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th. Messrs. Hewitt and Saunders were made members of the above Guild before starting for the peal. The band also belong to the Salop Archidiaconal Guild.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

SOLIHULL.

THE SOLIHULL GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 23, 1918, in One Hour and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
In the Belfry of the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 six-scores.

HARRY BRAGG ... .. 1-2	EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... .. 3-4
CHARLES BRAGG ... .. 5-6	

Conducted by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

Witnesses: D. MATKIN and C. HOLLAND.

First peal by all and first attempt. This is the first handbell peal ever rung in Solihull. The ringer of 5-6 is 13 years old, and is the youngest boy to ring a peal in Solihull.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, July 23, 1918, in Three Hours,  
In the Belfry of St. Martin's Parish Church,  
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

A. PADDON SMITH ... .. 1-2	THOMAS RUSSAM ... .. 7-8
GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 3-4	ALBERT WALKER ... .. 9-10
JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 5-6	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 11-12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: JOSEPH PIGOTT.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thursday, July 25, 1918, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,  
In the Belfry of St. Martin's Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

JOSEPH PIGOTT ... .. 1-2	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 5-6
JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 3-4	WILLIAM KENT ... .. 7-8
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 9-10	

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Mr. Pigott's first peal of Stedman in hand.

## OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By 'BOB MAJOR.'

When I penned my last few notes, Mr. Trollope's reply to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' pamphlet had not been printed. Its appearance only goes to bear out my anticipation that we may expect a nice little skirmish over these lead-ends. Now, if you had asked me, I should have said that if there were two people in this world who knew what was a proper lead end, those two people were the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and Mr. J. A. Trollope. But they have disappointed me, for it is evident they don't both know. But I am not the first to be disappointed in the abilities of other ringers. I have heard it said—I believe the tale used to be told by my dear old friend, the late Mr. John Whiting—that in one of those delightful Hampshire 'weeks,' the bells in a certain tower were rapping out some of the most perfect 'Treble Bob.' The two or three tourists who were standing out were loud in their praises of the ringing to those of the local band who were listening with them. 'If there are eight men in this world that can ring Treble Bob, they are up in that tower now,' said one of the 'odd men out,' when, lo! a moment after, up in the belfry somebody ran away from the slow, and the bells went up in a heap, and stopped. The locals were consequently not much impressed with the abilities of the best in the world.

As a matter of fact, change ringing is not always thought so much of by local professors of 'stoneyness.' I remember once the late Rev. P. E. Robinson rang a peal of Stedman (with the aid of seven others, of course), at a church within five-and-twenty miles of London. I forget just how long it took, but a few minutes over the three hours. 'If that old man and them others can do that, so can we,' said the foreman of the tower to his colleagues, the next practice night. So soon after, they met and rang call changes for three hours and a bit—a minute or two more than the peal had occupied—and the local Press trumpeted abroad how the parish ringers had beaten the cream of the land. Where ignorance is bliss—you know the rest, my readers. In the case of the lead ends, however, ignorance is not altogether bliss. I used to think that a lead end was the end of a lead, but apparently that is not always so. It seems to me as if you can put the lead end where you like, to suit your own convenience and argument. But I may be wrong—in fact, I'm most likely wrong, but I wish some one of my friends would tell me what is really a proper lead end.

## THE PROPER LEAD END.

Now what is a proper lead end?

'Tis a question I'll ask you, my friend.

If you can decide it

So none over-ride it

You're a genius, you may depend.

Just tell us the proper lead end.

In making new methods, my friend!

If experts can't agree,

There are many like me

Look to you for a lead to that end.

Oh! Where is that proper lead end?

Can it really be found, old friend?

When they've finished their fight

Will the experts be right,

Or their own fancied views then amend?

But why have a proper lead end?

Why not please ourselves, my old friend?

Now here is a riddle,

If we start in the middle,

What becomes of the proper lead end?

