

THE RINGING WORLD

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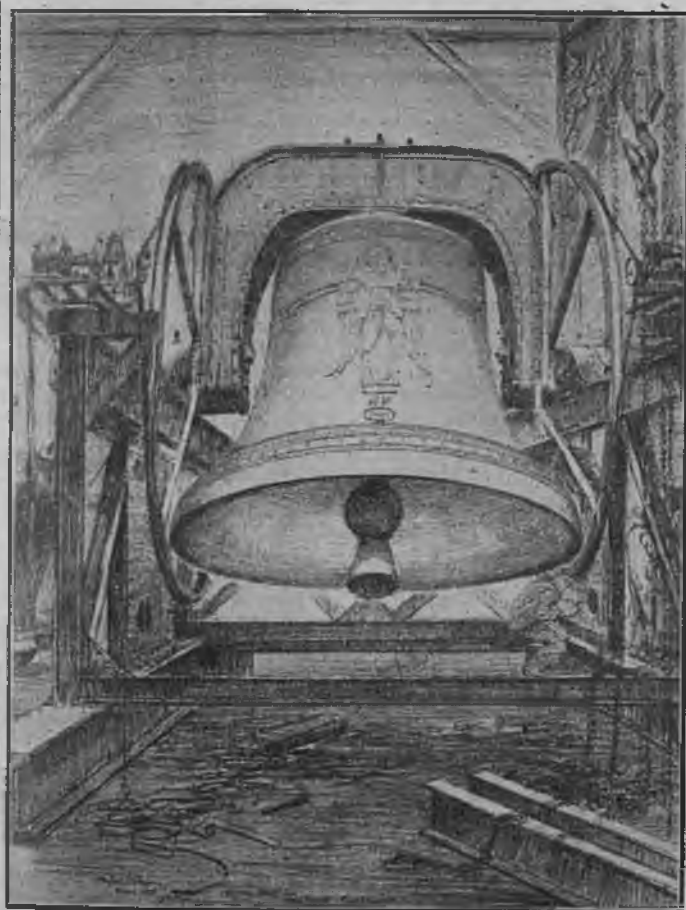
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THE 18½ TON RINGING BELL,
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RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

THE VALUE OF THE SOCIAL SIDE.

In recent weeks a great many bands of ringers have been taking what has been described by one correspondent as 'a busman's holiday' and spending a day, or sometimes two, together upon a ringing excursion. A trip of this description has now become an annual event with almost every well organised company, and is developing into a custom which has everything to commend it. Such outings not only give pleasure to the participants, but they can be educational as well. Visits to other towers give men new experience, without which they can hardly hope to become efficient ringers; they provide opportunities of meeting other men from whose knowledge something may be learnt, and, not least, they help to promote that social aspect which plays no unimportant part in the Exercise.

The last few years, which have seen the rapid development of popular motoring, have brought with them great changes in the facilities for ringers' outings. It was not long since an excursion by road meant a pair-horse brake and a limited itinerary of, perhaps, twenty miles or so. If a more extended journey was desired it involved train travel, which is never so inviting as the open road, and certainly not as convenient for reaching remote towers. But all this is altered. Fast and luxurious cars can take a complete party across England in a day, and excursions covering a hundred or a hundred and fifty miles are now common occurrences. One band a week or two ago spent two days on the road and travelled more than three hundred miles before they reached home. Compare this with a century or so ago, when the only means of travel open to the average ringer of that time was to go a-foot. Think of the men who set out from London to walk to Oxford, or down into some of the old Sussex and Kent towns to ring! Few of them could have afforded to hire horse or chaise, and coaches were not always within reach of their means—yet they went, as we know from records left behind them of the performances they accomplished.

Times have, indeed, changed, and modern transport has placed facilities within reach of every ringer undreamed of two generations ago. An excursion made in those days was an adventure—the event of a lifetime. To-day we all look for at least one outing a year, and some find it possible to have one a week. They are the fortunate ones, but whether it be once a week or once a year, it is only those who make the 'business' element of ringing subservient to the social side who realise to the full the pleasure that can be got from participating in our art. It is for this reason that the 'annual outing'

(Continued on page 482.)

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is so valuable. The social spirit is uppermost; it infuses new life into the esprit de corps of the band, and the company return to their duties with their interest reinvigorated. So it is with those who in a wider field get more constantly abroad to mix with their fellows. Jealousies—if there are any—evaporate; rivalries disappear, and with friendly understanding and mutual respect for others men go back to their own belfries with broader minds, fresh ideas, and, often, new aspirations.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WITHYHAM.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 21, 1928, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

FRANK N. GORR Treble	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, JUN. 5
GEORGE LAMBERT 2	JOSEPH WREN 6
FRED W. SNEATON 3	ALBERT E. EDWARDS... .. 7
ERNEST J. LADD 4	*GEORGE S. DIPLOCK Tenor

Composed by J. PARKER.

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

* First peal.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TEN-PART, No. 6.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFIELD Treble	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 5
MAURICE SWINFIELD 2	EPHRAIM W. RANDE 6
E. HARRY STONELEY 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
CHARLES DRAPER 4	RICHARD C. BELTON Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

This composition is now rung for the first time. Rung on St. James' Day and on the 300th anniversary of the four back bells being hung in the tower.

HARRIETSHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

WILLIAM WOOD Treble	HARRY BAKER 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER 6
SAM TAYLOR 3	LOUIS HEAD 7
WILLIAM SPICE 4	GEORGE WOOD Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.

Specially arranged as a wedding peal for L.A.G. Percy Charles Wood, R.A.F. (son of the ringers of the tenor and Mrs. Wood, of Queenborough), and Winnie (only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Manning, of Harrietsham), who were married the same afternoon.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt.

HERBERT J. ELDRED Treble	JAMES GEORGE 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	EDWARD D. SMITH 6
WILLIAM PYE 3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT... .. 7
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK 4	*JAMES BENNETT... .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* 400th peal.

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Satisfaction guaranteed. Established 1780. Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham

HENLEY, SUFFOLK. THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt.

CHARLES W. PARKER Treble	JAMES DURRANT 5
ALBERT A. FLEMING 2	GEORGE A. FLEMING 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	GEORGE W. ABLETT 7
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 4	GEORGE WIGHTMAN Tenor

Composed by the late EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Barnabas,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

THOMAS R. BDTLER Treble	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 5
WALTER J. BDTLER 2	JAMES MARTIN 6
THOMAS HAMMOND 3	JOHN COOKE 7
GEORGE R. NEWTON 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by J. C. E. SIMPSON. Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

First peal in the method on the bells. It is upwards of 25 years since a peal was rung on these fine bells. They have recently been rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., their 'go' being highly satisfactory.

THURCASTON, NEAR LEICESTER. MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Latimer Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 10 cwt. 7 lb. in G.

LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... Treble	E. HARRY STONELEY 5
ALFRED BALLARD 2	CHARLES R. BELTON 6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
J. FREDERICK MILNER 4	JAMES S. HUTCHBY Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

UBLEY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 22, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF GRANOSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ERNEST F. BROWN Treble	*SIDNEY CLARK 4
*WILLIAM BALCH 2	HAROLD E. BLACKER 5
JEFFREY TOSSEL 3	*JOHN HOUSE Tenor

Conducted by H. E. BLACKER.

* First peal.

NEWBURN, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 24, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, Double Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*HUGH MCVAY Treble	JOHN LOWRY 4
JAMES E. SCOTT 2	HENRY B. TAYLOR 5
EDWARD A. HERN 3	ADAM DEAS Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD A. HERN.

* First peal of Minor.

BLACKWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 25, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Werburgh,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 Stedman, 720 St. Simon's, 1,440 Plain Bob, 2,160 Grandsire.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*THOMAS W. HOPSON ... Treble	WILLIAM SWAIN 3
*FREDERICK W. KNOWLES ... 2	JOHN W. ENGLAND 4
HERBERT G. FRETWELL ... Tenor	

Conducted by H. G. FRETWELL.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells and first peal in four methods by the association.

WALLASEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, July 26, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Hilary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

LESTER L. GREY Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 4
JOHN GREASLEY 2	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	JOHN COOKE Tenor

Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

This peal was arranged for Mr. A. Tomlinson, of Blackburn, who was on holiday in the district.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF BEVERLEY SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven differently arranged 720's.

Tenor 7 cwt. in A flat.

FRANK E. HAYNES ... Treble	*FRANK HARPER 4
MISS KITTY WILLERS ... 2	EDWARD H. FINCH 5
*JOHN W. WARD 3	ALBERT E. AUSTIN Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. AUSTIN.

First peal in the method.

MARBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of York, Cambridge Surprise, and Woodbine and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt.

HAROLD G. SMITH ... Treble	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY ... 4
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY ... 2	THOMAS HURD 5
WALTER LONGMAN 3	ALBERT CRAWLEY Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

First peal on the bells, which have recently been rehung by J. Taylor and Co. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar of Marbury for the use of the bells.

SUDBURY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, Ipswich and Cambridge Surprise, Killamarsh, Woodbine and Kent.

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN BARKER Treble	HENRY CARNWELL 4
CHARLES S. RYLES 2	ARTHUR W. HALL 5
JOHN E. WHEELDON 3	JAMES WALLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. WHEELDON.

This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to the 2nd, 3rd and 5th ringers, in conjunction with the 26th anniversary of the treble ringer's wedding. This is the first peal by all the above ringers in the county of Derby.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.
ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS,
OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

ELSTOW, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND HELENA,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob.

VERNEY COOPER Treble	HERBERT SHERMAN 4
MISS EVELYN STEEL 2	WILLIAM STOCK 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 3	WILLIAM STAPLETON Tenor

Conducted by W. STAPLETON.

MORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and four 720's of Bob Minor.

* BERNARD BAILEY Treble	FRED WHEELER 4
FRED WM. KNOWLES 2	* FRED CLARKE 5
VAUGHAN COX 3	WILLIAM SWAIN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SWAIN.

* First peal. Treble ringer hails from Blackwell, the rest from Morton. Rung as a thanksgiving for the recovery, after a severe illness in Derby Infirmary, of the wife of the conductor.

DEEPING ST. JAMES, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, and Oxford Bob. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM TILLY Treble	JOHN G. AMES 4
GEORGE LADD 2	JOHN CURRY 5
HORACE M. DAY 3	JOHN A. FREEMAN Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Ladd, the highly esteemed hon. secretary of the Elloe Deaneries Branch.

CLUN, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 28, 1928, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt.

