

No. 215. Vol. VIII

FRIDAY, APRIL 30th, 1915.

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton. Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON, MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912 Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampson, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

THE EXPERT'S POSITION.

For some few weeks now we have had in our columns correspondence upon "the experts," which arose out of a quite innocent, if somewhat pessimistic, letter penned by "Once a Beginner," and which has drifted, as such newspaper debates not infrequently do, when names are mentioned, into personalities. This is always regrettable, but it is not always avoidable, for each side is naturally and legitimately anxious to reply to the other. The unfortunate part is that, when this happens, the principle under argument is often lost sight of and the discussion leads nowhere and satisfies no one.

In the present instance the controversy has been diverted from consideration of the future of ringing, in so far as it depends upon experts for guidance, to a del ate upon whether the performance of a particular man or men has been of use to other members of the Exercise. As a matter of fact it cannot be said of anyone, we imagine, that all his peal ringing has always been for the benefit of other At the same time no one would suggest that ringers of peals in higher methods have never done anything for the beginner. It is only to be expected that those who are highly skilled will devote their attention to helping what, perhaps, for convenience, we may call the advanced students of the Art. We do not expect to find a professor of, say, literature at a University teaching the rudiments of grammar. That task is usually left to someone in a less exalted position, and we think the experts in ringing may be looked upon as being in a similar situation to the professors. If they are to spend all their time in teaching others the rudiments, who is to help the more advanced to reach higher stages?

It is here that the argument comes back to the original discussion-the experts of the future. Unless there were men able to supply the help which enables others to reach the highest heights, the future would not be very encouraging. Some, of course, can reach these eminences almost unaided, but they are exceptions. We are hold enough to say that a large majority of ringers of London Surprise would have still been waiting for a peal in that method but for the assistance of the experts-for the conductor who can keep London Surprise going when a serious trip occurs is a real expert, whatever his name may be. Whether in practical ringing or in the theoretical side, we must still have our experts, who will devote most of their attention to the higher phases of the Art if change ringing is to continue its progress and to develop as we would wish it to. The man who can ring the more complex methods and can help others to do so, is as essential to the maintenance of our Art as he who devotes himself to working out new and more intricate methods. We need them both.

... 6

... Tenor

CHARLES CARR,



OPINION OF OUR MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage, Chelmsford

Dear Sire.

I have great pleasure in stating hat we are perfectly satisfied with he manner in which you have sarried out the work entrusted to ou of re-arranging and re-hanging he Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work redects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

the CHURCHWARDENS unite ith ME in this expression of pinion. The BELLRINGERS are siso unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly, CHAS. EDMUNDS, Vicar of Broomfield. eners C. CARR, LTD. Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to Inspect. Report. and Tender before deciding your

Contract, - we may be able to

ESTABLISHED 1760.

seciat you.

Best Workmanship and

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON BRACKETS.

BEST BELL ROPES REPAIRS AND REHANGING

and report on Bells and Taver

SMETHWICK. BIRMINGHAM

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FOR CHURCHES.

SINGLY. OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK, STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines

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MALLBABLE IRON BRACKETS IN ALL BRANCHES.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. (DARLEY DALE SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, April 21, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN.

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 15% cwt., in F.

*Bernard Allsop		Treble	WILLIAM TAYLOR	5
†Alfred C. Wright		2	EDWIN BLACKWALL	
HENRY GREGORY		3	JAMES L. WRIGHT	7
THOMAS WHITE	F4.0	4	JOHN W. DERBYSHIRE	

Composed by J. J. PARKER, and Conducted by ALFRED C. WRIGHT.

* First peal and first attempt. † 50th peal, 25th as conductor Rung at the wedding of Mr. Hugh W. Gregory, and also for the birthday of Pte. John Siddall, 6th Sherwood Foresters, both members of the above Society.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE. THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, April 22, 1915, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES |

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 24 cwts.. in E flat.

