

No. 1,185. Vol. XXVIII.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8th, 1933.

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

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LETTERS AND WRITERS.

Now that the heat of wordy battle in our columns has died down again, we can venture once more to offer an opinion upon the ethics of correspondence and perhaps a little advice to those who, from time to time, are tempted to express their views through letters to the Editor. One has only to browse through the volumes of the ringing press since first the Exercise had a journal of its own to realise what a common fault it is in ringers to become acrimonious in debate, and in this respect the older generation set no example to the present. Mr. Pelloe, although he does not speak from long experience, was perfectly right when he said, in his letter the other day, that while a ringer may be a perfectly delightful person to meet in or out of the tower, he has a tendency, when he enters the lists of controversy, to show a little suspected side to his character and to endeavour to wound an adversary by cheap sneers or an acid style. It is fairly obvious that while this type of debate—it is not argument—may give some satisfaction to the author, it almost certainly robs him of any general sympathy which there may originally have been for his case. In this respect the user of this method of disputation loses rather than gains and, if this were more fully realised, correspondents, in their own interests, would hesitate twice before resorting to it. There is an old saying that is supposed to be a maxim among lawyers: 'If you have a bad case blackguard the opposing attorney.' Such procedure may amuse the onlookers for a little while, but it cuts no ice. It is bad form anyhow, and people soon get tired of it.

Now, we would ask, and answer if we can, the question, 'What should be the editorial attitude towards correspondence which develops on lines such as we have referred to?' There are many people ready to advise on this matter, but we ask them to believe, at the outset, that the use of 'the blue pencil' and 'the wastepaper basket' is not unknown to us. 'The Ringing World,' moreover, has always opened its columns to a free expression of opinion—where else can ringers ventilate their views for the entertainment or instruction of the Exercise as a whole? To eliminate everything which savours of personal attack is by no means an easy task—even the challenge to a doubtful peal is in the nature of personal attack, by questioning either the ability or veracity of the conductor or ringers; and when personalities do intrude it is usually after a controversy has got well started and the disputants have already come to close grips. It is no easy matter at that stage for an outsider, without risk of an accusation of bias or unfairness, to

(Continued on page 770.)

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sort the relevant from the irrelevant, or to chop out of a letter something which a writer may consider vital to his argument. That is not to say that the editorial discretion has not been or will not be used. Many a 'letter to the Editor' has found a resting place in the 'w.p.b.', the strength of others has been tactfully 'toned down'—sometimes to the subsequent relief of the writers—while, on occasion, a letter has been returned to the author with an intimation that if its appearance is desired it must be written in less vindictive phrases. All this an Editor can and does do, but while there are grievances to be aired, the real remedy for greater politeness in letters lies with the writers, who should remember always that the strength of their argument is in the presentation of facts and principles, and not in personalities or abuse.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, November 28, 1933, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... Treble	WILLIAM SAUNDERS 7
ALBERT WALKER 2	FRANCIS BROTHERTON 8
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3	FRANK E. HAYNES 9
GEORGE E. FEARN 4	GEORGE YENDALL 10
ALBERT H. WARD 5	JOHN NEAL 11
FRANK E. PERVIN 6	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Rung in honour of Mr. James George's 80th birthday. This composition, now rung for the first time, was composed by J. Carter in October, 1923, specially for Mr. James George's 80th birthday.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

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

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 32½ cwt.

FRANK E. HAYNES Treble	*WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... 7
FRANK E. PERVIN 2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 8
*GEORGE E. FEARN 3	HERBERT KNIGHT 9
ALBERT WALKER 4	FRANK W. PERRENS 10
SIDNEY T. HOLT 5	JOHN NEAL 11
ALBERT H. WARD 6	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

* First peal of Maximus. Rung in honour of Mr. James George's 80th birthday.

TEN BELL PEALS.

HANLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN G. BURROWS Treble	WILLIAM WEATHERBY
ROBERT G. LEWIS 2	WILLIAM J. CHESTERS ... 7
WILFRED STEVENSON 3	GEORGE W. BIDDULPH ... 8
THOMAS HURD 4	JOHN WORTH 9
WILLIAM P. DEANE 5	CHARLES H. PAGE Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal by all the band, except the tenor ringer, also by the association, and in the county. First peal on ten bells as conductor. Ringers of 3rd and 9th have now rung Oxford Treble Bob from Minor to Maximus.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART... .. Treble	STANLEY E. ARMSTRONG ... 6
HERBERT MARKWELL ... 2	C. ERNEST SMITH... .. 7
STAFFORD H. GREEN ... 3	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 8
THOMAS E. SONE ... 4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 9
JACK M. CRIPPS ... 5	FREDERICK WHITE ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 308).

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

WALTER AYRE Treble	GILBERT E. DEBENHAM ... 6
BEN JARMAN 2	*JOSEPH F. CHATLEY ... 7
FREDERICK J. SPICER ... 3	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ... 8
ALFRED J. HOUSE ... 4	THOMAS J. HULL ... 9
GEORGE B. COLLINS ... 5	HAROLD V. FROST ... Tenor

Composed by G. W. DEBENHAM.

Conducted by H. V. FROST.

* First peal of Royal. First peal of Royal as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. P. Debenham and Mr. W. Ayre.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

ALFRED HANNIS Treble	GEORGE CONDLICK... .. 5
THOMAS BALDWIN ... 2	JOHN AUSTIN... .. 6
SYDNEY E. ROMANS ... 3	ERNEST E. DAVIS... .. 7
JESSE GILLET ... 4	EX-SGT. J. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Williams, who has just passed his 81st birthday. Also to Mr. J. Austin, who reached the age of 70 on the following day.

NEW MILLS, DERBYSHIRE

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

OGDEN MOORES Treble	STEPHEN PARRY 5
ARTHUR F. TAYLOR ... 2	FRED DUNKERLEY ... 6
ERNEST MOORES ... 3	HERBERT BARLOW ... 7
SYDNEY GOULDEN ... 4	VERNON SYKES ... Tenor

Composed by EDWARD FRANCIS.

Conducted by VERNON SYKES.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 22, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

WILLIAM JONES Treble	FREDERICK R. EVANS ... 5
*FRANK MITCHELL ... 2	GEORGE R. JONES ... 6
*PHILLIP CROSS ... 3	WILLIAM CATRALL ... 7
†JOHN M. CAPPER ... 4	ARTHUR TILSTON ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. JONES.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire.

WROTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1933, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES H. SONE Treble	GEORGE KENWARD ... 5
TOM SAUNDERS 2	LUTHER J. HONESS ... 6
CHARLES USHER 3	ROBERT G. RAYFIELD ... 7
THOMAS E. SONE 4	*HARCOURT OLIVER ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. William Taylor, who had been a member of the parish choir for 75 years, and for many years a member of the association.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 27, 1933, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

G. LINDOFF'S SIX-PART, No. 20.

Tenor 28½ cwt.

MAURICE SWINFELD Treble	CHARLES DRAPER... .. 5
JOHN H. SWINFELD ... 2	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL... 6
JOSEPH BAILEY 3	WALTER WALLACE ... 7
J. CHARLES DICKEN ... 4	JAMES GEORGE ... Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

This composition is now rung for the first time. The peal was a compliment to Mr. James George on the occasion of his eightieth birthday, the band offering him their hearty congratulations. The band were entertained by him at the conclusion of the peal.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, November 27, 1933, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

HARRY HOSKINS Treble	JOHN T. KENTISH ... 5
MRS. R. F. DEAL 2	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 6
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. ... 3	JOSEPH MARKS ... 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Composed by REV. H. L. JAMES.

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

This peal contains 2,944 London, 608 Bristol, and 736 each of Cambridge and Superlative, the two latter methods being rung in alternate parts. This was the 1,000th peal by Mr. J. E. Davis, the popular belfry steward of St. Botolph's, and he was heartily congratulated by the band, at the conclusion of the peal.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 28, 1933, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LAMBETH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt.

ERNEST J. KING Treble	WILLIAM D. GRAINGER ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	*THOMAS WYATT ... 6
*WILLIAM HARDER ... 3	HARRY MANCHE ... 7
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ... 4	JAMES G. A. PRIOR ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

* First peal in the method. This is the first peal on the bells, dedicated on November 26th after having been rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., the 'go' being perfect.

TURNER'S HILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 29, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED J. BULL Treble	NELSON ELLIOTT ... 5
REGINALD V. JOHNSON ... 2	CECIL NICE ... 6
KENNETH SNELLING ... 3	ROBERT SWIFT ... 7
GEORGE OLLIVER... .. 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... Tenor

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL.

Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

First peal of Bristol Surprise on the bells.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

MEASHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 29, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes.