* WILLIAM MEAD Treble	JOHN F. EVANS 4
ALBERT E. JONES 2	JOHN J. PRICE 5
WILLIAM J. BENIAMS 3	FRANCIS EVANS 6

† CECIL TONG Tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS EVANS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal. This is the first peal of Minor on the bells.

CLIFTON REYNES, BUCKS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, July 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

ANDREW BAILEY Treble	JOHN R. MAIN 4
JOHN KING 2	WILLIAM STOCK 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 3	AMOS SMART Tenor

Conducted by AMOS SMART.

CROFTON, YORK.—On July 14th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: T. Cullingworth 1, A. Kelsall 2, A. Cole 3, H. Chant 4, D. Smith 5, J. T. White (conductor) 6. First 720 by the treble ringer, who is 15 years of age and a member of the local band. The other ringers belong to Felkirk.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.—On July 25th, 720 Wells Surprise: Miss K. Will 1, J. W. Ward 2, E. Haynes 3, E. H. Finch 4, F. Harper 5, R. Howard (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 5th.

HANDBELL PEAL.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, July 26, 1928, in Three Hours,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

WILLIAM P. GARRETT 1-2	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 5-6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3-4	FREDERICK J. TILLET 7-8
* WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 9-10	

Composed by W. T. ELSON. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters also on handbells.

MR. JAMES BENNETT'S 400 PEALS.

A peal of Cambridge Surprise Majors rung at Chipping Barnet on Saturday was Mr. James Bennett's 400th peal. The great variety of methods which has gone to make up this total will be seen from the following list:—

Minor:	Rung.	Conducted.
In 1 method	2	1
In 2 methods	1	1
In 3 methods	4	1
In 4 methods	2	1
In 5 methods	2	2
In 6 methods	2	2
In 7 methods	17	5
Triples:		
Grandsire	18	2
Stedman	68	
Union	2	
Erin	1	
Major:		
* Plain Bob	15	5
Little Bob	1	
Reverse Bob	1	
Canterbury Pleasure	1	
Little Canterbury Pleasure	1	
Dartford Little Bob	1	
Crayford Little Bob	1	
Kent Treble Bob	29	10
Oxford Treble Bob	9	
Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob	2	
'Cam' Treble Bob	1	
Double Oxford Bob	2	
Double Norwich Court Bob	55	
'Real' Double Norwich Court Bob	1	
Spliced Double Norwich and Plain Bob	1	
Norfolk Surprise	4	
Superlative Surprise	22	
Cambridge Surprise	38	
New Cambridge Surprise	2	
Bristol Surprise	9	
London Surprise	9	
Londonderry Surprise	1	
Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise	3	
Caters:		
Grandsire	1	
Stedman	22	
Spliced Erin, Stedman and Grandsire	1	
Royal:		
Plain Bob	2	
Little Bob	1	
Kent Treble Bob	9	
Oxford Treble Bob	1	
Cambridge Surprise	7	
Cinques:		
Stedman	22	
Maximus:		
Kent Treble Bob	3	
Cambridge Surprise	2	
Superlative Surprise (on treble)	1	

Total 400 30

* Includes the first peal ever rung by a Navy and Army band of ringers. Rung in 15 counties, for 15 associations, in 123 towers.

BUCKHORN WESTON, DORSET.—At St. John-the-Baptist's, on May 9th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: *W. J. Coombs 1, E. G. L. Coward 2, *P. H. Hazzard 3, *H. Andrews 4, W. C. Shute 5, F. A. Coward (conductor) 6. * First 720 in the method.—Also 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. J. Coombs 1, E. G. L. Coward 2, H. Andrews 3, F. A. Coward 4, W. C. Shute (conductor) 5, P. H. Hazzard 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. First 720 as conductor.

A MIDLAND EXCURSION.

Irthlingborough ringers' annual excursion was favoured with beautiful weather. A start was made at 7.30 a.m. in a comfortable and commodious Leyland Lion. The presence of ladies was an innovation, and a very pleasant one too. Twelve of the feminine sex, sweet-hearts and wives of the Irthlingborough campanologists, together with fourteen ringers and friends, comprised the party. At Finedon the number was augmented by the addition of 'Bricky,' the 'two Johns,' Tewey and Tom; and at Kettering 'Harry B.' completed the party.

Leaving Kettering with a glance at the stately spire of the fine old Church of SS. Peter and Paul, the party journeyed on, through leafy lanes flooded with brilliant sunshine, to Rockingham, famous for its old castle, now inhabited by an American millionaire. Down the very steep incline (a terror to cyclists) we proceeded to Caldecot, and crawled carefully round the narrow winding streets of Uppingham, arriving at Oakham at 10 a.m., according to schedule. The eight bells (tenor 28 cwt.) in the Church of All Saints were soon merrily swinging, and excellent touches of Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Stedman and Bristol were tapped off without a hitch. The tone and 'go' of the bells were greatly admired by all. A walk round the quaint old town, and then all aboard for Melton Mowbray. A further ten miles of lovely wooded scenery dotted with numerous spires (no towers), and the next stop was reached, Melton Mowbray (of pork pie fame). Here the visitors were welcomed by Mr. Bartram and his two sons, and conducted to the commodious ringing chamber of the fine old Church of St. Mary, with its excellent peal of ten bells (tenor 25 cwt.). Courses of Treble Ten and Stedman Caters were rung, also a touch of Grandsire Caters. After 'falling' the bells, an adjournment was made to the Fox Hotel, where an excellent repast was provided by Host Fowler. Grace was sung before and after dinner, followed by a course of Caters and tunes on the handbells by the 'Arleborough' experts. After farewells, off again, and a further fifteen miles (through Rearsby and Syston) to Leicester, arriving about 3 o'clock, once more according to schedule. Straight to ancient St. Margaret's to receive a hearty welcome from Josiah and Ernest 'of that ilk,' and soon the fine peal of twelve (tenor 33 cwt.) were 'lifted,' and a touch of Stedman Caters successfully accomplished.

Treble Ten was next essayed, followed by a course of Grandsire Cinques, the first attempt on twelve by many of the band. A few rounds and changes on the twelve for the 'novices' completed the programme, and, after ceasing, the party separated for shopping and tea. In the evening, the ringers reassembled at the Church of St. John-the-Divine, and were met by the sprightly veteran, 'W. W.' Soon London, Cambridge, Stedman and Plain Bob were successfully brought round. The excellent peal (tenor 21 cwt.) and the splendid 'go' were greatly admired. An adjournment for refreshment followed, the company including some 'notorious' local lads—'Freddy,' 'Harold,' 'Josiah' and 'Ernest.' Three of the five survivors of the 17,000 of D.N.C.B. being together after nearly twenty years' wandering, much 'chin music' took place, and many of the old battles were fought again. After many thanks and fond farewells, the party were once more on the road with faces towards home; time, 8.30 p.m. A special invitation had been given to call at Great Glen, by the Rev. Farnworth Anderson (residing at Glen Hall), at present acting as 'locum' at Irthlingborough. The party were met by Mr. Anderson and taken to the Church of St. Guthbert, a typical village church with a fine old Norman doorway, and courses of Treble Bob and Plain Bob were rung on the pretty peal of six (tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.). Very interesting details of the bells were afterwards given by the Vicar, reading from the book of old church records. The tenor is dated 1340, and was cast by Johannes de Stafford. It is undoubtedly one of the oldest bells in the district. Homeward bound, songs, hymns, solos, duets, and community singing enlivened the journey, several 'budding Caruso's' spraining their throats with 'Constantinople' and other classic refrains. Harry was dropped at Kettering, and the Finedon 'crush' at the cross-roads, the remainder reaching Irthlingborough at about 11 p.m.

The party wish to accord their heartiest thanks to the various incumbents for the use of the bells; to the steeplekeepers for having everything in readiness; and to the numerous friends who met them and largely contributed to a most successful and enjoyable outing.

T. R. H.

A COLCHESTER CEREMONY.

After having adorned the walls of St. Peter's Church, Colchester, since 1857, the tattered Crimean colours of the 44th Regiment, now the 1st Battalion the Essex Regiment, stationed at Goojerat Barracks, Colchester, were restored to the regiment at an impressive special service conducted at the church on Sunday morning, being later conveyed to the regiment's quarters by a colour party and 200 of the battalion with fixed bayonets, and afterwards displayed on the barrack square. After appropriate treatment, the colours ultimately will be deposited in the regimental chapel at Warley, where they will hang with numerous other colours, which betoken the honourable career of the regiment, and which also have been restored to the regiment under like circumstances to Sunday's ceremony.

Previous to the service, touches of Double Norwich and Grandsire Triples were rung at St. Peter's Church by W. Boyden, F. L. Bumpstead, E. P. Duffield, H. Evers, H. T. Pye, G. Rashbrook, W. J. Schofield, R. W. Stannard and W. J. Nevard.

CROYDON FOUNDRY CONTRACTS.

Among the bell contracts which Messrs. Gillett and Johnston now have in hand are the following:—

BLAYDON-ON-TYNE, Durham.—Peal of six, tenor 7 cwt., to be rehung in new frame with new fittings.

TALBOT VILLAGE, Dorset.—Chime of twelve, bass bell 3½ cwt., to be recast.

CHULMLEIGH, Devon.—Peal of eight, tenor 24 cwt., back six to be hung on ball bearings.

ST. COLUMB'S CATHEDRAL, LONDONDERRY, Ireland.—Recast eight bells into peal of eight, tenor 20½ cwt., supply fittings for eight, and new metal frame for 13 suitable for a 31 cwt. tenor, and an Ellacombe chiming apparatus for 13 bells.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

A quarterly meeting was held at St. Mellons on Saturday, when a fair number of members from both Monmouthshire and Glamorganshire put in an appearance. The bells, a ring of six, were raised early in the afternoon, and rung in various methods until 4.30. A service was then held in the Parish Church, the Vicar (the Rev. Connop L. Price) officiating. His address, one quite out of the ordinary, was much appreciated. Tea, which had been very generously provided by the Vicar and his wife, was taken in the new Parish Hall recently provided by the efforts of the Vicar, who has been but a very short time in the parish.

Following the tea, the business meeting was held, the Vicar taking the chair.

The article which recently appeared in 'The Ringing World' in reference to 'Defaulters' was read by the hon. secretary. This article, which was based on the report of the Bath and Wells Association, is by no means applicable to that association only.

It was decided to hold the next Monmouth meeting at Llangibby. The next Glamorgan meeting is already arranged for Pentre.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and his wife for their kindness and hospitality, and this terminated the business.

The visitors included Mr. Robt. J. Dawe, of Lewes, Sussex, and Mr. J. P. Fidler, of Loughborough.