WILLIAM PARR	Treble	WILLIAM ALLSOP	
CHARLES WAITHMAN	2	THOMAS BLOORE	
GEORGE GARRISON		BERTRAM G. LEEDHAM .	
GEORGE ROBERTS	4	JAMES REYNOLDS	7

Conducted by THOMAS BLOORE. * First peal away from the tenor. This peal was rung in honour of Mr. Thomas Matthews, who has now completed 40 years as a ringer in the above tower, 30 years as tower keeper, and is in his 25th year as Deputy Parish Clerk. In thanking him for his kindness after the peal, the ringers all expressed their best wishes and hopes that they may be able to renew the compliment on his jubilee. All the above

ringers belong to the service band except Mr. Garrison, who hails from Erdington Parish Church.

GLODWICK, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (OLDHAM SOCIETY.)

On Sunday, April 25, 1915, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF CRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

lovy Capres's Tweeve-Part Tenor Slowt

10	Omna		36 71	_~	,		-Z	** **		
ISAAC SCHOFIEL	.D		7	reble	JAMES	W. Ta	YLOR	***		5
FRED CROSSLAN										
SAMUEL STOTT										
JOSEPH OUDEN			4 5 5	4	JAMES	GARLIC	***		7	enor
	C	ubac	cted	by	SAMUEL	STOTT.				

Messrs. Stott and Garlie hail from Oldham Parish Church, and Ogden from Moorside.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX. THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 17th, 1915, in Two Hours,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF L. WISEMAN, "

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

With seven different callings.

... 1-2 | OLIVE BROYD 3-4 *SIDNEY HALE ... †LEWIS WISEMAN ... 5-6 Conducted by Lewis Wiseman.

First peal on handbells. † First peal as conductor on handbells.

JOHN NICOLL,

Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope Manufacturer,

60. OUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

'Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway)

Late 158, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Mater to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Marcheste. and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, April 23, 1915, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes, IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF CRANBSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

MISS ELSIE L. BENNETT I-2 | JAMES HUNT 5-6 WILLIAM SHEPHERD ... 3-4 | ALFRED W. GRIMES ... 7-8

Conducted by WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

Umpire: H. C. ALFORD.

• First peal of Grandsire Triples on an inside pair. Rung in honour of St. George's Day, after meeting short for Stedman Caters.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined the Forces:

Pte R. H. Slevens, of Dover, K.C.B., now at Tonbridge.

The following are serving from Pudsey, Yorks:—

Ernest Hoyle, R.A.M.C.

Fred Jones West Yorks

Fred Jones, West, Yorks. Fred Thorpe, West Yorks. Harold Northrop, R.A.M.C.

A MONMOUTHSHIRE RESTORATION.

The Bishop of Llandaff on Wednesday afternoon of last week performed an interesting ceremony at Dingeston Church, when he dedicated four old belis which had been silent for about half a century owing to being out of repair. There was a large congregation present and the surpliced clergy present were Canon Harding, R.D., the Vica-(the Rev. T. Parry Pryce), the Rev. A. Maclavetty, and the Rev. T Davies. Among the congregation were Lady Llangattock and Mr. S. C. Bosanquet, of Dingeston Court, and the latter read the lesson. The choir rendered the anthem, "Who are these like stars appearing."

The Bishop having dedicated the bells, delivered the bell rope to the Vicar, asking him to receive the bells as a sacred trust. The bells were then rung in rounds, after which a special hymn, composed by Mis Bosanquet (who was the organist), was sung. The Bishop of Llandaff on Wednesday afternoon of last week per-

Bosanquet (who was the organist), was sung.

The sermon was preached by Canon Harding, who said that the new bell emphasised a beautiful life and a beautiful example, and she who was dead would, through it, yet speak to them calling them to go forward and respond quickly to Divine inspiration, whisper to them to he quiet, gentle, meek, or patient, and constant in praise.
In the evening the Bishop preached to a large congregation.