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

J. W. PARKER'S OLD BOB THREE-PART, No. 102. Tenor 10 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFELD Treble	CHARLES DRAPER 5
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 2	JOHN H. SWINFELD 6
JOSEPH BAILEY 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
J. CHARLES DICKEN 4	JOHN CURTIS Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

This composition is now rung for the first time and completes peals in parts from one to twenty on the odd bob plan rung by the 'Wednesday afternoon' band, which is the first to do so. The 50th different composition of Stedman Triples called by the conductor upon plans differing from the twin-bob plan. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James George.

BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 30, 1933, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Michael, Twerton,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6066 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALEXANDER EVANS Treble	*ERNEST J. TAYLOR 5
THOMAS F. KING 2	WILLIAM H. CROCKER 6
MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS ... 3	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 7
RICHARD J. COUSINS 4	GILBERT H. HARDING ... Tenor

Conducted by GILBERT H. HARDING.

* First peal of Surprise and first attempt. Mr. T. F. King's 50th peal in this tower.

SUNDERLAND.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 30, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. Ignatius-the-Martyr,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

NORMAN PATTERSON Treble	FRANK AINSLEY 5
GEORGE S. TAYLOR 2	*JOHN PICKERING 6
THOMAS STEPHENSON 3	JOSEPH W. PARKER 7
HAROLD B. DITCHBURN ... 4	THOMAS H. RERVES ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

* First peal in the method. Arranged for Mr. Reeves, of Birmingham.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 30, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*ALBERT COMMINGS Treble	PERCY E. JONES 5
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... 2	WALTER D. JOLLEY 6
JAMES H. LUCAS 3	FRANK CORKE 7
EDWARD W. BUTLER 4	GEORGE HAIN Tenor

Conducted by FRANK CORKE.

* First peal.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 1, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*EDWIN BARNETT Treble	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY ... 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2	*EDWIN A. BARNETT 6
*ALFRED G. HILL 3	*THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
*HARRY HOVERD 4	*THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. Canon Helmore, vice-president of the association and secretary for 38 years, who was 82 on December 2nd.

EXETER, DEVON.—At the Church of St. Thomas for morning service, November 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Hosgood 1, R. Rundle 2, F. Wills 3, E. W. Biffin (conductor) 4, J. Hosgood 5, B. Hill 6, W. Wills 7, A. H. Goad 8. Rung half-muffled for Armistice Sunday.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6066 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. MITCHELL ... Treble	JOHN BURLS 5
FREDERICK J. CULLUM 2	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 6
HERBERT E. ADDSLEY 3	EDWARD J. BRER 7
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

This peal was arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, on the occasion of his 82nd birthday, the band wishing him 'many happy returns.'

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6120 CHANGES;

WILLIAM RATCLIFFE Treble	CHARLES SHARPLES 5
ARTHUR HEYWOOD 2	JOHN H. FOSTER 6
GEORGE MARIES 3	PETER CROOK, JUN. 7
EDWARD IDDON 4	PETER CROOK, SEN. ... Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by P. CROOK, SEN.

First peal of Spliced Treble Bob by all.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes.

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 6162 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS Treble	*NORMAN C. LEWIS 5
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 2	WALTER ALLWOOD 6
WILLIAM J. THYNG 3	*ALFRED E. PARSONS 7
*FREDERICK E. PARSONS ... 4	*L. WILLIAM JACQUES ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 100).

Conducted by L. W. JACQUES.

* First peal in the method; also first in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 3rd and 7th.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. Olave, Hart Street, City,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt. in F sharp.

ERNEST W. PYE Aged 15 ... Treble	EDWIN A. BARNETT Aged 15 ... 5
RONALD D. WARD Aged 20 ... 2	JOHN H. BOTHAM Aged 21 ... 6
*ARTHUR S. RICHARDS Aged 19 3	JAMES G. A. PRIOR Aged 20 ... 7
WALTER D. JOLLEY Aged 17 4	ARTHUR P. CANNON Aged 20 Tenor

Composed by J. THORPE.

Conducted by A. P. CANNON.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal as conductor. First peal of Kent Treble Bob on the bells. This is the youngest band to ring a peal of Major, their ages totalling 147 years. It was intended to ring the peal all 'under 21,' but owing to the indisposition of one of the 'youngsters,' Mr. J. H. Botham kindly stood in.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

At the Church of SS. Mary and Cuthbert,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE Treble	WILLIAM SHERATON 5
JOHN A. BROWN 2	ROBERT L. PATTERSON 6
FREDERICK SHERATON 3	WM. JAMES DAVIDSON 7
STEPHEN THOMPSON 4	JOSEPH E. R. KEEN Tenor

Composed by W. DAY.

Conducted by C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

Rung to commemorate the establishment of a church in this village 1,050 years ago, and the 50th anniversary of the installation of a peal of bells in the tower of this church. The ringers of the 2nd, 3rd and 5th are local men, Mr. Pattison from Sunderland, Mr. Thompson from Whickham, and the rest from Newcastle.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM HENLEY Treble	ROLAND BIGGS 5
FRED GINN 2	WILLIAM WELLING 6
THOMAS S. GOODCHILD 3	GEORGE MARTIN 7
FRED BIGGS 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by H. WINGROVE.

WHITTLESEY, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 2½ cwt.

DENNIS WRIGHT Treble	MANSFIELD GINN 5
FRED GINN 2	ROBERT SMITH 6
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 3	ARTHUR J. GINN 7
FRANK CREASEY 4	FRANK WARRINGTON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

First peal by treble ringer, who is the Vicar's son, and stood in at a moment's notice. A birthday compliment to Mr. A. J. Ginn.

ROCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E.

SAMUEL WARNE Treble	WALTER ARNOLD 5
GEORGE WIFFEN 2	ALBERT WIFFEN 6
FREDERICK RIDGWELL 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
FRANK CLAYDON 4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by W. ARNOLD.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	JOHN MARTIN 5
MAJOR J. H. B. HESSER 2	ALBERT A. HUGHES 6
E. MURRELL 3	ERNEST BRETT 7
FRANCIS C. SHORTER 4	HENRY C. TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Walter W. Stevens, for many years a ringer and steeplekeeper at this church.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 3, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE & LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE OLLIVER Treble	KENNETH SNELLING 5
NELSON ELLIOTT 2	CECIL NICE 6
ROBERT SWIFT 3	ALFRED J. BULL 7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS

First peal of spliced Surprise Major in five methods by all the band, in the county and for the association. This composition contains 3,072 London, 576 Bristol, 608 Cambridge, 608 Superlative and 320 Lincolnshire. The Cambridge and Superlative were rung, as far as possible, in alternate courses.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

ELKSTONE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 12, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten six-scores of Grandsire and 32 six-scores of St. Dunstan's, each called differently. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE WASLEY Treble	WILLIAM WASLEY 3
THOMAS BALDWIN 2	JOHN BALLINGER 4

FREDERICK BLOWING Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWIN.

First peal on the bells since they were rehung by Taylor and Co., the 'go' being excellent.

BUTTERWICK, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 25, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Canterbury Pleasure, Single Court and Oxford Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

HAROLD BARSLEY Treble	WILLIAM E. CLARKE 4
HARVEY E. BURRILL 2	CYRIL R. BURRILL 5
WILLIAM WILKINSON 3	FRANK DWYER Tenor

Conducted by W. E. CLARKE.

* First peal of Minor on an 'inside' bell. F. Dewey has now completed the circle at this church. Rung as a farewell to Mr. J. Phillips, late secretary of above branch, who is leaving the district.

ASSINGTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 25, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

LAWRENCE POULSON Treble	KRITH W. WHITTALL 4
DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS 2	FREDERICK POULSON 5
ARTHUR KEEBLE 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

First peal on the bells for the Guild. Rung as a compliment to Mr. David Elliott, who rang his first peal forty years ago on the above date; also as a birthday compliment to A. C. Lester, of Lavenham. This band is from six different parishes.

PIPE-CUM-LYDE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 25, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PATRICK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM E. DAVIES Treble	JOSEPH R. RAWLINGS 4
IVOR J. RAWLINGS 2	GEORGE R. HANKS 5
FRANK E. SANDFORD 3	THOMAS R. MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by G. R. HANKS.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

KINGTON MAGNA, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 25, 1933, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Reading, Stedman Slow Course, New Doubles and St. Simon's, four of Plain Bob and ten of Stedman's, each called differently, and twenty of Grandsire with ten callings. Tenor 16 cwt.

H. JIM RALPH Treble	H. DENNIS W. BISHOP 3
E. T. PAUL FIELD 2	EDWARD G. L. COWARD 4

WILLIAM C. SHUTE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. SHUTE.