The bells were afterwards rung, and advantage also taken to ring on the beautiful peal of six at Rumney, which was immensely appreciated by those who had not previously paid a visit to this tower.

HILLINGDON RINGERS VISIT WINCHESTER.

Saturday, July 7th, had been looked forward to for weeks by certain ringers in the Hillingdon District, and when that day dawned great was the stir in that little village. At 7.30 a.m. all those 'daft'-looking people had gathered themselves together into a charabanc and set out to enjoy life in their own 'daft' way! After a very beautiful and interesting ride through Windsor Great Park, Ascot, Bagshot and Aldershot, with its miles of barracks, Farnham (the Surrey one) was reached shortly after nine o'clock. The fresh morning air brought an appetite with it, and coffee and rolls (both hot and steaming!) were in great demand at the old Lamb and Lion Hotel. Mr. Hasted welcomed the ringers at the tower, and the bells were soon set going to Stedman Triples. Bob Major and Grandsire Triples followed, and the programme concluded with ringing the bells down in peal. The Vicar of Farnham appeared in time to say a few words of welcome.

Winchester was reached just before mid-day. There was just sufficient time before lunch for the Vicar of Hillingdon, Rev. H. J. Kiteat, who accompanied his ringers, to show them the college war memorial. This consists of a square court, bounded by cloisters, with a cross in the centre. Of its embellishments, one could write pages. Sufficient to add that no one visiting Winchester should miss this work of art. An excellent luncheon was partaken of at Dumper's Restaurant. During the afternoon some of the party, under the guidance of Mr. H. J. Wilkinson, went out to Hursley and rang some of the standard methods on the bells. Others spent their time exploring the Cathedral, Abbey ruins, Westgate, etc. Tea at Dumper's was very welcome.

The ringers then made their way to the Cathedral, and mingled with members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, who were holding their annual meeting that day. After a very tortuous ascent, surely in parts the most narrow approach to a belfry, the magnificent ringing chamber was reached. The ringing commenced with a 'touch' of rounds on the twelve, after which a course of Stedman Cinques was brought round. The following Hillingdon ringers rang in the latter: F. G. Baldwin, A. R. G. Twinn, R. Warnett, J. J. Pratt, F. W. Goodfellow, and F. Corke (St. Andrew's). The ages of the three first-named are 15, 14 and 16 years respectively. This was their first ring on twelve bells, and, as Mr. George Williams was heard to remark, he wished there were more ringers about who handled their bells as well. With a long journey ahead, a move had to be made, and the descent to terra firma was safely accomplished. Winchester was reluctantly left behind, with snatches of Caters on the Cathedral bells floating down on the breeze.

The return journey was through Basingstoke to Bagshot, where a stop was made for a 'little something,' and Hillingdon Church was reached at 10.10 p.m., after an exceedingly enjoyable day. Through this paper the ringers would like to thank the Vicar of Farnham and Mr. Hasted for their kind welcome, and Mr. G. Williams for so generously allowing the younger members of the party to enter into the realms of twelve-bell ringing. The total distance covered was 120 miles.

MUSEUMS AND ARCHÆOLOGISTS.

BY 'IRENÆUS.'

In the beginning—no, I am not going to rewrite the first book of Moses, as you might be led to conjecture by those first three words. I was going to write as Milton of old wrote—no, not about Paradise, because it is obvious to me that I cannot add one iota of poetic grandeur to his lines—but, I am going to write as the Puritan poet wrote, that is to say, 'to a line' stretched across my drawing board to guide my pencil. It will be obvious to any of my readers who have the gift of observation sufficient to learn a little art from Chantry, Rembrandt, and Raphael, a little philosophy from Aristotle and Plato, and a lump of the super-knowledge of human nature from William Shakespeare—how and why I take the Milton path across a sheet of notepaper. The mother of invention is said to be, and very truly, 'necessity,' and as 'Mester Milton' has no further need of his invention to guide his hand and pen, while I have, I have not hesitated to 'pinch' the 'Milton patent,' because the fact remains I am not a 'dictator,' as some readers might think. No, my thoughts will not flow, except in disjointed fashion, through another head and link properly to paper, and I am more convinced now than ever that too many Bakers burn the bread. It is reasonable to suppose every one of you has read how Alfred the Great was a good and wise King, but was 'licked at baking a few cakes,' and so am I 'licked into catfits' when I try to write through someone else. But just in between the gloaming and the shank end of last evening I sat thinking and wondering and pondering over our museums, and it struck me very, very forcibly that no one has taken up the pen and spoilt the virgin whiteness of one inch in 'The Ringing World' to let the Exercise at large know that we in Sheffield have got at long last 'one museum less.' Yes, it's true! A very 'King of bell-founders' has been and gone. He has put his foot in the belfry of All Saints', and, believe me, has kicked out the discord, cat howls and siren-like sounds from that 'chamber of horrors,' and with his own 'rite and' hath he 'putten' in some bells and bell music! Yes, reader, I would be the last person in the world to lead you astray, but if ever you do stray this way, just go up Ellsmere Road—sounds rather uncompromising, I agree. There is not the least danger of being distracted, or knocked flat on the pavement with a splinter through your musical heart, and there is no danger, no, not the least, of a 'bust tympanium,' because—well, All Saints' bells are eight nice, round, soft balls of velvet sounded in a descending scale. Yes, they are the most perfect series of ringing bells, tuned to equal temperament in the city of Sheffield. Gurn! Handsworth and Norton are 'sub-hubs.' Congratulations to the churchpeople who went about the job with wisdom. 'They have done their duty to a past generation by doing that which was their duty to the next!'

Yes, Mr. Editor, it has been kept very, very secret since May 21st, when these bells were dedicated, and since that day they have won, and will continue to win, golden opinion. And that's what is commonly called 'that'! Therefore I'll add: Verb sap.

Now, Mr. Editor, from comments which you have made, which have fallen on my ear, I take it that you are no lover of museums or of archæologists with 'A.M.I.S.E.' running behind their cognomens. I'm not so struck with 'em myself, either, but the question arises, 'What is a museum?' My definition is that is a cabinet, a room, or a belfry of curiosities. That may sound rather vague, but it is the best definition I can give for one who only had a 'frosty edification.' However, let me see if I can give you an illustration of my conception of a museum. H'm! Now I'm in a fix, a worse fix than ever. What? Licked? No, not yet. 'Ere, Nancy, help, help! Reader, this is Nancy speaking now: 'Wotsup?'

Nowt, my dear, only I want you to read me a few of the notes I have aforetime writ on the Sheffield Cathedral museum.

What! Do you expect me to read about six-and-sixty chapters? Oh, no, no, no; it's the dates I want.

Well, it's the dates you won't get, because we ain't got any.

I ain't talking about fruit, Nancy. I'm just axing you to read me the episodic epochs which I have copied from off the 'ribs and brazen bosoms' of the Cathedral bells and entered in that notebook. What? Yes.

1798, next 1804, next 1809, next 1836, next 1856, next 1868, next 1922, next—what!

That's all?

Very good. Off yer pop. I can manage now, thanks, till I want you as 'proof reader.'

Now I don't want anyone to run away with the idea that these figures above are connected in any shape or form with extension—beyond the 1868; that does savour of it, I agree. Neither are they the 'part ends' of a peal, nor have they any connection with that poem, 'We are seven,' or the rising and falling cadences of the 'Sevenfold Amen!' Reader, those figures alone go to prove that 'somebodies' have had seven tries to get a peal worthy of the Cathedral Church, and they have failed miserably. These 'somebodies' who knew it all, and knew nowt, lacked the wisdom which must have been, ah, even overflowing in the authorities of All Saints' who went about the job at one hitch and achieved a 'oneness'! No, they didn't want a 'sevenness': they aimed for one tensility, one elasticity, and homogeneity, and they have got it. Is there any logic in any church authorities who refuse to give logic a

(Continued in next column.)

A HOLIDAY IN HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Friday, July 6th, six members of the Chester Branch of the Diocesan Guild started for their annual ringing outing—Messrs. J. Morgan, H. W. Wilde, G. Jones, W. Thomas, W. Clarke and A. E. Richards. This year Hereford and district was the place selected. The party started under very pleasant conditions from Broxton, along the Whitchurch Road, live enjoying the comfort of a touring car, and the other showing how easy it was to leave the car behind on his motor bike. All went well as far as Ludlow, where they stayed for tea. Disappointment was expressed here, as Ludlow bells could not be rung owing to a choir practice. However, a quick move was made to Leominster, where on a fine peal an extent of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was brought round on the back six. Messrs. R. J. Jones and R. T. Cooke very kindly assisted afterwards in a touch of Grandsire Triples. Among many interesting objects at this church, a fine specimen of an ancient ducking stool was to be seen. The next move was to the headquarters at Hereford, the City Arms Hotel, which was reached in good time, the rest of the evening being spent in making plans and studying maps for the following day. Needless to say, this part of the programme was much enjoyed.

'Early' next morning the 'lads' sallied forth on their errand in search of Lugwardine Church, which was only found after losing the way in spite of maps and signposts. Here Double Oxford was the order, and 720 successfully accomplished. Stoke Edith Church provided a good peal of six, and a Double Bob extent was brought round in fine style. The party then proceeded to Tarrington, where a short organ recital was given by one of the band, before the ringing of 720 Kent Treble Bob. At the Foley Arms full justice was done to an excellent lunch, and soon afterwards the party once again moved off to Fownhope Church, where an extent of Plain Bob and 120 Stedman were rung. Then to Hampton Bishop, where they successfully accomplished a 720 of Cambridge. After tea at headquarters, the party, still not satisfied, set out for Marden, where a combined practice was taking place. Here an extent of Oxford Bob was rung, and afterwards touches in other methods. This completed the ringing for Saturday.

Sunday morning found the men up and doing Stedman Triples and Kent Major at All Saints' with the help of two ringing friends. Still not satisfied, a few minutes' walk brought them to St. Nicholas' Church, where touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge were rung for service. This concluded the change ringing.

It is interesting to note that seven different 720's were rung in addition to various touches of Triples and Major. The conducting was shared by J. Morgan, H. W. Wilde and A. E. Richards.

After lunch on Sunday a move was made for home, which was safely reached at quite a respectable hour, after one or two interesting experiences en route. One in particular was a short tour in Radnorshire, which was not on the programme. The band desire, through 'The Ringing World,' to thank all who contributed to the success of this outing, and particularly the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, who so kindly secured the necessary permission at the various towers. It is said there are about seventy more towers in the neighbourhood, so no doubt at some future time a further visit will be paid to this beautiful district.