In the evening the Bishop preached to a large congregation. It is gratifying to know that the whole of the cost of the work has been raised during the past two years, and the bells are now free from debt, with a small balance in hand towards a sixth bell, the frame for which is already provided. The collection was towards a sixth bell-The work has been carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and pronounced excellent. Some weeks prior to the dedication a band selected from members of the Llandaff Association tried the bells, and found that the "go" and tone left nothing to be desired.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A practice meeting of the Western District was held at St. Matthew's A practice meeting of the Western District was held at St. Matthew's Helbeck, on Saturday week, when a good number of members attended the following towers being represented: Birstal, Bolton, Bradford, Guiseley, Halifax, Headingley St. Chad's, Headingley St. Michael's, Holbeck, Leeds Parish, Lightcliffe, Pudsey, Shipley, Skipton and Tong During the evening touches of Double Norwich Major. Stedman and Gunnisire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major were rung. Afterwards the handbells were well utilised, touches of Kent Treble Bob Bob Major. Grandsire and Stedman Triples being successfully brought round, this bringing a very enjoyable practice to a close. The committee take this opportunity, through the medium of "The Ringing World," of thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for kindly granting the use of the balls, also the local company for making all the necessary the use of the balls, also the local company for making all the necessary arrangements

HAWKHURST RINGERS AT TENTERDEN.

Six of the Hawkhurst ringers enjoyed a visit to Tenterden on Sunday last, when they had a capital ring on this famous peal (tenor 30 cwt.) prior to eversong. Their object was to attempt a quarter-peal, with the massiance of two of the local band, and their ambition was turned into accomplished fact, a quarter of Grandsire being tapped out satisfactorily, in 48 mins., by: J. H. Durrant 1, W. Tickner 2, A. H. Wellard 3, J. Blake 4, G. J. Kemp 5, C. Tribe 6, G. Billenness 7, F. Chapman 8, Messis. Tribe and Tickner belong to Tenterden, and it was Mr. Tickner's first quarter. The company subsequently enjoyed the kind hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. C. Tribe, who had invited them to tex and to whom they return their best thanks. They also thank Mr Tribe for making all the the arrangements at the tower, and the local band for allowing them to have a ring on Tenterden's magnificent bells.

The Tenterden ringers are contemplating visiting Hawkhurst, and a Six of the Hawkhurst ringers enjoyed a visit to Tenterden on Sunday - The Tenterden ringers are contemplating visiting Hawkhurst, and a voidial welcome awaits them.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

FROME AND MIDSOMER NORTON DEANERY BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Frome and Midsomer Norton Deancry Brauch was held at Midsomer Norton on Saturday last. Soon after three o'clock the bells (a splendid peal of eight) were going, and it was not long before the belfry was packed with a goodly company of eager ringers. Evensong was sung at 4.15, the officiating clergy being the Revs. W. H. W. Williams (Vicar of Midsomer Norton) and E. W. Suart (assistant-priest), the former of whom gave a most inspiriting and appropriate address. Mr. I. B. Holmyard (hon. secretary) was at the organ, and the musical portions of the service were well rendered, under the direction of Mr. Wilson-Ewer. Mus.Bac., the choirmaster. Divine service was followed by the usual tea and business meeting in the C. of E. Schools. In the regrettable absence of the Branch President (the Rev. J. E. W. Honuywill) the chair was taken by the Rev. W. H. W. Williams.

The usual routine business was transacted, and several new members were admitted to the Association. A hearty welcome was extended to three o'clock the bells (a splendid peal of eight) were going, and it was

were admitted to the Association. A hearty welcome was extended to visitors from other Associations, whom it is always a real delight to see at these gatherings.—The Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill, that most popular of ringers' friends, was unanimously re-elected president and chairman, and cordially thanked for his past services.—Mr. I. B. Holmyard (Mid-

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman and to the Rev. E. W. Suart for their kind and genial assistance, both at the church and at the meeting, and these gentlemen, in responding, expressed the great pleasure it had given them to help in the afternoon's

pressed the great pleasure it had given them to help in the afternoon's proceedings, and to be associated with the ringers as co-churchworkers. It is gratifying to know that Mr. Williams is an honorary member, and Mr. Suart a ringing member of the Association.

Before rising the members passed a most cordial vote of thanks to Mrs. Holmyard for providing such an excellent tea, and to the honesecretary for his efficient services through the past year.—Mr. Holmsecretary for his efficient services through the past year.—Mr. Holmyard suitably acknowledged the compliment, and said that it was always a pleasure to his wife and himself to do what little they could to further the interests of the branch and to make the meetings at Midsoner Norton a success. The members then repaired to the tower, where the belis were kept busy till quite a late hour. The towers represented were: Midsomer Norton, Paulton, Chewton Mendip, Stow Easton, Trowbridge, St. Stephen's (Bristol), Shepton Mallett, Litton, Orston (Notts).