First peal in seven methods by all and believed to be the first in the county of Dorset. Rung to mark the completion by the Rev. F. L. Edwards, general secretary of the Guild, of 25 years' ministry as Rector of Kington Magna.

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SEAL CHART, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, November 28, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 14 six-scores of Grandsire, 14 of Canterbury Pleasure and 14 of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*CHARLES VICKERY Treble	ROBERT COLLINS 4
JACK E. WOODCOCK 2	PERCY SINDEN 5
ARTHUR WENBAN 3	FREDERICK BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by PERCY SINDEN.

* First peal. Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to John P. Cox, who was interred the same day, and who had been associated with the above church for over 40 years. All the above are Sunday service ringers.

CHILTON FOLIAT, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with ten different callings.

Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

*NORMAN W. HAWKINS ... Treble	T. ARTHUR PALMER ... 3
†E. JOHN BERRY 2	LOUIS A. WILSON ... 4
WILLIAM B. KYNASTON ... Tenor	

Conducted by WILLIAM B. KYNASTON.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells. Rung to mark the birth of a son and heir to Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Palmer. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Rector (Rev. W. H. Pelham) for his hospitality after the peal. The conductor has now rung peals on all numbers from Doubles to Maximus.

WISSETT, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(HALE-WORTH SOCIETY).

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of ten six-scores each of Plain Bob, Old and April Day, and twelve six-scores of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt.

*HERBERT G. JILLINGS ... Treble	ROBERT J. GARDINER ... 4
FREDERICK C. LAMBERT ... 2	ARTHUR H. TOOK ... 5
†GEORGE HOWLETT 3	*CECIL C. GOODWIN ... Tenor

Conducted by F. C. LAMBERT.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. Rung to celebrate St. Andrew's Day.

RIPPLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, College Single and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES ... Treble	FRED HAWKES 4
WILLIAM RANFORD 2	THOMAS W. LEWIS ... 5
FRANK LAWRENCE 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by C. CAMM.

MARKET DEEPIING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GUTHLAG.

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, York, Durham, Ipswich, Primrose and Cambridge. Tenor 16 cwt.

*GEORGE WILLIAMSON ... Treble	THOMAS A. COOPER ... 4
*CHARLES WOODS 2	JOSEPH O. LONDON ... 5
WILLIAM H. WALDRON ... 3	HORACE M. DAY Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First Surprise peal.

BURBAGE, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, September 24th, for the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. L. Campton 1, W. Clough 2, E. Clough 3, F. Measures 4, G. Dudley 5, E. Rivitt 6, A. Aldham (conductor) 7, E. Campton 8. First quarter-peal on the bells by a resident band.

UPLYME, DEVON.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

*CHARLES H. LATHEY ... 7 reble	CUTHBERT W. H. POWELL 4
GEORGE H. WHITEMORE ... 2	FRANK E. BLACKMORE ... 5
HENRY G. KEELEY 3	WILLIAM C. SHDIE ... Tenor

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.

* First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells.

SEFTON, LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Oxford and three of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

*WM. TASKER Treble	*A. WILLIAMS 4
*G. SMITH 2	G. SKELLAND 5
*E. HIGNETT 3	R. GUY Tenor

Conducted by R. GUY.

* First peal. First peal of Treble Bob on the bells. First peal as conductor. First peal rung by a local band at this church.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 28, 1933, in Two Hours and One Minute,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

*JOHN HALL 1	*RONALD DAKIN 3
DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS ... 2	STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 4
ARTHUR SYMONDS 5-6	

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Witness—C. Underwood.

* First peal.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 28, 1933, in Two Hours and One Minute,

AT 9, PEMBROKE ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED DOUBLE NORWICH AND PLAIN BOB MAJOR. 5056 CHANGES;

JOHN AMBLER 1-2	WILLIAM BARTON 5-6
PERCY J. JOHNSON 3-4	GEORGE AMBLER 7-8

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

Attested by Rowland S. Myers.

First spliced peal on handbells by all the band and by the association.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 29, 1933, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT 19 NORTH HILL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

GEORGE M. RASHEROOK ... 1-2	WILLIAM KEEBLE 5-6
*EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 3-4	WILLIAM CHALK 7-8

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

* First peal in the method on handbells.

WITHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 3, 1933, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT 42, CROSSING ROAD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

*BASIL REDGWELL 1-2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 5-6
WILLIAM KEEBLE 3-4	*ERNEST W. BRIGHT ... 7-8

Composed by FREDERICK DRING. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.
* First peal in the method on handbells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. E. W. Bright.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. WEST DORSET BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the West Dorset Branch was held at Bridport on Saturday last, and was a very representative gathering, members being present from Bridport, Beaminster, Bradpole, Burton Bradstock, Chideock, Hawkechurch, Lyme Regis, Loders, Litten Cheney, Symondsburry, Notherbury, Thorncombe and Whitechurch Canonieorum. The bells at Symondsburry and Bridport were used during the afternoon. Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. C. Bartlett, who also preached a very helpful sermon on the ringers' attitude to worship, the lesson being read by the Rev. C. C. Cox.

The usual sumptuous meat tea followed in the Greyhound Hotel and was fully enjoyed by all. The business meeting afterwards was presided over by the Rev. C. Carew Cox (chairman of the branch), who was supported by the Revs. R. H. Gundry (Master of the Guild), L. Bartlett, A. B. Hutton, C. W. d'Ombraim and I. Scott. A warm welcome was given to the Master, and apologies for absence were expressed from Canon Lee, of Whitechurch, and Mr. C. H. Jennings, of Wyke Regis. A suggestion, originating from the latter, that the four Dorset Branches should hold a combined meeting next June at Milton Abbey, as it would be the 1,000th anniversary year of the foundation of the Abbey, was favourably received, and it was agreed that West Dorset would co-operate if such a meeting could be organised.

The officers were all unanimously re-elected, viz.: Rev. C. C. Cox, president; Mr. F. Bugler, Ringing Master; Messrs. W. S. B. Northover and A. Wynter, Assistant Ringing Masters; Mr. C. H. Lathey, hon. secretary and treasurer.

The report showed that two peals had been rung for the branch during the year, and that all the meetings had been well attended. Grants had been made towards the rehanging of Corscombe bells and towards the erection of a double floor to the belfry at Whitechurch. The latter work had been carried out with satisfactory result by the voluntary labour of the local ringers, as also had been the redecoration of Lyme Regis ringing chamber. The accounts showed a balance in hand of £11 1s. 7d., and were duly passed.

Meetings for the ensuing year were arranged to be held at Bradpole, Burton Bradstock and Hawkechurch.

Thanks were expressed to the Rector of Bridport for his welcome and sermon, also to the organist (Mr. Elsworth), and the meeting concluded with a few words of congratulation and encouragement from the Master.

Many members had their first pull on eight bells during the afternoon and evening, and all stages of proficiency were catered for in call changes, Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Plain Bob Doubles and Stedman Doubles and Triples.

FAREWELL TO RINGING MASTER.

PRESENTATION TO MR. C. H. WEBB.

A meeting was held in the vestry of St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Croft, Leicestershire, to take farewell of Mr. C. H. Webb, Ringing Master of the tower, who was leaving to reside in Rugby. Among the ringers present were Rev. R. P. Farrow and A. Ballard, of Stoney Stanton, H. Bird and C. Carr, of Broughton Astley, together with the local company.

Canon Casson, Rector of Croft, who presided, thanked Mr. Webb for his services to the church, of which he has been Ringing Master for five years since the bells were augmented from three to six, in May, 1928. The Canon remarked that it was mostly through Mr. Webb that the augmentation was achieved. He then presented Mr. Webb with the book, 'Bells Through the Ages' (Nichols), given by the Rector, churchwardens and ringers of the parish, as a mark of appreciation for his past services.

Mr. Webb expressed thanks for the gift, remarking that he was very proud to be the owner of the companion book by E. Morris, 'History and Art of Change Ringing.' What he had done at Croft was for the love of the church.

The Rev. R. P. Farrow spoke of the good work which Mr. Webb had done in the district, and expressed the hope that they would see him at the Hinckley District meetings as often as possible.

On behalf of the local ringers Mr. Wood said how sorry they would be to lose such an efficient ringer and able captain.

Mr. F. Bailless was elected Ringing Master in succession to Mr. Webb.

A 720 of Bob Minor was rung on the previous Sunday by the local ringers: Sidney Bailless 1, J. H. Bailless 2, W. A. Wood 3, C. H. Webb 4, G. A. Charlton 5, F. Bailless (conductor) 6.

ARMISTICE-TIDE.