I must just revert to the Council for one minute, and that is to offer my humble congratulations to the new President. There is no doubt in selecting the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, the Council made a happy choice, and I doubt if among its members there is one who, everything considered, could more adequately fill the post. But while a compliment has been paid to the former Dean of Trinity, it is certainly a compliment to the Exercise that such a gentleman should be secured for the position of what is really titular head of the ringing fraternity. Apart from his practical ringing abilities—which are of no mean order (probably Mr. Boughey has rung more peals 'in hand' than any other clergyman)—his enthusiasm and interest are unbounded. We welcome all classes of society into the brotherhood of the Exercise, and I don't think I shall be wrong in saying that, through the medium of the Cambridge University Guild, Mr. Boughey has secured more ringers from what I may perhaps be pardoned for calling the upper class than any other individual, to the benefit and the advancement, be it said, of our art.

The death of G. F. Attree recalls a good many matters of ringing interest to those who followed the doings of the St. Peter's Society, Brighton, of twenty or more years ago. Some were told in the

obituary notice, but there are others. I am not quite sure, but I believe it was at that time that the first 'George' peal was rung. It was, I recollect, a peal of Stedman Triples, and, if I remember aright, five of the Georges came from St. Peter's, the rest of the county of Sussex having no difficulty in providing the other three. Then there was another performance worthy of note, and that was a peal by eight members of the St. Peter's Society, all of whom had rung over 100 peals. No mean record in those days, for those eight men were all regular ringers at St. Peter's tower. Probably this is a performance that has often been repeated since in other belfries, but that was the first, and the first is always the best. Which reminds me that many years ago a band who were making their name in the Midlands rang their first peal of London Surprise. When they had accomplished it one of the band exclaimed: 'Well, I expect this is the first time a peal of London has been rung by a band of all "first in the method" men.' He had forgotten the first peal of London that was ever rung. But it has not often been done, all the same. When Mr. Attree first started the Sussex Association a marble tablet was put up for every peal that was rung! This generosity on the part of the Association did not, however, last long. The treasury could not stand it, but these early tablets are still to be seen in some Sussex towers.

My old friend Ben, the steeplekeeper, sat musing the other night on the number of 'young fellers' that had been lost from his hand through the War. 'As fast as I teaches 'em,' he said, 'off they go, and now there's Tom, nigh on 50, and a grandfather, he's going next. Now there's only seven of us left.' Then he thought a minute or two. Next came one of his little problems. 'When we meet,' he said, 'we generally manage a 720. Now, with the seven of us that's left, how many 720's can we ring, if, every time we ring one, we have a different band, or, having the same band, each ring a different bell?'

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## THE PRESIDENT AND THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

On Saturday week the Manchester branch of the Lancashire Association held its monthly meeting at Prestwich. Coinciding with it was the Association Committee meeting, which naturally gave more than usual interest to the gathering, which was a very large one, members attending from every branch save one. The bells of the Parish Church were at the disposal of the ringers from noon and well into the evening.

After the committee meeting, the President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A.) presided over the branch business meeting, and made an interesting reference to the history of the Church of St. Mary's, Prestwich. Referring to the work of the Central Council, he said he doubted whether the severe criticism passed on that body was altogether justifiable, and whether the remarks of the 'Ringing World' were not laboured too much, for after all the Council could not do the work of each individual Association, that being a matter for members connected therewith. One of the chief purposes of the Council lay in bringing the different Associations into touch with each other, and the result of that had been the gathering together of representatives of all ringers in England. The effect could not be put in tabulated form, but it had undoubtedly been of great benefit to the ringing community. The Council's faults he did not deny, but like all human institutions it was capable of improvement.

Another object was that it should serve to voice the feeling of ringers in national affairs. He supposed it was within the range of probability that an attempt might be made to restrict ringing after peace was declared, and they might feel that their accustomed English liberty was being tampered with. In that case the Council would be of great service in voicing the feeling of the great body of ringers throughout the country.

The election to membership of the Association of Miss Emma Tougno, of Miles Platting, and Miss Ethel Grinshaw, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was unanimously passed.

Worsley was chosen as the next meeting-place, to be held on August 17th, and nominations for president, general secretary, treasurer, and vice-president are to be handed in at this meeting to the branch secretary.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local ringers for the use of the bells and having things in readiness.