A. E. R.

(Continued from previous column.)

hearing? Is there any common sense in people who have got the money to hand to do the job properly and who commission a founder (I don't care what his abilities are as a founder) to melt up a couple of bells, and give them the same 'tone colour' as bells which have done service for 124 years—such as, for example, the 4th in this museum? No founder breathing can do it, any more than you or I could. Hamlet didn't approve of 'uncle fathers and aunt mothers,' and I, for one, agree there was something rotten in the state of Denmark. You'll find it also in your marketing basket if you go and purchase two pennyworth of cat's meat at seven different butchers' shops and expect to find the whole in one stage of decomposition. Now you won't find seven stages of 'anæmia' at the Crooked Spire, as Arthur and his knights of the round table know. They which hang 'neath the uplifted and twisted symbolism of the tail of 'Lucifer' are 'one anæmia,' the 1819 type. They are worthy of preservation, and they will certainly keep a little longer, for they are—reader, words fail me—not nearly so bad as Ranmore. Anybody dispute that? And who'll contradict me when I say—now, Garge, steady, lad!—that Ecclesfield has got a lovely museum? Yes, and Ecclesfield has had in time past great men, men of letters, archæologists, historians, etc., and, believe me, or not, these men knew a lot, but they didn't know their Lombardic 'alfeybet'! No, they didn't know an 'hen' from an 'aiche'! And I'll prove it when next I contribute.

HATFIELD, HERTS.—The Hatfield Guild of College Youths on Friday, May 25th, at the dedication service of the new organ in St. Etheldreda's Church by the Bishop of Exeter (Lord William Gascoigne Cecil), rang a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 53 mins.: S. Cull 1, R. Shepherd 2, A. Shepherd 3, R. Richardson 4, L. Shepherd 5, J. T. Kentish (conductor) 6, J. G. Dunham 7, P. S. A. Lawrence 8.

SPliced MAJOR IN SIX METHODS.CANTERBURY, PLAIN BOB, LITTLE BOB, KENT AND OXFORD
TREBLE, BOB, AND LITTLE BOB.

5,256 BY A. J. PITMAN.

CANTERBURY.			KENT AND OXFORD		
23456	W	H	(Kent from 7832485).		
54326	1	1	A 4357682 in two leads.		
45236	2	2	1 2 4		
24536	3	1	B 5437682 Ox. Ox.		
7826345	1	Single Thirds.	C 3547682 Ox. Ox.		
PLAIN BOB from 7826345,			2347685 Ox. Ox.		
calling bobs at R. M. H. for			5247683 Ox. Ox.		
45263	1	1	4527683 Ox. Ox.		
24563	3	1	2457683 Ox. Ox.		
52463	3	1	3257684 Ox. Ox.		
3452867	1		5327684 Ox. Ox.		
LITTLE BOB from 3452867 for			2357684 Ox. Ox.		
4236578 in three plain leads.			4237685 Ox. Ox.		
M. H.			3427685 Ox. Ox.		
53264	S	S	6234578 Bob home		
52364	3	S	3652847 (next lead-end)		
43265	1	1	LITTLE CANTERBURY from		
45362	2	1	3652847.		
34562	3	1	5324678 in three leads.		
53462	1		W. H.		
32465	1	2	42356 1 1		
54263	1	1	43256 S		
7832465	W	B	52346 1 1		
			35246 3 1		
			23546 3 1		
			24356 2 1		
			23456 3 S		

Changes in each method: Canterbury 832, Plain Bob 848, Little Bob 848, Kent and Oxford 1,920, Little Canterbury 808.

For 5,128, call one bob Wrong at A, which will bring up B. For 5,000, call two bobs Wrong at A, which will bring up C. (Makes number of changes in Kent and Oxford 1,664.)

First rung at Loughborough Bell Foundry, April 28th, 1928, conducted by Ernest Morris.

ESHER, SURREY.—On Sunday, July 29th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Massey 1, F. Hawthorne 2, H. Barber 3, H. J. Chaffey 4, J. Gill 5, W. T. Beeson (conductor) 6.

A VISIT TO LOUGHBOROUGH BELL FOUNDRY.

With the good fortune usually associated with their annual outing, July 21st—a glorious day—was the date chosen by the company of St. Mary's Church, Ecclesfield, known as the 'Minster of the Moors,' for this year's excursion, when they were accompanied by Mr. Bell, of Wombwell, and several of the St. Marie's (R.C.) Church, Sheffield, ringers. The party, consisting of 40 members and friends, journeyed via the L.M.S. Railway to Loughborough, a saloon car contributing a comfortable means of travel. A hearty reception was given the visitors on arriving at the famous foundry, and under the guidance of several officials of the firm a very interesting tour of the works was made.

Talk about bells! One can hardly imagine such a vast number and variety as were on view, embracing all sizes and weights from several pounds to tons. The carillon for the Bird Sanctuary, Florida, U.S.A., was being dismantled ready for despatch across the Atlantic, but the framework itself conveyed to the visitors what a splendid and unique instrument of music this will be when erected in its permanent position.

Proof of the world-wide fame of Taylor's, of Loughborough, was evident by the fact of bells being in various processes for places as far distant as Indianapolis and New South Wales, Australia, whilst the home demand was represented, amongst others, by the bells of Worcester Cathedral.

Dinner was arranged at the Great Central Hotel. This proved to be a very enjoyable item, after which a hearty vote of thanks to Messrs. Taylor and Co. for their kind invitation was loudly acclaimed. —This was suitably responded to by Mr. C. Harrison on behalf of the firm.

A move back to the work's campanile gave the visitors opportunity to try their skill on this famous peal of ten, which, we understand, is considered to be the most perfectly tuned peal in the world. Varied degrees of success attended the efforts of the visitors, after which a start was made to Stanford-on-Soor, where arrangements for ringing had been made by Mr. Collins, of the Foundry, and who formed one of the party. An hour's ringing in various methods brought tea time, which meal was again at the Central Hotel, Loughborough.

Owing to renovations now in hand, the tower of the Parish Church was not available, whilst time did not permit a more extended survey of Loughborough. However, several expressed a desire to make further acquaintance when occasion offers, and the ringers now wish to express, through 'The Ringing World,' their hearty thanks to Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. and all others who so kindly contributed to what proved to be a splendid day's outing.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Reports of peals rung on Bank Holiday should be posted to us the same night, so that they may be inserted in next Friday's issue.

The bells of Crich, Derbyshire, are being restored by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and five of them are to be recast. Two trebles are also to be added to augment them to eight. The Sherwood Foresters' war memorial is at Crich. Its beacon light is visible in five counties.

Nearly a hundred and fifty members and visitors attended the annual meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild on Saturday, when the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn was re-elected Master, Mr. A. Wright hon. treasurer, and Mr. R. T. Hibbert hon. secretary. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.

Quex Park bells, the only ringing peal of twelve on a private estate, were opened on August 4th, 1819, when there were great celebrations, and London ringers were responsible for the ringing.

The first recorded peal of Grandsire Royal was rung at Painswick on August 6th, 1815.

A 'silent' peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Drayton, Berks, on August 7th, 1899.

Thurstans' famous four-part was rung for the first time on August 8th, 1842.

THE MASONIC PEAL BOOK.

The Masonic Peal Book is now in course of preparation, and upon completion will be presented to Grand Lodge to be placed in the library and museum. There are still several brethren who have taken part in peals and whose names will appear in the book who have not yet sent subscriptions. Will those who desire to do so kindly forward at an early date to Mr. F. White, Westfield, Cranbrook, Kent, in order that the fund may be closed? When the book is completed and presented there will be published in this paper a description of the book and the procedure necessary for recording future peals.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL.

The recent incident at Gloucester Cathedral, when visiting ringers were excluded from the ringing chamber on the instructions of the Dean, is no new development. History has only repeated itself. Forty years ago entry to the Cathedral tower was equally difficult. On October 20th, 1894, Mr. F. E. Dawe conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples on the bells, but it took fourteen years of steady effort to get final permission. On one occasion the band were stopped at the door, on another a last-minute telegram was just in time to prevent a band of College Youths leaving Paddington.

In a report of the peal, when it was rung, it was suggested that the fact that many years before some visiting ringers had accidentally set fire to the ringing chamber had caused the difficulty. Anyhow, this unfortunate occurrence resulted in an edict which prevented any artificial light being used in the tower for the peal, and, a heavy storm coming over while the ringing was in progress, it was only by watching the rising and falling of white shirt sleeves that the darkness in the tower was overcome. Among the survivors of this peal, in addition to Mr. F. E. Dawe, are the Revs. H. L. and E. B. James and Mr. Tom Hibbert.

A HAMPSHIRE RING AUGMENTED.

On Sunday, July 22nd, at St. Andrew's Church, Sherborne St. John, Hants, the Bishop of Winchester dedicated a new treble in memory of men of the village who lost their lives in the Great War. The existing five have also been retuned by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in a very satisfactory way. The 'go' of the bells is now excellent, and after the service the undermentioned rang a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins.: J. Ballard (Basingstoke) 1, C. Ostler (Bramley) 2, K. Hunt (Oakley) 3, W. Ford (Mortimer) 4, J. Chesterman (Basingstoke) 5, G. C. Hammond (Sherborne St. John) (conductor) 6, who thus achieved his ambition to call the first 720 on the newly-augmented peal. It is 35 years since he called a 720, and all present hoped he might have the pleasure of calling the first peal on the bells.

CARTER'S 'BROADSHEET.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Is there anyone who can tell your readers if there are any false peals of Stedman Caters on the late John Carter's broadsheet. If so, would you kindly publish the numbers of them?—Yours etc.,

G. E. SYMONDS.

A YOUTHFUL BEGINNER.

At Rock Ferry, Cheshire, on Thursday, July 26th, 720 Plain Bob: G. R. Edwards 1, G. Battle 2, T. Birch 3, J. F. Smith 4, W. J. Battle 5, W. Dean (conductor) 6. The ringer of the second is only 12 years old, and this was his first 720 with an inside bell.

JOHN BRIANT, OF HERTFORD.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO CELEBRATED BELL FOUNDER.