On Saturday, November 11th (Armistice Day), a band of ringers, composed entirely of ex-Service men, met at Shifnal to attempt Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled in memory of fallen comrades. Unfortunately, the attempt came to grief. The band was: A. Baker, R.A.M.C., treble; W. Page, R.E., 2; R. Pickering, 6th South Staffs (conductor), 3; C. H. Watts, R.E., 4; A. Woodbine, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, 5; B. Dalton, 3rd Notts and Derby Regt., 6; E. V. Rodenhurst, R.G.A., 7; W. Lago, 7th K.S.L.I., tenor.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

A peal attempt in seven Surprise Minor methods, arranged for Mr. Charles Woods, at his native village of Ginton, Northants, on November 30th, was brought to an abrupt conclusion in the last 720 by the clapper of the 2nd falling out. Mr. Woods and the others of the band got some compensation on Saturday, when they rung the peal at Market Deeping, Lincs.

Three lectures on bells in successive days were given by Mr. Albert Walker, Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham. He addressed a meeting of the Arnold Club (a headmasters' association) at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham, one night, gave a lecture in St. Martin's Church the next day, and on the day following spoke on the subject to St. John's, Sparkhill, Debating Society.

These lectures were illustrated with lantern slides and change ringing on handbells, and the proceedings were further enlivened with tune ringing. In each case the lecture and the ringing were much appreciated. Good propaganda work, this!

The fiftieth anniversary of the installation of a peal of bells in the tower of Chester-le-Street Church was celebrated on Saturday with a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. The peal also celebrated the establishment of a church in the village a thousand years earlier.

Of the ringers present when the bells were installed half a century ago only three survive—Mr. C. L. Routledge, who conducted the jubilee peal on Saturday, Mr. Wm. Story, J.P., of Newcastle, and Mr. W. Newton, of Stockton.

The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, who has been associated with Canterbury Cathedral for something like 55 years, and who served the Kent County Association for more than 30 years as its hon. secretary, celebrated his 82nd birthday on Saturday, when he received many congratulations, and peals were rung in his honour.

Mr. James E. Davis, belfry steward of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, London, last week joined the select company who have rung one thousand peals. Others who have achieved this record are Mr. W. Pye, Mr. G. Williams, Mr. F. Bennett, Mr. G. R. Pye, Mr. J. George, Mr. A. H. Pulling, and the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, Mr. I. G. Shade and Mr. E. Pye.

Another good performance by a local band. At Sefton, Liverpool, there were four 'first peals' in a peal of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, and a 'first as conductor.' It was also the first peal by the local company.

This week we record, for the first time we believe, three 'spliced' peals of Major. One is in four Surprise methods, with which we are now becoming fairly familiar, one in five Surprise methods, and a peal on handbells in two methods.

LOUVRES—INFORMATION WANTED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should be grateful if any of your readers could give me full details, together with their experience, of any methods of preventing rain from being driven through belfry louvres (where towers are in very exposed positions), and at the same time not preventing the sound of the bells from being heard as far away as previously. I see a mention of Venetian louvres in the C.C. Report, but can these be worked from the ringing chamber if their framework is not flush with the tower walls?

(REV.) E. V. COX.

Brampford Speke Vicarage, Exeter.

A 'YOUNGSTERS' PEAL.

YOUNGEST BAND TO RING A PEAL OF MAJOR.

St. Olave's, Hart Street, City, will soon be known as the 'tower to suit all ages,' as following the recent veterans' peals a young band have rung a peal of Major on them, as reported in the peal columns. The band contained some very promising ringers, two of whom, Mr. E. A. Barnett and Mr. E. W. Pye, have fathers whose names are household words in the Exercise. The band greatly appreciated the visit of Mr. F. E. Dawe, who rang in the veterans' peal. He wished them 'Good luck' before starting.

Although they are not quite the youngest band to ring an eight-bell peal, they are the youngest band to ring a peal of Major. The previous 'youngest' was rung at Saxlingham Nethergate, Norfolk, in 1914, conducted by Mr. G. H. Cross. Their total ages were then 148. The Hart Street band totalled 147. It could have been arranged a bit younger, but two or three were otherwise engaged. The striking in the peal on the whole was good. A slow beat was kept up all through, and when 'That's all' was called, everyone felt very pleased and proud.

URCHFONTS BELLS ON BALL BEARINGS.

The bells of St. Michael's Church, Urchfont, near Devizes, have just been rehung on ball bearings. On the completion of the work a party of ringers from Devizes and Melksham assembled there on Monday, November 27th, and rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Mrs. W. West 1, W. West 2, John Thomas (conductor) 3, G. Winter 4, V. E. Swift 5, S. Hillier 6, F. Green 7, C. D. Heginbotham 8.

The work of rehanging has been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry. All the ringers were delighted with the 'go' of the peal, and the great improvement effected.

THE SOCIETY OF JUNIOR CUMBERLANDS

THE OUTCOME OF AN OLD LONDON RINGERS' QUARREL.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Mr. J. Armiger Trollope has been continuing his researches into early ringing history, especially in London, and in a series of articles, of which this is the first, describes the rise and fall of the Junior Cumberlands, among whose most notable members were George Gross, William Shipway and John Noonan.

George Gross was for many years the leading man of the Cumberlands Society, and from 1763, when he rang his first five thousand, until 1784 he conducted nearly all their peals. That was the most brilliant period in the history of the society, and it culminated in the long peal duel and the victory over the College Youths with the 12,000 of Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch. Then there happened a tremendous quarrel. What it was all about we do not now know, nor does it much matter, for such things were common enough in these old London societies; but the upshot was that Gross left the Company and he did not go alone.

With the help of his son and his other supporters he founded a new society, making up the number from certain low class ringers who lived in the East End and who did not belong to any of the leading companies.

The new society was intended as a vantage ground from which Gross could regain his position in the old body, and it was called the 'Junior Society of Cumberland Youths.' Actually it was an entirely independent body and no more a branch of the Cumberlands Society than the Hertford College Youths were a branch of the London College Youths. Its constitution was framed on the usual lines with Master and Stewards elected annually, but it was only in form a democracy; George Gross was the supreme power and it is noticeable that he took the office of Beadle, which was permanent, and not the more showy one of Master, which was held for a year only.

Socially, the new band were lower than the Cumberlands and much lower than the College Youths, but they were all good ringers and from their headquarters, first at the Seven Stars, in Fashion Street, and, later, at the Three Tuns, in Wood Street, both in Spitalfields, they went about ringing peals and touches at various towers where they could find entrance. Judged by our present day standards, their record is nothing to talk about, but it would be a great mistake to judge it so, and, among the eighteenth century band, as ringers, they take quite a prominent place.

Their first peal was Grandsire Caters at West Ham, and during that year they rang seven five-thousands of Grandsire Triples and Caters and Bob Major and Royal. George Gross, of course, called them, and so he did all their peals so long as he was with them, except three that his son called and one called by J. Devine.

In the next year they had a notable recruit. William Shipway, a young cabinet maker, of Bath, was bitten with the craze for ringing. There was a local band capable of ringing Treble Ten, but they were far too slow for the young enthusiast, and he set his face towards London to earn his living there if it might be so, but chiefly to get as much ringing and the best he could. It was natural enough that he should join the Junior Cumberlands, for they were good ringers and were quite ready

to welcome him. The College Youths were far too important and exclusive to receive just anyone who might come knocking at their door, and even the Cumberlands could pick and choose among would-be recruits and were not disposed to accept anyone until he had proved his mettle.

William Shipway, of 1785, was very different from the important person he afterwards became, but he was a great help to the Junior Cumberlands. His first peal with them was 5,248 Oxford Treble Bob Major at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, and the second was Grandsire Cinques at Southwark. During the next three or four years the society rang several interesting peals. One of them was 8,448 Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, at that time supposed to be the extent with the tenors together. Another was 5,440 Double Norwich Court Major at Bethnal Green. This was claimed to be the first peal in the method, but erroneously, for several had already been rung in the Eastern Counties. And, besides, it seems it was not a true peal, for when the Cumberlands rang one in 1788 they claimed it as 'the first true peal ever rang in London in that method.' By that time the London ringers knew that the Norwich men had rung peals of it. Shipway does not include the 5,440 among his performances, and the inference is that it was false and probably false in the ringing rather than the composition.

Among the other notable peals rung by the society during the time Gross was with them are the first five-thousands at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, and St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, the first peal of Plain Tittum Royal ever scored, and a peal of Bob Major at Bethnal Green 'in as many courses as there's Weeks in the Year, as many leads as there's Days in the Year and as many changes as there's Hours in 8 months.' The number was 5,856, and was claimed to be the 'greatest number ever rang in that method with the tenors together.' This claim at first sight seems very doubtful, as many much longer peals had already been rung, but we must remember that the old ringers objected to Singles and would rather part the tenors in a ten thousand than resort to their use. The 'Clavis' has some very sensible remarks to make on this point.