## R.A.M.C. RINGERS.

On Sunday, July 21st, at the Parish (St. John's) Church, Blackpool, for evening service, a touch of Grand sire Triples (1106 changes) was rung by the following: Pte. A. E. Austin, R.A.M.C. (Great Shelford, Cumb.) 1. W. Wilde 2. J. Smith 3. Pte. L. W. Jacques, R.A.M.C. (Olney), conductor, 4. Pte. J. H. Pasmore, R.A.M.C. (London), 5. 1st R. Son, R.A.M.C. (Maidstone) 6. T. D. Crookall 7. F. W. Greenwood 8.

On Tuesday, July 23rd, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1296 changes) was rung on handbells at the tower of St. John's by the following: L. W. Jacques 1—2. A. E. Austin 3—4. J. H. Pasmore (conductor) 5—6. M. Sone 7—8. The longest touch by the ringers of 1—2 and 7—8.



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## ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general business meeting was held at Oxford, in St. Giles' Parish Room, and was attended by the Revs. Canon Coleridge, R. H. Hart-Davis, R. E. C. Newhouse, E. M. Thorp, A. C. R. Freeborn, and C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.C., S.C.F., Messrs. H. Dickens, E. Barlow, C. Barlow, J. Molk, H. Sear, W. F. Smith, F. Webb, J. Monk, H. Holfield, J. F. Juggins, F. W. Juggins, J. Cyphus, F. W. Freeman, F. W. Freeman, junr., G. A. King, G. King, junr., F. T. Clinkard, S. W. Prosser, G. E. Stone, S. Hounslow, G. Holfield, C. W. Warwick, J. Butler, T. W. Bond, A. Woodley, T. East, H. Smith, W. Sear, J. Evans, J. L. Kirk, A. J. Wright, G. Caudwell, Mrs. A. E. Lock, and Miss Holfield. Letters of apology were received from the Revs. Canon Drummond, H. C. Wilder, H. D. Rice and E. Broome, Messrs. W. Newell, W. H. Fussell, J. J. Parker, J. F. Barlow, and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Reeves. After the minutes of the last annual meeting held at Reading in July, and the special general meeting held at Oxford in September last had been read and signed, the election of officers took place. Canon Coleridge, on being asked to take the chair, said he absolutely refused to sit in the chair, but from where he stood he would have unbounded pleasure in proposing the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn for re-election, knowing that no other nominations would be forthcoming, and no dissentient voices raised. — The Rev. A. C. R. Freeborn seconded this proposition in a most hearty manner. The motion was carried with great acclamation. — The Master, thanking the members for the unanimous support, said he did not wish to waste much valuable time in talking, but he could not sit down without saying how much joy he felt in being with them all again, and to receive such a welcome. He had often thought of the Oxford Guild, on the battlefields of France and Flanders, and had been much cheered by the news he had received at various times from friends as to Guild meetings and business. Therefore, he would take this opportunity of thanking one and all for the hearty co-operation and brotherhood which had kept the Guild a real living body through these last four years of trouble and anxiety, especially thanking his old friend Canon Coleridge for the way in which he had got to the branch meeting, and helped in every way possible to keep things going. He had faith that by God's help the Oxford Guild had a greater future before it than it had had a past. The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis was again elected hon. treasurer, on the motion of the Master, seconded by Canon Coleridge. The Reverend gentleman said he should always be pleased to do whatever he could for the benefit of the Guild, whose treasurer he had been since its inception, in 1881, and said the financial position was quite satisfactory, as in addition to balance in hand on December 31st he had now a further balance of £22, and hoped this year to add another £25 to War Loan investments. Mr. K. T. Hibbert was elected secretary for another year, and Mr. G. Holfield, of Appleton, to serve on the Standing Committee, vice R. T. Hibbert. The election of 63 change ringing and 48 probationary members was confirmed. The Rev. E. M. Thorp proposed, and Mr. G. A. King seconded, 'that as every parish will have its own war memorial, the Guild memorial should be at Christchurch, Oxford.' — Carried, without dissent. Mr. A. J. Wright proposed, and Mr. H. Smith seconded, that the words 'June and August' should be deleted from Rule XIII. — Carried. Mr. A. J. Wright proposed, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis seconded that Rule XXI, should read: 'Notice of motion should reach secretary ten days before a committee meeting, and on or before June 15th for the annual meeting.' — Carried.