Early next year will occur the centenary of the death of John Briant, the celebrated Hertford bell founder, and a movement is on foot among archaeologists and others to provide a suitable memorial. A leaflet is being issued by the East Herts Archaeological Society inviting support for the proposal in all those parishes where specimens of Briant's handiwork remain. The circular says:—

'As the lofty spires of our churches ever point us upwards, so does the music of distant bells, borne on the breeze in the quiet of a Sabbath day, whether across the restful beauty of the countryside, or the teeming roofs of our cities, draw our thoughts away from earth and upward to the contemplation of the Real and Eternal. But the spire's appeal is limited to the sight, whereas the sweet message of the bells carries far and wide. While we listen to their melody, how seldom do we spare a thought for the humble and often unknown craftsman to whose skill in bell casting that melody is due? Surely we owe these men some acknowledgment for the legacy of harmony and invitation Godward which they have left us! And now comes one of those rare opportunities of paying something of our debt to one of them. Few bell founders have achieved a greater reputation than did John Briant. . . . We feel sure that you would like to participate with other bell lovers in expressing appreciation of what John Briant did in the cause of campanology by making a contribution towards the cost of placing a memorial tablet to his memory in All Saints' Church, Hertford, on the occasion of the centenary of his death in February next, 1929. The East Herts Archaeological Society has undertaken to bear the cost of the repair of his grave and tombstone in the churchyard there. In connection with this centenary celebration, the society is preparing a booklet on the life and work of John Briant together with a complete list of his bells. A copy of this will be presented free to all subscribers of £1 or more. The hon. treasurer of the East Herts Archaeological Society, Mr. C. H. R. Hulbert, of 73, Ware Road, Hertford, will be pleased to receive your contribution.'

Mr. H. C. Andrews, of the Victoria and Albert Museum, S.W., who has undertaken the responsibility of preparing the 'Life and Work' of Briant, which will include a complete list of his bells and also of his clocks as far as possible (for Briant was a clockmaker as well as bell founder), will be glad of any information about his subject which anyone cares to send him. He is, of course, conversant with all the printed authorities, such as the publications of the bells of various counties. North, in his 'Church Bells of Northants,' 1878, page 203, remarks: 'Mr. Leonard Proctor tells me that a "Life of John Briant" has been written, but I have not seen it.' If any of our readers can put Mr. Andrews on to this 'Life' he will be very thankful.

John Briant is said to have been born at Exning, Suffolk, in 1749. His father sent him to school at Newmarket, it being intended that he should go to the University, take orders, and enter the Church. But young John's tastes for mechanics led him along a different path, and he became a clockmaker and bell founder.

Before the year 1781 John Briant had settled in Hertford, and set up his foundry and workshop in Parliament Row, whence, during the next half-century, issued a continuous stream of bells and clocks. Over four hundred bells are known to have been made by him. Clocks at Swaffham Prior Church, Cambs, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, at King's College, Cambridge, at Blenheim Palace for the Duke of Marlborough, one for the Duke of Rutland, and one for the Shire Hall, Hertford, were also his work, but there must have been many others made for private persons, and now lost sight of.

Briant's reputation recognised no county boundaries. His fame with his bells spread over seventeen English counties north into Lincolnshire, and west into Devon; and even crossed the sea into Ireland, where four of his bells are to be found at Tuam Cathedral, Edenderry, and Lisburn (2).

As is only to be expected, Hertfordshire stands first in the list with ninety-four bells. Bucks comes next with forty-five, Essex has forty-one, Northants thirty-eight, Oxfordshire thirty-six, Leicestershire thirty-one, Cambridgeshire twenty-one, Warwickshire twenty, Salop nineteen, and so on. Thirty-six Hertfordshire parish churches possess bells by John Briant.

The last bell which Briant cast was for Hinxworth Church in 1824. He retired the next year and sold his business to Thomas Mears, of Whitechapel, London. But in 1827 his great reputation caused the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral to consult him as to the best mode of dealing with the Cathedral bells, and especially with their famous 'Great Tom' which was cracked. But his modesty and generosity throughout his career prevented his banking account from growing with his reputation. If a parish church found itself unable to meet the bill for bells which he supplied, he accepted what it could pay and never pressed for payment of his accounts, so in the end it is not surprising that he fell into extreme pecuniary difficulties. In this quandary he accepted a home in an almshouse at St. Albans from Earl Spencer, where he died on February 27th, 1829, in his 81st year. He was buried, in accordance with his expressed wish, in All Saints' Churchyard, Hertford, on March 10th following, in the grave where his first wife, Mary, née Hanley, had been interred thirty-six years before, and his mother-in-law, Mary Hanley, in 1790.

THE EXTENSION OF SUPERLATIVE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There is one sentence in the article by Rev. H. Law James in your issue of July 27th that I take strong objection to, and that is that this extension is not Superlative Maximus simply because it appeared '100 years too late.' Really, is that so? Will the Rev. H. Law James tell your readers his opinion of this question. Had Shipway extended Superlative to Maximus as now rung at Ipswich and elsewhere, would he admit that Shipway was right then in that case, or would he say Shipway was 100 years too soon? I expect he will say you must read all the article. What does Owen Kay say on this point? Their answers will be very interesting to some of your readers, and especially to

B. SHARP.

A QUESTION STILL UNANSWERED.

Dear Sir,—Why has it taken a whole series of articles on the construction of diverse methods to enable the Rev. H. Law James to write his last sentence: 'This extension (the Maximus rung at Ipswich) is not Superlative Maximus simply because it appeared 100 years too late'? If that is his answer to my first letter of nearly a year ago, when I asked him to give us a simple explanation of his reason for his statement, why could he not have said so at once? Mr. James may not agree, but I imagine ordinary ringers will not be satisfied to accept his dictum. Because somebody a hundred years ago had not found the true Maximus extension, it does not follow that when it is discovered it must be ruled out. Mr. James has himself produced what he calls the correct extension, based on Shipway's Royal, but he has yet to answer my question on that vital place, where he converts a 6th's place in Shipway's Royal into a 4th's place in the Maximus. Which is right, Shipway or James?—Yours, etc.,

A PLAIN RINGER.

SHIPWAY'S ROYAL PARTLY MONGREL.

Dear Sir,—Historical evidence points to the fact that primitive man and his descendants for five thousand years and upwards believed the world to be flat!

Science in the last five centuries has proved beyond the vestige of a doubt that primitive man was mistaken in his beliefs.

What I should like to ask the Rev. H. L. James is this: Is the ringing Exercise, in these enlightened days, expected to go on believing for 5,000 years that the Royal method produced by William Shipway is a correct extension of 'Superlative' Surprise Major?

The most that can be claimed for Shipway's Royal is: The first four round blocks and the last four round blocks of the first half lead are correct, but this is only two-fifths of the whole, leaving three-fifths that are mongrel!

What is the use of talking of science, if science is not allowed to correct the mistakes of former generations?—Yours faithfully,

'OWEN KAY.'

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HASLEMERE.

Nearly fifty members and visitors, including a considerable contingent from Portsmouth, attended the Guildford District meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild at Haslemere on Saturday. The town is situated in one of the prettiest districts in Surrey, and the bells are one of the prettiest peals of ten in the country. The tenor is only 13 cwt., and they are a ring of Taylor's best. A good many young ringers tried their hand on ten bells for the first time, but light bells on ball bearings are not easy for beginners to handle when they have started to learn on 'the other sort.' Touches were rung in a variety of methods, including Plain and Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Superlative and London Surprise Major, but Cambridge Royal proved elusive.

The Rector (Rev. J. F. la McAnally) conducted the Guild's service, and gave an address, at the outset of which he welcomed the Guild to Haslemere, and hoped that the meeting would be the forerunner of many other similar gatherings there.

Tea was served in the school, the Rev. O. S. Walford presiding, in the absence of the Rector, who had to leave for Brighton immediately after the service.

At the business meeting the Rector was elected a life member of the Guild, and one ringing member was also elected.

The question of adopting a badge for the Guild was discussed, but there was a marked indifference on the subject, for, when a vote was taken, there was only one in favour and two against.

Mr. A. H. Pulling gave a report on the Central Council meeting at Hereford, which he attended as the representative of the Guild, and Mr. W. R. Melville appealed to the members to give further support to the combined practices in the district. None of the practices had been a failure, but the organisers would like to see some fresh faces among those who attended.

A vote of thanks to the Rector, the Rev. O. S. Walford, the organist, and the ladies who had assisted at the tea, concluded the meeting.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

A STRANGER'S PEN SKETCH OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

In one of his recent articles, 'Twice round the London clock in 1928,' appearing in the 'Daily Chronicle,' Stephen Graham wrote on 'The Bellringers of St. Paul's.' We cannot refrain from quoting at length from this interesting sketch:—

'Are you the Bellringers' Union?'

'No; we are called the Society of College Youths.'

'The Ancient Society of College Youths, eh?'

'Yes. Dick Whittington started it on College Hill, and since his day the bellringers have been called the College Youths.'

'So no matter how old you get you always remain one of the boys?'

The conversation took place in an old public-house in the neighbourhood of Amen Corner, called the Coffee Pot. The bells of St. Paul's had been pouring melody over the padlocked warehouses and shut shops of the city, and the joyous work accomplished of ringing out the day, the bellringers had come across to their favourite inn for a convivial glass.

I notice the bellringers, though a simple fraternity, love to talk the special technical lingo of bellringing, and in the conversation that went on my ears were constantly baffled by words like cantalogy and tintinnabula and cater and 'number,' and by talk of falsity of composition. But I gathered that the joyous bells of St. Michael's did a great work that day and drove the devils away.

That must have been one of the mediæval functions of bells—not only to give praise, but to drive off evil spirits from the town. St. Michael's bells have been famous for centuries—the best ring of six bells to be rung by six men that was in England.

The bellringers seem devoted to the lore of their craft, and, as is fitting to those who spend more time in belfries than other men spend on their knees, they are devotees of the clock and the calendar, hours, numbers and days.

I went upstairs to their meeting room, where they gather regularly to discuss their affairs, and I was surprised by the knowledge of City history, the devotion to the past, and the passionate belief in bellringing.

A Vicar and his wife, being ailing, complained that they could not sleep at night, and asked that the bells of the Parish Church, one of the most famous and historic in the City, should not be pealed on a week night.

This aroused instant indignation, though such letters to the bellringers are, alas, not uncommon nowadays.

'If they can stand the bells on Sundays, ringing for divine service, surely the week-night ringing will do them no harm.'

'If a man's health does not improve listening to the bells, he must be in a poor way indeed.'

The Master listened with philosophic mien. The secretary did most of the talking. Seated at a table in front of which stood what looked like the silver regalia of the Order, they held the bellringers' fortnightly meeting. There were two silver cups and a little silver bell mounted on a wooden standard, and there were little candlesticks with tallow candles on each side of these. These candlesticks accompanied Wellington through the Peninsular War, and it is possible he read his dispatches by their aid.