It is rather curious that the preceding peal was one of 6,000 of Bob Major, composed and called by Mr. Jas. Devine. This was claimed to be 'the first of that number ever rang on 8 Bells with the Tenor together.' It looks as if this peal was false, but, if so, why was it booked, since less than a fortnight elapsed between the two performances? Only one man besides Gross and his son rang in both, and we may, perhaps, see here one of the reasons for the quarrel which immediately afterwards split the society in two.

Except for the fact that they could ring, the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths was a far inferior affair to either the College Youths or the old Cumberlands, and from the first the men who had seceded with George Gross began to trickle back. Gross himself was waiting for an excuse to return to his old friends, and presently there came the inevitable quarrel in the new company. It happened in 1788—a most eventful year in the history of the London Exercise. That was the time when the 'Clavis' first appeared; it was the time that Stedman became the most important method practised in London; it was the time when the original Society of College

Youths broke up and disappeared; it was the time the rivalries and contentions between a few leading men were reshuffling the different bands and altering the composition of the different societies. Taking a wide view of history we should probably come to the conclusion that in that year the Exercise reached its highest point in London. From then onwards there was decline, slow and imperceptible at first, but soon rapid and decisive.

The quarrels and jealousies of the time sowed seed, which was to bear fruit later, but the immediate results, so far as the Junior Cumberlands were concerned, was that they lost their founder and leader. Gross returned to the old Cumberlands, but if he expected that he was going back at once to his old position of power and influence he was disappointed. He had delayed a little too long. For John Reeves had come over from the College Youths, driven out as the result of his quarrel with Thomas Blakemore, and Reeves had the advantage that he was one of the only two men in London who knew anything about the composition of Stedman's Principle. Everybody was then wanting to ring that method, the Cumberlands as much as any one else, and so it was Reeves who became their conductor and who was given Gross's old post as Beadle.

There was no love lost between the two men. It seemed to be the regular rule that in these old London societies there was room for only one ambitious leading man at a time. In theory, of course, they were purely democratic, with all the offices open to each member in turn and a fresh Master each year. In practice one man controlled the company at least in the tower, and he had to fight hard to keep his position until a stronger than he came along and took his place.

Besides all this, Gross and Reeves were rival composers, and they claimed the same peals. Quite a number of outstanding peals of Treble Bob are to-day recognised as Reeves' composition. More than one of the best of them Gross claimed as his; the 12,000 of Royal for instance, and when he died his friends put in the peal book that as a Treble Bob composer he surpassed all his contemporaries. Now, John Reeves' best compositions are peals of Treble Bob. Between the two we cannot to-day form any real judgment, but there is the significant fact that not a single peal in Jasper Snowden's collection of Treble Bob has Gross's name attached to it, and Shipway, who knew both men, gave all the disputed compositions to Reeves.

Gross got back to the Cumberlands in time to take a rope in the 5,184 of Stedman Caters at Shoreditch in 1788, but that was the only peal he rang with them so long as Reeves was Beadle and conductor to the company. We know nothing at all of what sort a man Reeves was. From the number of times he changed his society and the frequent disputes he had with other men, it seems likely that while he was a brilliant ringer, composer and conductor, there was some defect in his make-up which prevented him from being popular for very long with any one band. After he left the Cumberlands George Gross came once more into his own, and for the last years of his life he was supreme in that society.

(To be continued.)

CANNOCK, STAFFS.—On Thursday, November 16th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Roberts 1, G. Bradbury (first quarter-peal as conductor) 2, G. Banks 3, T. Benton 4, W. Benton 5, F. Bates 6, A. Williams 7, T. Fowell 8.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

AYLESBURY DEANERY'S GOOD REPORT.

The Aylesbury Deanery Branch of the Devonshire Guild held its annual meeting at Topsham on Saturday, December 2nd, with an attendance of 34 members, comprising bands from five towers in the branch and some visitors from Exeter. The usual Guild service was held in St. Margaret's Church, conducted by the Vicar (Rev. J. W. G. Halliday), with organ and choir.

The Vicar, in a forceful address, mentioned that he had asked a practical ringer what he ought to say at a ringers' service, and the advice given was, 'Don't give a history of bells and their ancient uses.' So he would only dwell on the nature of the service given by all churchworkers—the stoker, the chorister, the ringer or the parson—who might all have the same aim, and with equal honour each do their bit for the glory of God. He did not believe the pessimistic view that religion was on the downward grade.

The meeting, preceded by a bountiful tea, was held in the assembly room of the Parish Hall, presided over by the chairman of the branch (Rev. E. A. Jullian).

A good report of the year's work was presented, the funds in hand having increased by about 30s.

The chairman and secretary (Mr. R. Brook) were re-elected, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Lympstone on January 27th.

Three new members were elected, and the chairman extended a welcome to the visitors, also the Rev. T. Mitchell, of Clyst St. George, who was present. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung on the bells during the afternoon and evening.

BELL BROADCASTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It is to be hoped that the day is far distant when broadcasting programmes shall be handed over to a central body to be dealt with (be it national or diocesan), and ringers who have any foresight at all should oppose this to the bitter end, for in handing these over to an outside body one can easily see what would happen. A band capable of ringing good Grandsire Triples or Plain Minor would be brushed aside. One can appreciate the wish for only the best to be given, but all depends on what is meant by 'the best.' If good ringing in any method, then all well and good; but with a large number of ringers 'the best' is usually meant Surprise stuff and nothing else. From the public's point of view very few methods sound better than Grandsire Triples or Grandsire Caters, and as these are methods which most bands are capable of striking no difficulty should arise in getting ringers to ring them, and if a band was short-handed it should be left to the tower foreman to be decent enough to ask the best outside help that it is possible to get. This would cut out any prejudices with local bands being ousted to make room for any outside 'cracked Surprise' team who liked to step in and take control. Wellingborough.

P. AMOS.

[If Mr. Amos wishes it to be inferred that we suggested that broadcast ringing should be handed over to any central body he must have misread our article, and we recommend him to peruse it again. —Ed., 'R.W.']

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHELTEMHAM BRANCH'S SUCCESSFUL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Cheltenham Branch was held on Saturday at Prestbury, and proved to be the most successful of the year, over 40 members being present, representing practically every tower in the district. Ringing commenced in the early afternoon, many methods being rung, as well as rounds for the beginners.

Service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. Bagot de la Bere, and the address given by the Rev. E. Neale, of Charlton Kings.

The party were then entertained to tea by the Vicar, the meal being served by many willing lady helpers.

At the business meeting a letter was read from the Rector of Bishop's Cleeve applying for admission to the Cheltenham Branch. This being agreed to, all the ringers from Cleeve, also some from Prestbury and Alderton were welcomed as members.

Reference was made to the possibility of holding a summer outing, and it was decided to go forward with this object, final arrangements being deferred until a meeting to be held at Badgeworth in March.

To wind up a very happy meeting, a special touch of Stedman Triples was rung to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Cornwall, of Prestbury, who were celebrating their golden wedding.

MUFFLED BELLS.

At Salford, Lancs, on Sunday evening, November 26th, at the Church of the Sacred Trinity, 720 Bob Minor, rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Miss Maud Taylor, a member of the Parochial Church Council and hon. organist: J. Bolton 1, A. Lees 2, H. Hollingworth 3, F. Stoneley (conductor) 4, H. Lees 5, W. Fitton 6.

At Croft, Leicestershire, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) was rung half-muffled on Sunday, November 26th, by local ringers as a token of respect to Mr. Arthur Cockerill, who was interred the day previous: S. Bailless 1, W. A. Wood 2, J. H. Bailless (conductor) 3, F. Bailless 4, G. A. Charlton 5, A. E. Warwick 6.

LAMBETH PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

EXTENSIVE RESTORATION SCHEME.

After remaining idle for nearly three years, the eight bells at the historical mother church of St. Mary-at-Lambeth were reopened on Sunday morning, November 26th, on the occasion of Civic Sunday.

Prior to the service, a procession of members of the Corporation and representatives of the restoration scheme marched from the Archbishop's Palace to the church. Those taking part in the procession included the Mayor, preceded by the mace-bearer, the town clerk, the Member of Parliament, aldermen, councillors and members of the Public Assistance Committee, the architect for the tower restoration (Mr. Godfrey Allen, surveyor to St. Paul's Cathedral), Mr. E. Denison Taylor (principal of the bellfounders), the Rector, assistant priest, wardens and ringers.