Canon Coleridge gave a short resume of the last Central Council meeting, which was held in London on Whit-Tuesday last. Amongst the items of 'any other business' it was decided to again issue a leaflet balance sheet instead of a report in book form. — A vote of thanks was passed to the hon. auditor, Mr. Ernest Francis. The balance sheet was adopted with a vote of thanks to the treasurer. Through the kindness of Mr. G. A. King and other Oxford friends, a tea had been arranged, of which 32 members partook. Through the energy of Mr. King, the bells of the Cathedral, St. Giles', St. Aldates', All Saints' and Carfax, were available. The meeting was most successful and enjoyable.

**WOODSTONE.**—At St. Augustine's Church, 360 Bob Doubles, for morning service, and for evening service, 720 Bob Doubles: Miss K. Williams 1, Miss F. Culpin 2, C. Hoare 3, E. Martin 4, H. Hoare, junr. (conductor), 5, Miss E. Parkins 6. The ladies had their first lesson in handling a bell the week before Christmas, and great credit is due to them, not only for coming forward to fill the gaps caused by the men joining the army, but also for their perseverance in the art. Three other ladies are also making good progress.

**TRING, HERTS.**—On Sunday, for evening service, 536 Grand sire Triples were rung by: F. Reeve 1, F. J. Reeve (conductor) 2, F. Waterton 3, T. Wright 4, J. Bull 5, W. Redman 6, Corpl. W. H. Pasmore, R.A.F., 7, E. Noyce 8. Longest length by 1, 3 and 8. Also plain courses, in which Miss F. Harding and Miss M. Batchelor, the treble and 2nd, Mr. T. Wright bails from Halesowen, and has recently joined the Tring company, and Corpl. W. H. Pasmore, of London, is stationed at Hapton Camp, and the band would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the help he has given them.

## HAPPY GATHERING AT GREAT MISSENDEN.

A Buckinghamshire village of antiquated appearance, great in its rural simplicity, great with its noble peal of bells and Early English Parish Church; and great in the annals of the Oxford Diocesan Guild from Saturday, July 13th, when the first meeting of the members of the East Berks and South Bucks branch took place there. Situated in a valley about mid-way between Aylesbury and Denham, upon a well-kept tar-mac road, and fairly level, Great Missenden is reached by a pleasurable cycle run, the road meandering alongside the Missbourne stream, now merely a brook, but at times a river, discharging into the Colne at Uxbridge. There is a beautiful range of picturesque hills on either hand, covered at intervals with well-wooded clumps, which have been heavily thinned out for war usage—but the smiling tillage and pastures of the land of the Penns yet remain, a sylvan district perpetuated in U.S.A. by the Pilgrim Fathers, who left Old England in the eventful year 1606. Still these fine old bells are sounding down the valley, and after many, many years with an added depth of tone, for the men of Pennsylvania are coming from New England to help the old country in her heavy war task, and we may rest safe and sound in the dear Motherland, well knowing after four long years of warfare that the destruction and desolation in Europe can hardly come to the sacred walls of these ringing isles.

There was once a time—when the late Richard French ran a 'James' Society team in the early '80's—at which the present 'tube lines only took one as far as Harrow, and many a country jaunt out to Pinner, Ruislip and Rickmansworth, had to be continued on foot from there. In these days visitors can train all the way, and of the some took advantage when they visited Great Missenden. The company present on this occasion included Mrs. F. Hairs, Mrs. John Evans, and the Misses F. Gudgeon, G. Bateman, Feltham, Evans, and Williams. Also Messrs. Brinklow and Leman (Oxhey), John Evans, G.C., H. Stratford, R. H. Biggs and F. Boreham (Hugghenden), W. Hewitt (Camberwell), W. T. Cockerill (Clapham), A. Hughes (Whitechapel), Corpl. W. H. Passmore, R.A.F., T. S. Smith (Windsor), W. Henley (Farnham Royal), Rev. E. J. Teesdale (Bledlow), J. H. Barnes and son (Missenden), and others.