'Not Wellington's candle, but his candlesticks, you understand,' said an old bellringer, facetiously.

They were rather a mixed assemblage of men.

One opposite me might have posed as a village blacksmith: broad, sinuous, with big, open, self-reliant face, and the clothes of an artisan. Several ringers had a recognisable city look, old-fashioned, simple, their conversation short of grammar, but bristling with technical expressions. I should be inclined to call them not College Youths, but gentlemen of the City Watch; they were Shakespearean worthies.

I loved to hear one of them who was challenging a certain historic falsity of composition in connection with a disputed record of the ringers at St. John's, Horselydown.

'I am not harmed with evidence,' he kept saying.

He was the sort of man who fortunately has not been harmed by anything much.

But one of the College Youths did actually look like a college youth, and had the air of having come from tennis rackets rather than from the ropes of St. Paul's. Another, soft-voiced and genteel, looked rather like an organist's brother and a passer of cakes at a church social. But the stalwart, guild type of old-fashioned London man did predominate in the gathering.

There were twelve little bells like muffin bells on a side-table, and I hoped some demonstration might be made on them. But the chief business of the evening seemed to be a searching of the records and the identification of a bellringer of fame and a consideration of the disputed claim of St. John's. There were some huge books of records, in which the whole lore of the College Youths seemed contained.

'Are there any more questions before we have the beer sent up?'

Yes, more questions. They love asking questions.

Then dates were made to ring the bells at Southwark and at St. Andrew's.

(Continued in next column.)

REDEDICATION OF SULGRAVE BELLS.

AMERICAN'S GENEROUS GIFT.

The historic church of St. James-the-Less, Sulgrave, Northamptonshire, was filled to overflowing on Wednesday evening, July 25th, for the rededication of the peal of five bells by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough. Sulgrave is the ancient home of the Washington family, and as such is the Mecca of all American visitors to England, who find absorbing interest in the beautiful church and the charming restored manor house, whence emanated the family of their national hero.

Although the parishioners of Sulgrave have nobly responded to the call for funds for the restoration of the church tower and bells, a large proportion of the cost has been borne by Americans, who are also providing a new oak vestry screen and ringing floor.

During the rededication service, the Vicar, Rev. W. S. Pakenham-Walsh, M.A., appealed for the outstanding balance of £260 owing on the restoration scheme, and it was subsequently announced that Mr. Sharpe, of Providence, U.S.A., would make up any deficit outstanding after the collection made for the purpose at the service. Mr. Sharpe, who was present, is a lover of bells, and recently ordered from the Croydon Foundry a carillon of 53 bells, bass bell 3½ tons, as a result of hearing the Louvain carillon.

The Bishop of Peterborough, than whom there is no more eloquent and able member of the Episcopal Bench, gave the large congregation, among whom were many American visitors, a most interesting and excellent address, touching first in dignified and sympathetic terms upon the tragedy of the death of Charles Austin, the bell hanger engaged upon the rehanging, and thereafter emphasising the importance of bells in Christian communities, and impressing appreciation of their music upon the people of England, who do not always realise the priceless heritage they possess of ancient churches and beautiful bells, possessions which those who live in the newer countries are often more ready to appreciate.

A short touch of Grandsire Doubles was rung immediately after the dedicatory prayers, and after the Blessing 120 Stedman Doubles were brought round by Capt. J. H. R. Freeborn (Croydon), Maurice Smith (Banbury), W. J. Dore (Northampton), W. Mardell (Sulgrave), and F. Wilford (Master of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild). Among other ringers who took part in subsequent touches were Mr. Cyril Johnston, Rev. R. Howes, Vicar of Cold Higham, and his son, Mr. Howes, T. Impey and R. R. Lewis, of Banbury.

The five bells, tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb., have been recast and rehanging in a new metal frame and modern fittings by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, the result being very favourably commented upon. Mr. Harry Godfrey has given a clock, striking the hours upon the tenor bell, with copper dial, and this is also being supplied and fixed by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

A VISIT TO STISTED.

On Saturday, July 14th, the Springfield (Essex) ringers had their annual outing, and the afternoon and evening being exceptionally fine a very pleasant time was spent. Starting from Chelmsford at 1.30 p.m. by charabanc, the first call was made at Stebbing, where ringing was thoroughly enjoyed for an hour before going on to Rayne. Here the party were again received, and found everything in readiness. Short touches were indulged in, and the journey then continued to Stisted, where the visitors were met by an old friend and ringer in Mr. H. F. Cooper, formerly of Chelmsford, where he was a ringer at the Cathedral before taking up his abode at Stebbing some 11 years ago. A capital repast was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, which was greatly appreciated by one and all. After tea a visit was made to the tower, and ringing was once more carried on upon the fine peal of six bells, which last year were rehung. Touches of Plain Bob, Oxford, Kent, Cambridge, New London, and Beverley were in turn brought round until 9 p.m., when the bells were lowered in peal.

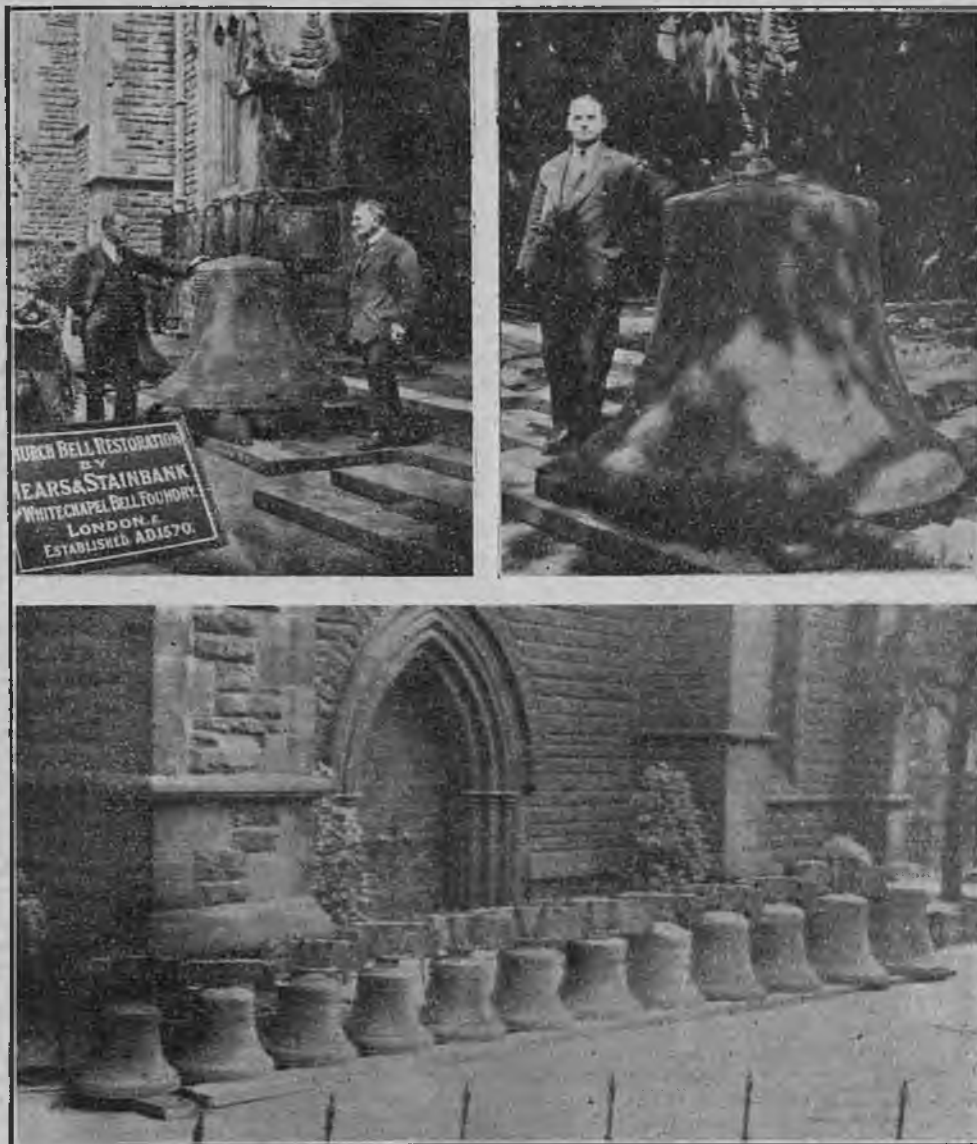
Afterwards a visit was once again made to Coopers, where handbell ringing was indulged in by the visitors and locals alike. Indeed, the visit was so much appreciated by the local band that it was difficult to break away until 10.15 p.m. The return journey was made via Braintree and Waltham, a cool ride after a very hot afternoon and evening. Chelmsford was reached at 11 p.m. Thanks are accorded to friends at the various towers for their kindness and readiness in making the excursion as pleasant as it was possible to be, especially to Mr. and Mrs. Cooper for the kind reception extended to the party. Accompanying the visitors was Mr. W. Hawkes, who a few days earlier attained the magnificent age of 83 years. He regularly rings at Springfield, where he started his career, and has been ringing for 61 years. He still can ring with the best in the tower.

(Continued from previous column.)

There is no equivocation about bellringing. They love ringing the bells and giving London voice. It seems a pity that so many people nowadays have lost the ear for bells and are annoyed by continuous pealing. For this is the old voice of London, sound, clear, hearty, ever young, and so much more true than jazz or barrel-organs or street-corner oratory. I like the names of the bells of St. Stephen, Rochester Row—Blessing, Glory, Wisdom, Thanksgiving, Honour, Power, Might, and Be unto our God for ever and ever, Amen, Alleluia. These names seem to suggest what the bells are saying when the College Youths are pulling the ropes for us.

END OF A FAMOUS PEAL.

BELLS OF ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM, ON THEIR WAY TO THE FOUNDRY.



Top (left): The Deputy Ringing Master of St. Martin's (Mr. Albert Walker) and the Verger (Mr. W. E. Clinch) take farewell of the eleventh; (right) the tenor ready for removal after 170 years in the tower. Bottom: The twelve bells outside the church door.

[Photos by Mr. John Fearn.]

The famous old peal of St. Martin's, Birmingham, are now at the Whitechapel Foundry, where they are to be recast.

These bells have been doing duty as a ring of twelve since the year 1771, having been, before that, a ring of ten from 1758. The old tenor bears this latter date and the uncommon inscription: 'Let your ceaseless changes vary to our great Maker still new praise.'