The service took the form of matins, the address being given by the Rector (the Rev. A. L. Jones, M.C.), who spoke of the close connection between the work of the Church and the work of the State as represented by the County Council, and mentioned that it was an advantage to have an annual reminder that the work now carried out from the Town Hall at Brixton was in bygone days done by the Church, when there was but the one parish and the one mother church in Lambeth. Continuing, the preacher stated that this was more than an ordinary Civic Sunday in that they had to offer special thanks for all that had been done in making the tower and bells secure. The ravages of that small but active pest, the death-watch beetle, had entailed the entire removal of the old wooden bellframe and carrying beams and their replacement by a metal frame. The bells were now safe once more and he hoped that in these troublous times their message of peace would not be ignored.

During the singing of the last hymn the local ringers ascended the tower, and a pause was made to allow the bells to be heard in rounds for the first time since relanging.

As the congregation left the church a few more rounds and call changes were rung by the local company, followed by touches of Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob.

A limited number of visitors were present, including Mr. E. Denison Taylor and Mr. R. H. Dove (representing Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough), Messrs. T. H. Taffender, H. Mance, J. Herbert, J. G. Prior and W. Essery (the Master and officials of the London County Association).

The bells have been wonderfully improved by skilful retuning, while the substitution of cast-iron headstocks for the old-fashioned timber ones previously in use has enabled the bells to be properly 'tucked' and the work of ringing to be reduced accordingly. The tenor now weighs 16 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. and is in E flat. Whereas the bells previously ran 'anti-clockwise,' they are now hung the reverse way, while the lowering of the bells some 8ft. in the tower has effected a further improvement both in a reduced draught of rope and from the point of view of acoustics.

The frame consists of stout H-type castings and rolled steel girders, the latter taking their bearing upon a massive steel grillage, which in turn is carried by a set-off in the walls. Further steel work ties the walls together above the frame, the whole structure being cross-braced in every possible direction, and even a casual glance suffices to show that everything possible has been devised to ensure the permanent safety of both the tower and bells.

The cost of relanging of the bells, the new steelwork, floors etc.,

amounts to over £800, and the authorities are to be congratulated on the completion of a splendid piece of work.

In the sixteenth century Lambeth Parish Church had 'V great belles in the steeple,' and a 'sauns bell.' There is proof that they were rung even in those early days, for in the churchwarden's accounts for 1514-15 three shillings was paid for 'fastening of iij belles y^e wer lowse in the stoks and a stei to the gret bell,' the assumption being that, with stays in use, they were rung up to the 'set' position. The peal of eight

was originally put in by R. Phelps in 1723, but for two hundred years before that the churchwarden's accounts contain many interesting items in connection with the bells. In 1517 2s. 4d. was paid to the 'yewa anyuer' in default of ringing the bells at the 'Kyng's comynge.' In 1554-5 William Smyth was paid 2s. 'for lokyng to the bells and gresying the bell stocks for on yere.' In those days they bought bell ropes by the pound, for they paid 3s. 4d. for '20 pownd of bell roopys.' In 1572 the ringers were paid 12 pence 'for ringing at the overthrowe of the tourcke.'

It was probable that it is Robert Mot, of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry who is referred to in 1579, when 12 pence was spent on the bell founder 'in wine and beeaere when he came to give his advice in mending the bell clappers,' for in subsequent years his name appears in the accounts, when he was described as 'Mr. Mote of Whitechappell.'

In 1584 it was agreed at a vestry that there be a collection had amongst the parishioners for the new hanging and casting of the bells, and that the money wanting thereof be paid out of the church, and in 1584-85 the following items appear:—

An oken poule to	
winshe up ye belles	12d.
Mendinge and trim-	
minge all ye bell	
clappers ...	16s. 16d.
A new steeple to	
hoysse upp ye belles	22d.
For ye new castinge	
of 4 bells ...	£18
For a linke in ye	
steeple at hanging ye	
bell ...	4d.

And then comes an item: 'For our diner, churchwardens, bell founder and other honest men of ye parishe at ye payment of ye money receyvinge of his bonde for the strenght of ye sayd belles in warrantie for a yeaere and a daye, 6s. 8d.'

They usually 'did themselves well' on such occasions in the 'good old days.'

There are many such interesting items in the Lambeth churchwarden's accounts, which appear to be some of the most illuminating of their kind to be found anywhere.

A SIMPLE QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

234567

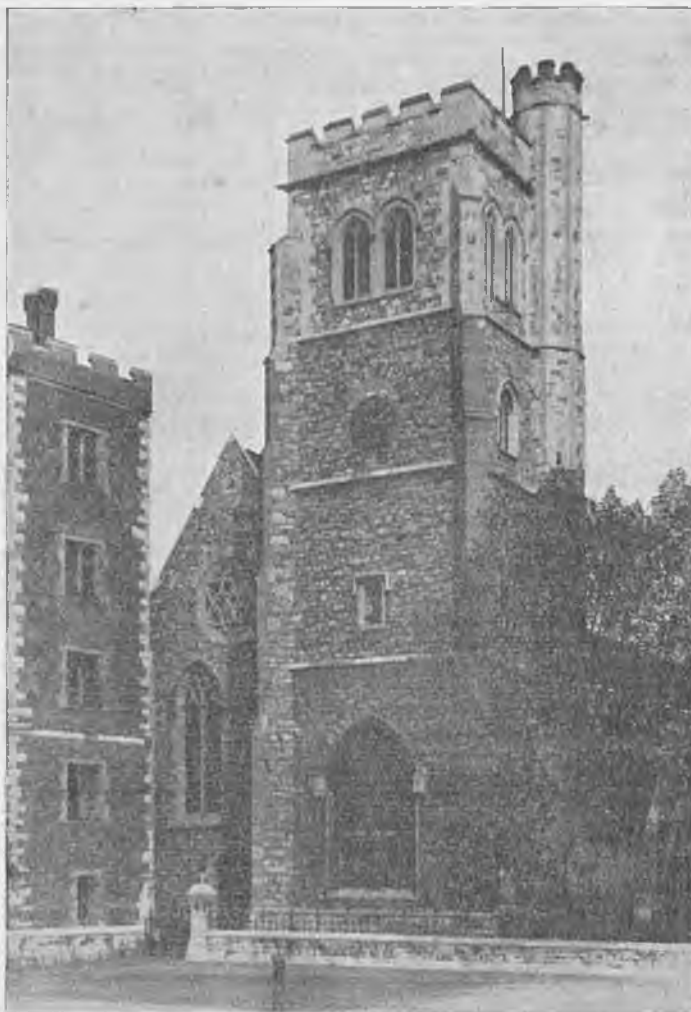
752634 1
527634 4
275634 4

Nine times repeated. S. half-way and end.

If Holt's S. are used, the 2nd is undisturbed throughout.

This quarter-peal was composed by E. H. Bohan, of Australia, in 1899.

DORE, DERBYSHIRE.—On Friday, December 1st, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: A. P. Knights (conductor) 1, G. M. Thorpe 2, R. E. Johnson 3, J. W. Sykes 4, W. Biggin 5, A. Wilson 6. First 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor by all except the conductor.



LAMBETH PARISH CHURCH.

[By courtesy of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.]

MR. JAMES GEORGE'S 80th BIRTHDAY. CELEBRATED BY MANY PEALS.

Mr. James George celebrated his eightieth birthday last week with a series of performances which would have been considered almost staggering in anyone of his years, except James George himself, of whom the Exercise has come to expect these things.

He followed up his peals of Cambridge Surprise Major on the tenor at Nuneaton, and of Treble Ten on the tenor at All Saints', Derby (recorded last week), by ringing the 28! cwt. tenor at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, to a peal of Stedman Triples on his actual birthday, and the 37 cwt. tenor at St. Martin's, Birmingham, to a peal of Stedman Cinques, on the following evening. We have it on the best authority that 'Jimmy rang (the tenor splendidly throughout and finished up as fresh as a daisy.' There could be no better testimony than this to his ability and his wonderful fitness at the age of 80 years. At the conclusion of the peal Mr. George received the congratulations of all the band upon the way in which he had rung the tenor, and their good wishes for 'many happy returns.'

One of his old friends, John Carter, now no longer with us, evidently had faith in Mr. George's ability to become an octogenarian, for as long ago as October, 1923, he composed a peal of 5,080 Stedman Cinques specially for Mr. George's 80th birthday, and this composition was called by Mr. Albert Walker last week at Birmingham, when it was rung for the first time. We have not been told whether special compositions are already in existence for the 90th and the 100th anniversary celebrations. If not, it is time someone saw about it.