Kent Treble Bob Minor was going well when I came within sight of the tower, and on the heavy end was one of the St. Paul's Cathedral band—who is usually found hanging on to that end. The third bell was in the hands of a Surrey Vicar, new to this district, and thus our meeting was justified by electing a new hon. member, and creating fresh interest in a district in need of ringing revival.

Evening service, attended by some 20 members, was kindly conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Littlehales, M.A., whose address from the chancel steps was founded upon the coming of our Lord, the greatest work of all ages, the redemption of mankind by our Saviour, a perfect work which each one of us must do our very best to carry on each in his own sphere, according to his capacity.

Appropriate hymns were sung, Mr. T. Cross, F.R.C.O., the organist, giving his services, and revealing the power and tone of the new organ but recently opened.

Remarks having been made anent the 'Ringing World,' notice as to bell ringing being coupled with 'beer drinking' make it necessary for me to add that the fox-hunting, wine-bibbing habits of the squire and the parson of early Victorian days, have also been reformed, equally as much as that of the bell ringers, hence the notice of ten drinking was quite correct, and to tea we all went at 6 o'clock. Tilehurst Cottage, the residence of Mr. Barnes, made one think it was a Reading branch meeting, for here in small compass large hospitality was afforded through the generosity of the local foreman, Mr. W. Worsfold, and his wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, assisted by Mrs. John Holt and Mrs. Miles. The Vicar took the chair, and a happy social followed, much appreciated by everyone. Cigarettes and handbells were brought out after a vote of thanks (proposed by Mr. Cockerill), to all those who had made the visit to Missenden so enjoyable, and to which the Vicar and Mr. Barnes replied.

The fun of the evening occurred during a course of 'Tedman Taters,' which came home with the Corporal's 7—8 reversed. However, what was lost on the rounds was gained on the swings, and thereby hangs a little story. There is a nice children's swing in the back garden of Tilehurst, which may have had something to do with the Barnes' boys love of swinging bells. On this occasion a larger boy—Sidney Smith—was swaying in it to the tune of our handbells. He left the ropes for some purpose, and the seat tilted back with the result that Thomas was shot on to the footpath, amidst roars of laughter among the party. Some said the tea caused it, others that he was trying to 'set himself' at backstroke. Anyway, 17 miles is a long way to travel to try it.

The tower was next visited, and Cambridge Surprise was rung, completing three Minor Methods and two of Doubles. The ladies were quickly satisfied for once, because Missenden bells are classed as a nun's ring of bells. Parting time came only too soon, and the hour of nine separated the meeting.

W. H. F.

ISHAM.—Central Northants Association. — On Whit-Sunday, May 19th, 720 Bob Minor: \*Miss Cecil Hepburn 1, \*Andrew Bloxley 2, W. C. Lewis 3, W. T. Wilson 4, W. Gilbert 5, G. A. Blaxley (conductor) 6. \* First 720.

## LEAD ENDS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In connection with Mr. Trollope's letters in your last issue, I should like to make two or three remarks.

1. I take the 'Report on Legitimate Methods' as it stands, whole and entire. If it requires additional props, supports, and explanations in the form of 'results of argument' and 'controversial letters' (!) that is not my affair. The report should either openly confess its want of completeness, or take the consequences.

2. Once for all, let Mr. Trollope give us in plain black and white some adequate explanation of the important truth regarding 'Principal' and 'Coursing Order,' which I have failed to grasp. This is only a fresh wording of the old accusation that I am 'ignorant' of something, which I knew and said would be trumped up again. Once more I ask, 'Of what?'

3. I repeat, that my motion was passed by a large majority, as may be seen by reference either to the published minutes or to the Press-report of the meeting. I also ask members of the Exercise to read the whole passage on that subject in my preface to 'Lead Ends,' and then to judge for themselves as to the fairness, or want of it, on the part of Mr. Trollope in his manner of presenting it in his fifth paragraph.

4. I never saw a syllable of the 'Report on Legitimate Methods' in Mr. Trollope's handwriting. For 'Rules and Decisions' I copied from 'Bell News' as I there found it. If the comma there was on the 'lead head,' its misplacement is no fault of mine. If it got wrong, in passing through my hands, the error was unintentional, and I regret it. By all means let Mr. Trollope put his comma where he likes. The statement on the middle of page 22 of the report is quite enough for me.