The first peal on the bells was one of Grandsire Caters, rung on November 19th, 1758, and something approaching 200 peals have since been rung on them, including considerably over one hundred peals of Stedman Cinques.

When the new bells come back to the tower Birmingham hopes to have the best ring of twelve for their weight in the country.

IN A BERKSHIRE 'BACKWATER.' A WEEK-END AT APPLETON.

In the quiet little 'backwater' of Appleton, a party of kindred spirits spent a very enjoyable time last week-end. It followed on a visit to Oxford for the Diocesan Guild meeting, and on Saturday evening the little coterie of friends, with wives and other chattels, drifted over to the campanologically historic village, in whose belfry Whites and Holfields have long been the backbone of ringing, and, judging by the sturdy branches that are growing up, will long continue to be.

Many ringing records have been made at Appleton. Four such records were made in one year—1888—and some of those who took part in them still ring for the Sunday services. It was at Appleton, too, that the 'longest ever' was rung just over six years ago, and, while the bells, although good, are not heavy, the men who stood up to that 12 hrs. 25 mins. performance are entitled to all the honour and glory that it is possible to get out of it.

Appleton is one of the now rare unspoiled villages of England, with its thatched cottages and Thatched Tavern, the homely hostelry which has sheltered many a famous ringer. Appleton's only industry, apart from agriculture and bellringing, seems to be bell hanging, and here one can see the handiwork of frame making carried on as it was in the days of our forefathers, and by a man whose pride is in his work.

During Sunday many were the affairs of state which were discussed—solemnly and otherwise—for the betterment of the Exercise (perhaps!), for in Appleton there is little else to do between meals and ringing. The church bells were rung to Stedman Caters for an hour before each service and in the evening, when those who had tried to hang each other on the trebles in the morning had been removed to a safer, if warmer, sphere of labour, a touch of 1,083 was rung at a pace which suggested a late riser trying to catch an early train. The band included representatives of Appleton's two great ringing families and ringers from London, Birmingham, Coventry, Derby, Reading, Woking and Burford.

Some folks, whose life seems to be made up of one long holiday, were able to stay on in the placid serenity of Appleton's quiet purlieus, but others with the stern call of the morrow's duties before them had to quit—however reluctantly—before nightfall to return to the noise and racket and nerve-destroying strain of a 'civilisation' which at present seems to have left Appleton untouched.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. HONOUR FOR OLD MEMBERS.

Thirty members of the Northern Division, representing ten parishes, attended a very successful meeting at Inworth on Saturday last. Favoured with beautiful weather, everyone enjoyed strolling round the pretty old Essex village, which is certainly one of England's rural beauty spots. The ringers' service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. W. Dickinson), and Mr. C. H. Howard (Master) read the lesson.

After the tea a meeting was held in the schoolroom, at which the district Master (Mr. A. A. Saunders) presided, supported by the Master, the Rector, Mr. L. Powell (churchwarden), and the district secretary (Mr. W. Arnold). One new member was elected, Mr. S. Pye, of Inworth.

Mr. Powell said how pleased they were to welcome the association, and hoped that the next time they came to Inworth they would be able to ring six bells instead of five, as it was his great wish, and also the Rector's, to have a treble added.

During the afternoon and evening 120's in various methods were rung on the tower bells, and several courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters on handbells.

It was resolved at the meeting to make Mr. W. T. Elliot, of Kelvedon, Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, and Mr. E. Claydon and Mr. J. T. Barker, of Stebbing, life members of the association. Each of the above have been ringers for fifty and more years.

NOTTINGHAM RINGERS' CIRCULAR TOUR.

The annual outing of the ringers of St. Peter's, Nottingham, took place on Saturday, June 7th, when they made a circular tour of approximately 150 miles, embracing the counties of Notts, Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, and Lincolnshire. Only one stop was made for ringing, and that at Surfleet, where the band were welcomed by the Rev. H. Law James. An enjoyable time was spent in this 10-bell tower, although they are a difficult peal for a strange band to ring successfully. The 'drop' in peal was exceptionally good. After ringing, they adjourned to the Railway Hotel, where a magnificent dinner was provided. After dinner a well-known member of the company played some popular tunes on his weird but wonderful 'carillon' (really, it is a complicated arrangement of his handbells, his wife's clothes' pegs, his son's fretwork, and his daughter's violin stand), the company joining in the choruses with gusto. On the return journey a stop was made at a small Notts village, where several members rendered songs in most awe-inspiring and agonising voices, much to the enjoyment of the other members who had completed their 'turn' successfully. Nottingham was reached at about 11 p.m., and everyone voted it one of the best and brightest days of their lives.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PRESIDENT'S SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCES.

A meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Prestwich on Saturday, July 21st, when close on twenty members visited this grand old church. Ringing commenced at 4 o'clock, and at 5.30 the members adjourned for tea. Coming back, they were pleased to see the president, Canon Elsee, recently back from South Africa, who came from Bury, where he had been paying a visit to another branch. After a short touch of Kent Treble Bob, in which the president took part, the business meeting was held.

Canon Elsee presided, and paid a warm tribute to Mr. H. Chapman for his work in connection with the branch and the association. He said how sorry he was that Mr. H. Chapman had to leave the district on account of ill-health, and he was sure the members felt the loss deeply. The president gave the members an account of his visit to South Africa, where he had been at the request of the Bishop of Manchester. He referred to the different articles doing duty for church bells, such as a large iron ring that had been in a stamping machine at a gold mine, also two large steel burs fixed on top of an ant hill about fifteen feet high, which did duty as a tower as well, the natives striking them with a hammer. There were three rings of bells in the country, and he had managed to have a pull on two of them, and also to do some handbell ringing with a company of ladies.

Christ Church, West Didsbury, was selected for the next meeting, but this date not being convenient it has been changed to Worsley on August 18th.

The election of a branch president was considered, and after some discussion it was proposed that Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft be elected. This was agreed to, also that he serve on the committee as well, and come up for re-election at the annual meeting of the branch which is to be held at Manchester Cathedral in January. Mr. Wolstencroft, acknowledging his election, said he considered it a great honour to be elected branch president. He could not expect to come up to the standard of Mr. H. Chapman, but he would do his best.

Votes of thanks to clergy, the church officers, the local ringers, and the chairman were carried, Mr. N. Bent replying on behalf of the ringers.—This closed the meeting, and further ringing took place, learners having a good 'try out' during the afternoon and evening.

KING'S NORTON RINGERS VISIT BEDFORD.

On Saturday, July 14th, the King's Norton ringers had a most enjoyable outing. Starting from home at 7 a.m. in glorious weather, they arrived at Northampton, where Mr. Rogers met them, and they were soon enjoying Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Treble Bob Royal on the pleasing peal of ten at St. Giles'. From there a short walk brought them to St. Sepulchre's, where they were met by Mr. F. Wilford. A short wait here whilst a wedding was taking place, and then the bells were raised as the happy pair walked through the tower door. These bells are a musical ring from the Croydon Foundry, and after a little manipulation some good striking of Stedman, Double Norwich and Cambridge were all successfully brought round. A pleasant half-hour in a comfortable and very cool smoke-room, with liquid refreshment and sandwiches, provided a welcome interlude after two hours' ringing and fifty miles' riding in the blazing sun. A nice twenty-mile run then brought the party to Bedford, where a Royal visit was in progress. Adjoining to the Silver Grill, where everything was in readiness, the ringers sat down to lunch, which everyone enjoyed. Proceeding to Cardington, a quiet little village two miles away, they came to a well-built stone church with a fine tower and grand peal of eight bells by Taylor. The 'go' was splendid, and Grandsire, Stedman, Double Norwich and Cambridge were rolled off as it should be. This was undoubtedly the 'tit-bit' of the day. Returning to Bedford, a visit was paid to St. Paul's Church, where hangs a nice ring of ten with a 29 cwt. tenor. Here the party were met by Mr. Tingey, Miss Steel and others, who had the bells already up. Here the visitors were a bit disappointed, as three of the back bells wanted a good deal of 'milking.' However, they had young George Withers with them, and touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Treble Bob on the ten, and Double Norwich and Cambridge on the back eight were successfully brought round. Some amusement was caused by the ropes, which made a noise like pistol shots, and some of the ringers at first really thought the Germans had come. The tenor rope was one of those gentle little things that would have been more at home on the 'Olympic.' After tea the return journey was commenced, with Warwick ahead as the last place of call. Being half an hour behind time, the cars had to get a move on, but one which stopped for 'juice' got lost, with the result that the 'speed merchant' was at Warwick ringing the front six before the others arrived. This musical ten were afterwards going to various methods, and the party finished up with a pleasant hour with the local ringers, eventually reaching home about 11 p.m., after a most enjoyable day. They would like to take the opportunity now of thanking everyone who helped with the arrangements, and especially Messrs. Allaway, Moore and Yates, who so kindly placed their motor-cars at the ringers' disposal for the day.

NEW PEAL FOR SUSSEX. REDEDICATION OF WORTH BELLS.

On Saturday, July 21st, the recast peal of six bells at Worth, Sussex, was rededicated by the Ven. H. M. Hordern, Archdeacon of Lewes, in the presence of a large congregation.

For some years it had been recognised that the fittings were in a worn and dangerous condition, while the tone of the bells was far from satisfactory. It was decided, therefore, to have the whole peal recast and rehung with modern fittings.

The contract was entrusted to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, who have turned out a well-balanced peal of six, perfect in tone and tune. The 'go' is excellent, and Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are to be congratulated on their latest success. By judicious distribution of the old metal, the tenor is approximately 1 cwt. heavier than before, the present weight being 9 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

The Archdeacon, who was assisted by the Rector (the Rev. H. F. Waller Bridge, M.A.), gave an appropriate address, referring to the history of this peal and the uses and associations of bells generally.

After the service, touches in standard methods were rung by members of the local band and visitors from Crawley, Turner's Hill, Billingshurst, Horley and Balcombe. The bell founders were represented by Messrs. C. F. Johnston, S. R. Roger and R. H. Dove. Ringing was indulged in until a late hour, everyone being satisfied with the new peal.

EXTENTS OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your issue of July 27th, so-called extents of London Minor by the Rev. H. Law James are published, with the statement that they come under the new definition of peals of Minor. As I signed, as seconder, the notice of motion which resulted in this definition, may I make my position clear. I cannot understand, possibly through incapacity, how the first three arrangements come within the definition. However, if Mr. James is right, may I say that, in signing the notice of motion, there was no intention on my part of supporting or encouraging the ringing of peals of Minor with repetition of rows in the first 320 changes.—Yours sincerely,

JOSEPH W. PARKER.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. DEVIZES BRANCH AT UPAVON.

A meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the interesting Church of St. Mary, Upavon, on Saturday last. The towers of Netheravon, Fittleton and Enford were also visited, ringing commencing at Netheravon about 3.30 p.m. Tea was provided at the Antelope Hotel, Upavon, and a short business meeting followed, the chairman of the branch, Mr. C. D. Higginbotham, presiding.

Mr. F. Giddings, of Upavon, was elected a member of the Guild, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. H. Brownlee West, of Devizes, one of the vice-presidents of the Guild, for sending to the local papers copies of the inscriptions on 'Wiltshire church bells,' it being thought that by so doing Mr. Brownlee West was doing a good work, which would interest the people of the parishes mentioned from time to time.

It was decided to hold a special meeting at Chirton and Maiden on August 25th.

Service followed, conducted by the Rev. Victor Jender (who is in charge of the parish during the absence of the Vicar, the Rev. A. Joyce Watson, who is on holiday). Mr. Mead, one of the Upavon ringers, presided at the organ.

Ringers were present during the day from Upavon, Devizes (St. John's and St. Mary's), Southbroom (St. James'), Warminster, Trowbridge, Bratton, Rowde, Beechingstoke, Stratton, and Ringwood, Hants, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor were rung.

The following is copied from 'Highways and Byways of Wiltshire,' by Edward Hutton: 'Upavon is an interesting place. Small as it is now, it still has an air of importance, and was a market town in the time of Edward II., who gave it to his favourite dispenser. . . . Upavon possesses a fine church, and, though much reduced and damaged, is worth some trouble to see. Dedicated in honour of Our Lady, it boasts what is still substantially a transitional chancel (circa 1175), the buttresses of which remain. . . . The tower seems to have been the last thing built, late in the 13th century—a very noble work, even as we have it, with a 15th-century parapet. Over the west doorway is a crucifix, also of the 15th century, but this has been rebuilt. The font remains a beautiful 13th-century work, carved on its eight sides with various devices. Among them on the north side is a representation of the Annunciation, very lovely.'

The treble of the ring of six is a new bell, cast in 1910 by Taylor and Co., who also recast the 4th at the same time. The 2nd and 5th are dated 1658, and were cast by John Lott, of Salisbury. William Tosler, also a Salisbury bell founder, cast the tenor in 1723. The 3rd is also an old bell, but bears no date. Its inscription is: 'Gode help us. F.M.S., I.P.S., M.D.'

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, July 29th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins.: C. J. Tricker, jun., 1, F. E. Hawthorne 2, W. F. Ellingham 3, F. G. Goddard 4, W. C. Parker 5, C. J. Tricker 6, J. Kent (conductor) 7, C. Gosh 8.

ADDERBURY, OXON.—On Sunday, July 29th, for evening service, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins.: R. R. Lewis 1, W. F. Judge (conductor) 2, T. Impey 3, F. Tuffrey 4, M. Smith 5, C. Bennett 6, H. Impey 7, L. Clifton 8.

SOUTHGATE.—On July 1st, for evening service, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. R. Gluscock 1, Miss Upshire 2, G. Bester 3, J. Armstrong (conductor) 4, J. E. Miller 5, H. Miller 6, N. Tomlinson 7, A. G. Crane 8.

EASTBOURNE.—At Christ Church, for anniversary services, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: W. D. Smith 1, E. Gower 2, A. Gower 3, G. W. Stokes 4, J. Sharp 5, A. C. Pankhurst 6, B. Hobbs 7, H. Smales 8.

FOLKINGHAM, Lincs.—On Sunday, June 24th, at St. Andrew's Church after afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins.: W. Wilson 1, A. R. King 2, L. Pell 3, H. Marcon 4, C. T. H. Bradley (conductor) 5, J. H. Musson 6. Also 720 Single Court for evensong in 26 mins.: H. Marcon 1, A. R. King 2, L. Pell 3, W. Wilson 4, C. T. H. Bradley (conductor) 5, J. H. Musson 6. First 720 of Single Court for ringers of 2nd and 3rd.

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: Miss A. White (first 720 Treble Bob) 1, E. P. Buckingham 2, W. Hawks 3, A. E. Davis 4, E. Runter 5, P. T. Poulton (conductor) 6.—Also on May 11th, 720 Beverley Surprise: H. Devenish 1, W. Lincoln 2, H. Warn 3, E. Clarke 4, E. Runter 5, E. P. Buckingham (conductor) 6. First 720 of Beverley Surprise by all, and on the bells.

FULHAM.—At All Saints' Church, for evening service, on May 13th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes), in 48 mins.: H. M. Page 1, H. Belcher 2, W. H. Hollier 3, H. Ellis 4, J. W. Driver 5, F. Hawthorn 6, F. Skevington 7, A. Harding 8, H. Faulkard 9, G. Block 10.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, May 13th, for evensong at St. Mary's, 1,260 Bob Triples in 47 mins.: J. J. Symons 1, A. T. Greenwood 2, J. D. Harris 3, R. J. Stone 4, T. R. Taylor 5, E. J. Harding, sen., 6, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 7, J. Gates 8. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells and by all the band.

BISHOP CANNINGS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, May 13th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: William Bolwell 1, Sidney Wiltshire 2, Fred Lambeth 3, Charles T. Coles (conductor) 4, George R. Pye 5, Sidney Hillier 6, William Pye 7, T. Merrett (first quarter-peal of Stedman) 8.

TRURO, CORNWALL.—On Sunday, May 6th, for Nave evensong, at the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, 648 Grandsire Caters: W. Arthur 1, J. Sedgley 2, F. I. Hairs (conductor) 3, A. R. Pink (Hersham) 4, Mrs. F. I. Hairs 5, A. S. Roberts 6, W. H. Southeard 7, H. Bennett 8, W. H. Sleeman 9, F. M. Roberts 10. Longest touch of Caters by all except the ringers of 3rd, 5th, and 8th.

NOTICE.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Pottun on Saturday, August 11th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome; a good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2. Tempsford Road, Sandy.

DEATH.

DENT.—On July 25th, at Lynbury, Harlow, Catharine Mary, the devoted wife of George Dent. R.I.P.

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NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 8d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on August 16th and 30th; *The Coffee Pot on the 7th; Southwark Cathedral on the 9th; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 23rd; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northwich Branch.—A meeting will be held at Great Budworth on Saturday, August 4th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. All ringers welcome.—H. Parker, Branch Sec., 8, Oak Street, Northwich.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Allensmore on Saturday, August 4th. Bells (6) available 3.30 to 8.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. — A. Gwynne, Dis. Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be at Bingham on Saturday, August 4th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea can be had at the Rectory.—F. W. Bailey, Local Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for August: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, the 5th, at 10 a.m., Monday, the 13th and 27th, at 7.30 p.m. St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 7th, at 8 p.m.—S. C. Moye, Gen. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The recently re-hung bells of St. Michael's, Bishop's Stortford, will be re-opened on August Bank Holiday, August 6th. The 10 bells will be available from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. All ringers are most cordially invited.—C. Beeston, Dis. Sec.

NORFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting of the guild will be held at Great Yarmouth on August Bank Holiday, Monday, August 6th. By kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon R. A. Aitken, the ring of 12 at St. Nicholas' Parish Church will be available. Business meeting will be held at 2.30 p.m. in the belfry.—Arthur L. Coleman, Secretary, High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT.—Gala day and sports, dancing, etc., in aid of Sutton-on-Trent Church Restoration Fund. The bells of Sutton-on-Trent (6), installed in 1922, and in good going order, will be open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., on August Bank Holiday Monday. Visitors from everywhere welcome, abundance of ringing. Roll up in hundreds. Tea provided on the Sports Grounds at moderate charges. Admission: 6d. and 3d. Crow Park station lies between Newark and Retford. The L.N.E. Ry. Co. will issue cheap return tickets to Crow Park from Doncaster, Grantham, Sheffield and intermediate stations. Cheap motor buses from all quarters. The express due to

leave Newark 8.21 p.m. will stop at 8.30 p.m. to attach passengers at Crow Park for Retford, Doncaster and Sheffield, etc.—H. Haigh, 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hale on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea (1s. each) 5.45 p.m. Meeting to follow. Business: Election of officers and representatives on committee. Those intending to be present please notify me before Tuesday, Aug. 7th. A good attendance at this meeting is especially desired. — Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Edenham on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Service in church at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Aug. 8th?—C. T. M. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting at Whiston will be held Aug. 11th, instead of Bank Holiday Monday.—R. Harrison, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A summer meeting will be held at Stanmore on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells (8) 3.30. Service (Preacher, Canon Hewitt), etc., at 5. Those who require tea please let me know. Rectory Gardens also on view. Cheap tickets to Edgware, Harrow and Wealdstone, or Stanmore.—J. A. Waugh, Fuller's Road, Woodford.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch. — A meeting will be held at West Coker on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Tea, 9d. each, to those giving notice on or before Aug. 7th.—F. Farrant, Branch Sec., Martock, Somerset.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting will be held at Yorktown on Aug. 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at Parish Room 5 p.m. Those requiring tea must let me know by Aug. 8th.—B. H. Clark, 17, St. James' Avenue, Farnham, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Parbold on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. A good attendance requested.—James Wm. Grounds, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Alban's, Rochdale, on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — There will be a ringing meeting at Crawley on Saturday, Aug. 11th. Tower open 2.45. Will those requiring tea let me know by Wednesday, Aug. 8th? All ringers welcome.—George Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, Aug. 11th, at the two 6-bell towers of St. Michael and St. Stephen. Meeting at the former at 3 p.m. Arrangements for tea will be made. All are welcome.—W. Nash, Dis. Sec., North Mimms, Hatfield.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Quarterly meeting will be held at Erdington on Saturday, Aug. 18th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea will be arranged for those

who send word not later than Aug. 15th to Mr. J. Preston, 13, Holifast Road, Erdington.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., Donnor, Wellington Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Meeting at Finchley, Saturday, Aug. 18th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea, usual terms, at 5.30. Please advise me. Practice meeting at St. Ann's, Stamford Hill, on Tuesday, Aug. 28th. Bells 7 to 9 p.m. Members and friends cordially invited to both meetings.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horwich Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 18th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton, Lancashire.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting and social will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, August 25th. Full particulars will be published later.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.—Practice nights, Mondays, 8-9.15 p.m. All ringers welcome.—W. E. Judd.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. J. Ridyard's new address is 7, Railway Street, Southport (not Stockport, as published last week).

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