The peal at Birmingham, however, was not the greatest of Mr. George's achievements last week for, having in passing, rung a peal of Stedman Triples on Wednesday, on Saturday he rang the 33 cwt. tenor at Wolverhampton to a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus! Those who have rung this bell to a peal will best appreciate the merit of this performance. Wolverhampton tenor is not anybody's bell: she is what may be not inaptly described as 'quite a handful,' and Mr. George has reason to feel proud of his achievement.

After the peal Mr. George entertained the band to high tea, and was cordially thanked for his hospitality.

At Liverpool, on Tuesday, November 28th, at St. Nicholas' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: T. G. Horridge 1, J. Wilkinson 2, A. Gorrings 3, G. R. Newton (conductor) 4, E. O. Birkett 5, T. Hammond 6, E. Caunce 7, L. L. Gray 8. This quarter-peal was the composition of Mr. James George, whom the band heartily congratulate on attaining his 80th birthday.

MR. GEORGE'S THANKS.

Mr. George has received so many letters of congratulation upon his 80th birthday that he finds it impossible to reply to them individually. He, however, desires to thank sincerely all those who have sent him such kindly messages.

'JAMES GEORGE OF MERRIE ENGLAND.'

'St. George for Merrie England'—the old Crusaders cried,
As with armour all a-jingle, to the Holy Land they hied.

'Twas George who slew the dragon:

His lance there was a flag on,

And he thrust it well and truly through the fiery reptile's hide.

There's now another hero, a man of national fame;

Another George has risen who has made himself a name.

He, too, has slain a dragon—

His lance may have no flag on—

But he's killed the ancient bogey that old age must end the game.

'James George of Merrie England,' the old boys loudly cry,

And acclaim their youthful leader as he gaily passes by.

'Tis he who slew the dragon,

'Who still can empty' his flagon,

'Who will tackle any tenor, but has never yet said "die."'

X.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for evening service at St. Mary's, 1,120 Bob Major: Miss J. Pearce 1, C. J. Wood 2, T. R. Taylor 3, E. J. Stone 4, J. Topp 5, F. W. Rogers 6, J. D. Harris (conductor) 7, A. T. Greenwood 8.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Tyler 1, F. G. Goddard 2, C. J. Tricker 3, W. F. Ellingham 4, H. W. Lidbetter 5, Miss D. Lidbetter 6, J. P. Kent (conductor) 7, H. Brooks 8. Arranged with pleasure for Messrs. Kent and Tyler, of South Hackney, and rung as a birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

GORSEINON.—At St. Catherine's Church, for the anniversary of the church, on the Sunday, November 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: L. Williams (first quarter) 1, G. Howells (first quarter 'inside') 2, Reg Dobbins 3, H. Dobbins 4, J. Williams 5, W. Dobbins 6, Wallace Dobbins (first quarter as conductor) 7, C. Pettit 8.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.—At St. Deny's Church for evening service on Sunday, November 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Kitchingside 1, W. J. Hack 2, A. Lewry (first as conductor) 3, H. R. Butcher 4, C. Brasier 5, E. Bishop, sen., 6, F. Hammond 7, H. Hinson 8. Also a birthday compliment to Miss Butcher, daughter of the ringer of the 4th, and to the conductor.

BUSHEY SURPRISE MAJOR.

12345678

21436587

12346857

21438675

24183657

42816375

42183657

24816375

42861357

24683175

26481357

62843175

62483715

26847351

28643715

82467351

28643751

82467315

84263751

48627315

48267135

84621753

86427135

86241753

86214735

68127453

68214735

86127453

81672435

18764253

81674523

18765432

18674523

17864523

5,024 BY H. G. CASHMORE.

23456 B. W. M. H.

45236

45362

34562

34625

63425

63254

26354

26543

42563

56423

45623

64523

56342

36245

52364

35264

23564

56234

42635

64235

52843

52436

35426

42356

34256

23456

Bob.

First rung at Bushey,
November 23rd, 1933.

8 1932

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

By the kind permission of Rev. Canon Clarke, a Canterbury District by-meeting was held at Faversham on Saturday. Although the number of ringers present was comparatively small, the representation was good, the following towers being represented: Canterbury Cathedral and St. Alphage, Sittingbourne, Queenborough, Littlebourne, Wickham, Sturry, Tunstall, Egerton, Ashford, and the local tower. A shortened form of ringing service was held at St. Saviour's Church, which was conducted by Canon Clarke. Subsequently adjourning to the Parish Room, the ringers were entertained to a splendid tea by the Vicar.

In replying to a vote of thanks for his kind hospitality, Canon Clarke said he welcomed the association to Faversham and hoped that his own band of ringers would join the association by the beginning of the year.

Votes of thanks were also accorded to Mr. T. H. Harman, the local secretary, for his help in making the meeting a successful one, and also to the ladies who had prepared and helped with the tea. Afterwards handbells were produced, and various well-struck touches were enjoyed by the company.

During the afternoon a congratulatory telegram was dispatched from the meeting to Canon F. J. O. Helmore, who was celebrating his 82nd birthday.

Ringings were afterwards continued until half-past eight.

The next meeting of the district will be held at Wingham in February.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week the North Notts Association held a bi-monthly meeting at Sutton-on-Trent, when ringers and friends attended from Edwinstowe, Bolsover, Treeton, Sheffield, Stamford, Folkingham, Nottingham, Southwell, Gamston, Ordsall and a full company of local ringers. The bells were kept going through the afternoon and evening to a great variety of methods, both on six and eight bells. Catering for tea was undertaken by a party of ladies, who were thanked for doing their part so well.

The Rev. T. J. H. Eling, Vicar of Sutton-on-Trent, presided over the business meeting, and was supported by the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, Rector of Ordsall.

After a short discussion, it was decided to hold the next meeting at West Retford on Saturday, December 16th.

The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, in proposing a vote of thanks to all who had helped to make an enjoyable day, said: 'You need not say to the Vicar, "When can we come again?" because he is always asking, "When are you coming again?" and this spirit always attracted many visitors.'

RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX.—On Advent Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (composed by James George): S. Ewer 1, W. Bunce, jun., 2, P. Thrift 3, W. Bunce, sen., 4, J. Bunce 5, T. Collins (conductor) 6, H. Ivo 7, F. Collins 8.

THE CUMBERLAND TOUR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I have the opportunity of replying, finally, I sincerely hope, to the letter from Mr. Tyson Hogarth which appeared in the issue of 'The Ringing World' of November 24th.

Without being in any sense egoistic, I think that I am entitled to resent and correct a personal attack, however cleverly veiled, and that is all Mr. Hogarth's letter of September 22nd amounted to. Any doubt as to that is removed by his last letter. In this he pleads that he is going to correct my many misstatements, but his corrections are conspicuous by their absence.

With regard to the confidential letter of mine which Mr. Hogarth refers to, this was aimed at the formation of a local Diocesan Guild, a matter in which he and I were much in sympathy, and I dealt with ways and means to be adopted with the view of getting interest in his scheme. It had no bearing whatsoever on the subject under discussion. However, if he so desires, he can use the letter in any way he wishes.

So far as Mr. Hogarth's letters to myself are concerned, I note that he withholds the permission to quote which I requested, but of that there is now no necessity, for in his latest effort he performs a complete 'volte face' from his letter of September 22nd, and I assume his antagonism to peal ringing has now vanished.

With regard to tower arrangements, does Mr. Hogarth suggest that I am lying when I have twice categorically stated that the general peal arrangements were made before the tour commenced? His letters leave no other inference possible. May I once again emphasise that we had to alter our plan at Keswick owing to the inability of Mr. George to be with us. I might also make it clear that I was personally acquainted with what methods had been rung in the various towers in Cumberland, without having need to enquire, and was already aware that the only peal of Stedman, rung in the county, had been obtained at Carlisle Cathedral by a Newcastle band of ringers.

Touching on his accusation of 'whirlwind departures,' may I point out to him and also to Mr. Brownrigg that we could not obtain the accommodation we required in Keswick, consequently we had made sleeping arrangements in another town. We arrived at Keswick at approximately 3 p.m., and only left to get the last train to our destination after 9 p.m., so that I fail to see where the rush came in, particularly as we all looked up Mr. Hogarth, and both he and Mr. Brownrigg were cordially invited to join us for the period of our short stay.

I personally regret that Mr. Hogarth has made the correspondence so acrimonious, so I shall not take him up on what he avows he has heard at other towers, only to assure him that if he is correct they must speak with two sets of voices, as all my letters from the various places we visited express nothing but pleasure to us, and the only note of discord has come from Mr. Hogarth, now ably seconded by Mr. Brownrigg.

Apocryphal Sunday trading, my reference had no personal import, as evidenced by my correction of the omission in 'The Ringing World.'