5. Mr. Trollope says that by the term 'Plain Course' he means 'the course of any method starting from rounds without bobs or singles.' I ask 'without what bobs or singles?' Is a course of Union a Plain Course? Nearly 'every ringer, myself among them, says that it is. But Mr. James, one of Mr. Trollope's fellow members of committee, says, 'Certainly not. It is a lough.' In the face of this I maintain all my complaints and strictures to the full. I go further, and say that the committee does not know its own meaning.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Deane Rectory, Overton, Hanis.

Mr. J. A. Trollope's full postal address is desired by a correspondent.

## INTERESTING CEREMONY AT KING'S NORTON

## MARRIAGE OF MR. THEODORE PRITCHETT'S DAUGHTER.

A very interesting event took place within the ancient walls of King's Norton Parish Church at 1 o'clock on Saturday, July 20th, when Miss Valentine Mary Pritchett, youngest daughter of Mr. Theodore Pritchett was married to Lieut. Hubert Davenport Price, M.C., the bridegroom having travelled all the way from Mesopotamia to claim his bride. The service was fully choral, and the crowded church testified to the esteem in which the family is held.

The bride's father is one of the accomplished quartet of ringing brothers who have placed their names high on the scroll of fame, and to whose perseverance and ability is mainly due the fact that, in pre-war days, King's Norton folk were frequently called to worship to the tune of Superlative, Cambridge or London Surprise.

Coming from such stock it was only natural that the bride required the bells to be rung at her wedding, and, therefore, her uncle, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., Presiding Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, invited eight members of the Guild to attend. The Vicar of King's Norton has opinions of his own about the ringing of church bells during the war, but eventually he agreed that they should be rung for half an hour, and, accordingly, as the newly-wedded couple left the church at 1.30, the beautifully mellow ring of eight pealed out in rounds and 'Queens,' followed by an excellent touch of 872 Stedman Triples, conducted by Harry Withers, the band standing as follows: Thos. Russam 1, Wm. Kent 2, Wm. H. Godden 3, J. Eaton 4, Alderman J. S. Pritchett 5, Jas. E. Groves 6, Harry Withers 7, C. Webb 8. The bells were lowered in the 'Queens,' with very pretty effect, after which the ringers adjourned to the house of Mr. Theodore Pritchett for refreshments, who proved a generous host.

The health of the bride and bridegroom was drunk with enthusiasm, and it was noted that the wine came from the old French town of Epernay, which is close to the present fighting line in the beautiful Champagne country.

The bride, who looked perfectly charming, and radiantly happy, personally thanked the ringers for their attendance, and said she would have regarded the service as incomplete without the dear old bells.

By special request, the handbells were brought on to the lawn where touches of Stedman and Grand sire Caters were rung to the great interest of many of the guests, and, incidentally, to the accompaniment of the incessant rumble of distant thunder. Those taking part in the handbell ringing were Alderman Pritchett, Messrs. J. E. Groves, Wm. Kent, Thos. Russam, A. Padden Smith and Harry Withers.

To the enjoyment of the company, and the confounding of her Alderman Uncle, who insisted that she had forgotten all about it, a daughter of the late Wm. S. Pritchett (Mrs. Bramer) rang 3-4 to a plain course of Grandsire Triples, and followed this up with a lengthy touch in the same method in very creditable style, although she had not touched a bell for years.  
A. P. S.

### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**BRISTOL.**—At St. Nicholas' Church, in honour of the King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): Mrs. E. J. Wilson 1, F. W. Wade 2, Alfred Pearce 3, Bandsman F. M. Day, R.E., 4, J. Richmond 5, I. Long 6, Fred G. May 7, U. Braven 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by ringers of treble and 4th.

**FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.**—Norwich Diocesan Association.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, April 7th, for morning service 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Wybrow 1, C. S. Tuthill 2, A. W. Baldwin 3, J. A. Godfrey 4, R. W. Cooke 5, W. E. Bason (conductor) 6, G. Beverley 8 (covering). For united service of Intercession, 704 Bob Major: G. Beverley 1, A. W. Baldwin 2, F. Harrison 3, C. Wybrow 4, C. S. Tuthill 5, W. E. Bason 6, J. A. Godfrey 7, R. W. Cooke (conductor) 8. For evening service, 672 Bob Major G. Beverley 1, R. W. Cooke 2, F. Harrison 3, C. Wybrow 4, A. W. Baldwin 5, C. S. Tuthill 6, W. E. Bason (composer and conductor) 7, J. A. Godfrey 8. This touch contains 'queens' and 'titlums.'

**PORTSEA.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening May 5th, 504 Stedman Triples: Gunner S. G. Twyman (Margate) 1, C. Groves 2, J. Symons 3, A. Collins 4, J. Harris 5, H. Bond (Burford) 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, A. Hardy 8.—On Sunday evening, May 12th, 504 Stedman Triples: F. J. Cullum (Erith) 1, Mat. Ellesmore 2, S. Thomas 3, C. Groves 4, J. Symons 5, H. Bond 6, J. Harris (conductor) 7, E. J. Harding 8.

**HILLINGDON.**—At St. John's Church, on May 5th, for evensong, Thurstans' quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Gutteridge 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, A. W. Davis 3, A. Mason 4, W. H. Hewett (conductor) 5, W. Honor 6, J. J. Pratt 7, H. H. Chandler 8. Also a short touch of Grandsire, with Miss F. Feltham taking a rope.

**WALKDEN.**—Lancashire Association.—On Sunday, May 5th, for the Sunday School Anniversary sermons the following touches were rung: For early service, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Denner (conductor) 1, J. Worthington 2, J. Welsby 3, Jas. Denner 4, M. Berry 5, B. Welsby 6, J. Potter 7, R. Denner 8. For morning service, 546 Grandsire Triples by the same band, conducted by John Potter. For afternoon service, 336 Bob Major: H. Watts 1, A. Potter 2, B. Allred 3, J. Welsby 4, S. Oakes 5, T. Worsley 6, J. Potter (conductor) 7, Titus Barlow 8. After service, 336 Stedman Triples: J. Worthington and Jas. Denner in place of H. Watts and B. Allred, conducted by T. Worsley. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: J. Denner 1, A. Potter 2, T. Worsley 3, T. Barlow 4, J. Welsby 5, W. Pennington 6, J. Potter (conductor) 7, Jas. Denner 8. After service, 504 Stedman Triples, with S. Oakes and B. Welsby in place of Jno. and Jas. Denner, conducted by John Potter.

**CHRIST CHURCH, CUBITT TOWN.**—On Sunday morning, 5th May 1918, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: C. T. Clark 1, A. Beer 2, J. G. Shade 3, E. E. Richards 4, T. H. Hawkins (conductor) 5, H. Hoskins 6, T. Jakeman 7, D. Hodgson 8.

**DEPTFORD, KENT.**—At St. John's Church, on May 8th, for Confirmation service, by the Bishop of Woolwich, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: G. R. Simmonds 1, W. E. Maulden 2, A. G. Bennington 3, J. Crowder 4, W. J. Jeffries 5, J. Law 6, F. W. Richardson 7, E. B. Crowder 8.

**LIVERPOOL.**—On May 8th, the Eve of the Ascension, at the Church of St. Nicholas, 495 Stedman Caters: J. W. Bell 1, J. H. Moore 2, E. Gunner 3, T. Hammond, senr. 4, G. R. Newton 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, H. Fyles 7, J. Martin 8, W. Davies (conductor) 9, Sergt. W. Farley (N.S. Yeomanry) 10; and 503 Grandsire Caters: J. W. Bell 1, J. H. Moore 2, G. R. Newton (conductor) 3, T. Hammond, senr. 4, H. Fyles 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, J. Martin 7, W. Davies 8, Sergt. W. Farley 9, E. Gunner 10. Sergt. W. Farley hails from Wells, Somerset, and was about to proceed home, having spent some time in Dublin prior to coming to Liverpool.

**CARDIFF.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On May 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): W. Coombes 1, S. Dawe 2, A. Rowley 3, F. Chamberlain 4, W. Bolton 5, A. J. Pitman 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, S. Barker 8. Rung specially for the occasion of a public institution of the Rev. M. Jones Powell, D.D., at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist.