SALISBURY GUILD MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Devizes branch of the Salisbury Guild was held on Saturday week at the beautiful old Church of St. Katharine, Holt, Wilts, and, favcured with a fine day, was very well attended. Ringing took place during the afternoon, and tea was held in the Parish Room (kindly lent by the Vicar), 25 sitting down and doing full justice to the repast, Mrs. Roberts, the wife of the Vicar, most kirdly presiding at the tea urn.

kirdly presiding at the tea urn.

A short business meeting was held afterwards, presided over by the Rev. Thos. Roberts, the Vicar of Holt, supported by Mr. H. Brownlee Vest, honorary secretary, together with ringers from Trowbridge. Westbury, Holt, Southbroom, Mclksham, Keevil, Devizes, Swindon and Wootton Bassett. The venues of the next three meetings were discussed and decided upon as follows, viz.: May 8th, Bishop's Cannings; June 5th, State Teaturetary, Luly 3rd, Scond and Koevil.

Market Lavington; July 3rd, Seend and Keevil.

Market Lavington; July 3rd, Scend and Keevil.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Holt for the use of the bells and the parish room, and the ringers then returned to the tower, where touches of Grandsire, Stedman and other methods were successfully rung, and a very pleasant day brought to a close. During the afternoon, six of the party paid a visit to St. Michael's Church, Hilperton, where, through the kindness of the Rector, they were allowed the use of the pretty ring of six in that tower.

VICAR'S WIFE'S FIRST 120.

On Thursday of last week at St. Michael and All Augels' Church, Marden, Kent, 120 Grandsire Doubles was rung on the back six bells, by: Mrs. M. M. Gatehouse 1, D. Hodgkin (Marden) 2, P. Hodgkin (Headcorn) 3, G. Penfold (Headcorn) 4, C. H. Sone (Linton) conductor 5, G. Hadaway (Linton) 6. Also another 120 by the same band, P. Hodgkin conducting. Mrs. Gatehouse is the wife of the Vicar of Headcorn, and although these were her first 120's, she has rung on the bells in quite a large number of churches.

FAREWELL TO LEWISHAM RINGER.

Mr. E. F. Blackwell, who has been connected with St. Mary's band. Lewisham, for the past ten years, has been appointed to take up railway duties at Boulogne Quay. Ho has been with the S.E. and C. Railway for a great number of years, having risen from signalman to traffic inspector. On Sunday morning, April 11th, he paid a farewell visit to the tower to join in the ringing for morning service, when well visit to the tower to join in the ringing for maining service, when a 600 of Grandsire Triples was well struck by: E. J. Pannett I, C. H. Walker 2, W. W. Fox 3, G. R. Simmonds 4, G. King 5, E. F. Blackwell 6, H. Warnett, senr. (conductor) 7, H. G. Goodwin 8.

Mr. Blackwell, who is well known to ringers in the S.E. district of London, carries with him the best wishes of all.

THE EXPERTS OF TO-DAY.

MR. PYE'S REPLY TO MR. PROCTOR.

To the Editor.

Sir,-I see in your last issue that Mr. Proctor continues his prattle about the experts. He says his letter is not intended to decry their performances. It contains nothing else; it is nothing but a combination of jealousy and ignorance. No genuine person would ever take the trouble to go through all the peal records for the sake of picking other people to pieces and abusing them. His excuse for making a target of me is because I was the person referred to by your correspondent, "Once a Beginner." That does not excuse Mr. Proctor bringpondent, "Once a Beginner." That floes not excuse Mr. Proctor that I am not responsible for what "Once a Beginner" says. As regards the number of peals Mr. Grimes rings in a year, which seems to trouble Mr. Proctor it lot, I can tell him that Mr. Grimes happens to be one of those enthusiasts who makes ringing his hobby, takes his ringing seriously, whether it be Plain Bob or London Surprise, and can always be depended on to do his best, never objects to distance or tackling the big

whether it be Plain Bob or London Surprise, and can always be depended on to do his best, never objects to distance or tackling the hig bells, whether they go well or badly, and has said more than once when asked for a peal, "I am not keen on going, but will come if you cannot get enough." Surely a man of this type, who, like the other experts, never asks for praise, certainly does not deserve abuse.