With regard to the missionary work Mr. Hogarth speaks of, here I am wholeheartedly in sympathy with him, and shall follow with interest anything he does in that line, or perhaps he would like to collaborate with me in helping beginners with a first peal, in which case I shall be glad to hear from him.

And now just a word re the letter from Mr. Brownrigg. I am afraid that he has got his facts marshalled wrongly, or possibly his memory is at fault. Did he express any desire for help, and is it not a fact that he could have rung with the party had he been able or so desired? I should like to express my own sincere apologies to the readers of 'The Ringing World' for my share in this unfortunate controversy, which has been imposed upon me, for, as I stated in my letter of September 23rd, I hold the view that it need not have entered into the columns of our journal.

I am in agreement with the protest of Mr. J. F. Pellos and with this explanation have finished with the subject.

I would like to commend to the notice of Mr. Hogarth and Mr. Brownrigg the excellent leading articles in your issues of September 22nd and October 13th, and feel certain that an earnest digest of the contents therein will end this unedifying personal mud-slinging.

EDWIN JENNINGS.

Kendal.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

KEIGHLEY.—At St. Andrew's Parish Church for evening service on Sunday, November 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. W. Jennison 1, H. Green 2, E. Green 3, J. Robertshaw (first quarter in method) 4, J. Hall 5, H. Atkinson 6, R. Bottomley (conductor) 7, J. Coulton 8.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, November 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples for evening service: W. Kitchingside 1, J. Hack 2, H. Hammond 3, A. Lewery 4, F. Hammond 5, E. Bishop, sen., 6, C. Brasier (conductor) 7, H. Hinson 8.

ALSAGER.—On November 5th, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Dickinson 1, B. Fernyough 2, G. W. Whalley 3, T. A. Meredith 4, A. Thompson 5, J. Brassington 6, D. R. Whalley (conductor) 7, R. Moseley 8.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

Notices must be received not later than Tuesday.

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All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d. which enables members who have not made 20 attendances to vote on matters of finance is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 12th, St. Magnus' on the 14th and 28th, Southwark Cathedral on the 21st, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea (by kind invitation of the Vicar) and meeting to follow. For tea please notify Mr. W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston. The usual Garston welcome is assured. —Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Sidwell's, Exeter, on Dec. 9th. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45, free to members, bands and visitors attending. — W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Apsley End on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Numbers for tea by previous Wednesday. All sorts and sizes of ringers are welcome, but come prepared to wander off the beaten track.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting will be held at Thurlaston on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Hoping to end the year with a bumper meeting.—A. E. Rowley, Local Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Beverley on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells (10) at the Minster available from 2.30 to 4.30 and from 6 p.m. onwards. Service in Minster 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Dorking on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Usual arrangements. Tea in the Church Room after service. Officers for 1934 to be nominated at this meeting. It is therefore hoped as many as can do so will attend. Please let me have numbers for tea.—A. H. Smith, 37, Church Walk, Leatherhead.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division. —The annual meeting will be held at Colchester on Saturday, Dec. 9th. St. Peter's bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. and St. Leonard's (6) from 3 till 4 p.m. Divine service at St. Peter's, 4.30 p.m., will be conducted by the Rev. B. R. Bertin, and in place of an address a talk will be given by the Divisional Master (Mr. Edward P. Duffield). Tea at St. Peter's Church Hall at 5.30 p.m. —James R. Sparling, Station Road, Wivenhoe.

LADIES GUILD. — Western District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's, Bristol, on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.45. Tea and meeting to follow. — N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Christchurch District. — The annual meeting of this district will take place at Christchurch on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells (12) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the King's Arms, P.R.H.A., at 5 p.m., to be followed by a business meeting. — G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Central Branch. — A meeting will be held at Cottenham on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All 1933 subscriptions due. Please come and help a band urgently requiring instruction. By helping others we help ourselves. — F. Warrington, Over, Cambs.

SALISBURY GUILD. — N. Dorset Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. All ringers cordially invited. Please notify Rev. E. V. Roe, Caundle Marsh Rectory, Sherborne, Dorset.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN GUILD. — Taunton Deanery Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Taunton, on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and business in the Schools at 5 p.m. Visitors welcome. — P. Merson, Bishops Hull.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Andover District. — Quarterly meeting at Burghclere, Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business meeting to follow. Please notify me for tea, Rev. F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD. — Southern District. — A meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary's, Lambeth, on Saturday, Dec. 9th; commencing at 3 o'clock. As it is expected that there will be a large attendance, please send word so that adequate arrangements may be made for tea. — J. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Central Bucks Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Hardwick on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells (6) available from 2.45 p.m. Guild service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. A good bus service from Aylesbury. All ringers welcome. — F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 92, High Street, Winslow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Preston Branch. — A meeting has been arranged for Saturday, Dec. 9th, at St. Mary's (R.C.), Chorley. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. — J. Charnock, Branch Sec., Carwood Lane, Whittle-le-Woods.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Division. — The quarterly meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Bradford, on Saturday, Dec. 9th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Further particulars on circulars. — Wm. Amber, Hon. Dis. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District. — Baldock, Dec. 9th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea, Allnut's Café, 5.30. All ringers welcome, and a helping hand given to any learner. Book the date—and come. — Don Mears, Hon. Sec., Fritton, Moormead Close, Hitchin.

ELY ASSOCIATION. — Huntingdon Branch. — A meeting will be held at Great Staughton on Dec. 9th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock. Short even-song 6.30 p.m. — H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wednesday Guild. — A meeting will be held on December 13th at Chester-le-Street commencing at 3 p.m. Tea at Church Institute, 5 p.m. — W. Sheraton, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Barnwood on Saturday, December 16th, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. Canon Bryce. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (free) at 5.15 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than December 14th (all ringers and friends welcome)? — W. H. Harris, Branch Hon. Sec., 4, Railway Terrace, Lydney, Glos.

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — North-Western District. — The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Benlilton, Sutton, on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting following. All ringers heartily welcome. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, Dec. 13th. — D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division. — The quarterly meeting will be held at Rotherham Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall, Moorgate (200 yards from church) at 5 p.m., at a nominal charge. Please notify Mr. T. C. Ryder, 19, Middle Lane South, Rotherham, by Dec. 14th for same. — F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western Division. — The district annual meeting will be held at Leyton on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present kindly advise me as soon as possible and oblige? — E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford, Essex.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — North-Western Division. — The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16th, at Bishop's Stortford. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me. — H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 73, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

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ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Rolvenden on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells ready 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. — P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at West Hartlepool on Saturday, Dec. 16th. St. Oswald's (10) available from 2.30 p.m., and St. Aidan's (8) after tea. Tea, 5 p.m., in St. Oswald's Mission Hall, Dale Street. All are welcome, so come in crowds.—F. Robson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 77, Durham Street, West Hartlepool.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Willoughby on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Usual arrangements. — W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on Dec. 16th., when the bells of All Saints' (10), St. Andrew's (8) and Bengoe (8) will be open. Service, tea and business meeting. All will be heartily welcome. — W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at West Retford on Saturday, December 16th. Good attendance requested. Tea for those who notify Mr. D. A. Piercy, 60, Wharton Street, Retford.—R. W. Stockdale, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next practice meeting of the above branch will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, December 16th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—D. Brown, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (South and West District).—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Twickenham, on Saturday December 16th (by kind permission of the President, Rev. W. P. Cole Sheane). Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Evensong at 5. Tea in St. Mary's Hall, Church Street, at 5.30. Have you bought your ticket for the supper yet? All members of the Committee have them. The date is January 13th, 1934.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Sandbach (8 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Please note that the list of meetings to be held during 1934 is compiled at this gathering. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me know on or before December 13th?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Sec., 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at the Pro-Cathedral Church of St. Woolos, Newport, on Tuesday, Dec. 26th. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting to follow in Waters Lane Mission Room. The bells of both St. Woolos' and All Saints' available from 2 o'clock.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Alterryn View, Newport, Mon.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual dinner will be held at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday, Jan. 13th, 1934. Tickets 5s. 6d. Further details later.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover Cottage, Pyrford, Woking.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

The address of Mr. T. H. Taffender, Master of the London County Association, is now 26, Amesbury Avenue, Streatham Hill, S.W.2.

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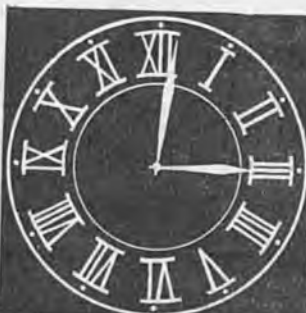
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Printed for the Proprietor by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guild-
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