**BRAINTREE.**—On Whit-Sunday, at 6 a.m., for early celebration of Holy Communion the last 742 of Holt's Original: W. Hasmond 1, W. Soller 2, C. H. Howard (conductor) 3, G. Melbourne 4, H. E. Hammond 5, G. Lindridge 6, E. F. Slade 7, L. W. Wiffen 8.

**FULHAM.**—On Whit-Sunday, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Harvey 1, C. Charge (composer) 2, A. Cole 3, W. H. Joiner 4, J. Lee 5, Corpl. E. J. Ridler, R.E., 6, L. Atwater (conductor) 7, M. E. Smith 8. Rung after meeting short for Stedman Caters.

### NOTICES.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, August 3rd, at Glodwick. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The August meeting will be held at Killamarsh on Saturday the 3rd. Six bells available afternoon and evening. For those who bring their own rations arrangements will be made to provide a cup of tea.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Cheddar on Saturday, August 3rd. Service 3 o'clock; tea and meeting after service; bells (8) afternoon and evening. Intending visitors please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS**—(Estab. 1637.)—A meeting will be held at St. Giles', Cripplegate, on Saturday, August 3rd, at 6 p.m. Meetings will also be held at the 'Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on the 8th and 22nd, and for general business on the 13th and 27th, all at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**BEDDINGTON, Surrey.**—St. Mary's peal of ten bells will be available on Bank Holiday, Monday, August 5th. Tower open at 2.30 sharp till 8 p.m.—A. J. Perkins, 3, Mellows Road, South Beddington, Wallington.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the Bells of All Saints' (10) will be open from 2 o'clock. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin as last year (no sugar); the business meeting will follow. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Laurence, District Sec., Little Munden.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Henfield on August Bank Holiday. Tower open 12-1, 2-4 and after meeting; service at 4; tea at 5 in Parish Room, meeting to follow. Half Railway Fares.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Bank Holiday, August 5th. The bells of seven towers in the town available throughout the day. Meeting at 2.30 p.m. sharp in St. Lawrence Parish Hall. Owing to food restrictions it is impossible to arrange for the customary luncheon. For full particulars see circulars sent to all masters of companies.—C. E. Borrett, Sec., 12, Grove Avenue, Norwich.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Ashford on Bank Holiday, August 5th. Ringing from 2 till 4; tea at 4 o'clock, kindly provided by the Vicar, Rev. T. K. Sopwith, at Passmore's Restaurant (adjoining the Churchyard), to be followed by the annual general meeting for the election of officers, etc.; service at 5.30; ringing after till 8 o'clock.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual Festival will (D.V.) be held at Chester on Monday, August 5th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.



**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Colchester (St. Peter's) on Bank Holiday, August 5th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock; service with address by the Rev. Triffit Ward, Vicar; business meeting at Parish Room, 5.45.—B. Redgwell, District Sec., Rayne.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Portsmouth District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', Ryde, Isle of Wight, on Monday, August 5th. By kind permission of the Vicar, the bells are available at 2 p.m. Members wishing to be present must bring their own rations for which 9d. will be allowed. All visitors welcome.—E. J. Harding, Hon. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

**PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 5th. Bells available all day: St. John's (8), Woodston (6), St. Mary's (6), and, it is hoped, the Cathedral (5). Service at St. Mary's at 2.30; meeting in Schoolroom after. All ringers invited.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane on Saturday, August 10th. Bells ready at 4; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 10th, at the Church of All Saints, Isleworth. Tower open from 3 to 8 p.m., followed by a business meeting at the 'London Apprentice' near by. Ringers generally cordially invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.**—(Estab. 1755.)—Special notice.—The Rector of Birmingham and Mrs. Willink extend a hearty invitation to members of the Guild and their wives to spend an hour or two with them in the Rectory garden on Saturday, August 17th. Meeting at 4 o'clock. Light refreshments will be provided. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than the 13th inst.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Worsley on Saturday, August 17th. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Meeting at 7 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, August 24th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

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Guildford, and Published by The ROLLS HOUSE PUBLISHING CO.,  
LTD., Bream's Buildings London, E.C.