Mr. Proctor says he wonders what we call "learners." I contend that anyone is still a learner who has still got the higher methods to ring, but to satisfy him I will term them as "improvers." He seems to think that it is only those who teach anyone to handle a rope and how to ring Bob Minor who do any good. My experience from a ringer's standpoint is as wide as anyone's, and I have found in my travels that there are any amount of ringers who can ring the plain methods, but have difficulty in overcoming Stedman and the Surprise method, and perhaps the conductor has enough to do to look after himself, and many ringers give up ringing altogether because they don't make any progress. The only way to keep a band together is to keep learning fresh methods till they have reached the top. They will then look forward for their practise night or Sunday to come, and no difficulty will be found in getting them there. Mr. Proctor has a lot to say about that method as the man in the moon. Apparently he thinks, because he has got a few through their first 720 Plain Bob, he has done everything, but he would find himself confronted with quite a different task if he had one or two large ourse in a neal of London. There is no everything, but he would find himself confronted with quite a different task if he had one or two lame ones in a peal of London. There is no comparison whatever, and I consider that anyone who is assisting the

improvers is doing quite as much good as those who are teaching Plain Bob, for many of these improvers take a lot of polishing up.

He asks how many I have helped to ring their first peal in the plain methods. I cannot say from memory, and as he has taken the trouble to search through the records for the sake of abusing the pust do the search again, and by going host about 25 years he cannot be searched. trouble to search through the records for the sake of abusing experts he must do the same again, and by going back about 26 years he can find out for himself. The majority of young ringers do not bother me for peals in plain methods, they apparently have more sense than to travel to London for what they can get at home. There is one thing, however, I cannot help noticing, that is that Mr. Proctor has not said how many he has helped himself. He also criticises our annual tour Whether these tours do any good or not he certainly is not in a position to say, but if the enthusiasm shown by ringers young and old, and the hospitality shown by many of the clergy is anything to be guided by, they are much appreciated, while, as regards the band being all experts. I can assure him that many of them don't look upon themselves as such. But surely Mr. Proctor is not so simple as to think I should as such. But surely Mr. Proctor is not so simple as to think I should

experts. I can assure him that many of them don't look upon themselves as such. But surely Mr. Proctor is not so simple as to think I should take men 300 or 400 miles if they could not ring when they got there. The local ringers look for something out of the ordinary, not an exhibition of firing, and they seldom get disappointed.

As regards the excessive peal ringing, I have heard few complaints myselt. My experience is that there are few complaints about good ringing. It is had ringing which brings about complaints. There is little reason at present, apart from the war, to curtail the number of peals rung, as long as ringers do not ring too late at night and at churches, during business hours, where they are surrounded by shops or offices. Most of the churches where peals are not allowed are either in unfavourable districts or the sound of the bells is badly regulated, while in some cases the clergy listen to all complaints regardless of where they come from. I soe Mr. Proctor again himts at the favourable district we live in. There are plenty of bells, it is true, but the number that are in good order are few. I have rung many bells where it has been nothing but slavery at the back, and no one short of an expert could ring them. As regards my being able to spend my whole time on ringing, I can assure him that the year when I rang the most peals, my average working hours were nearly 80 per week.

Mr. Proctor, I see, has climbed down a bit over his "95 per cent..." and has confined it to Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. I think he would be more correct if he excluded Yorkshire. I have no doubt that the beginners in his own district are opposed to what we do. It is quite natural they would be if he is always trying to poison their minds against us.

natural they would be if he is always trying to poison their minds

against us.

In conclusion, I must remind him that it is not the experts who are re found of talking about what they do. Few ringers have advertised themselves less than I have; it is the likes of Mr. Proctor who are so found of telling us what we don't do. But probably he cannot help it: it may not be his fault, but his misfortune, and under these circumstances we must make a little allowance.—Yours truly,

W. PYE.

MR. GRIMES' REPLY. To the Editor.

Sir,—Mr. Proctor's second letter is as wide of the mark as his first. He now says that his first letter was a reply to "Once a Beginner," and that as Mr. Pye was the person referred to in "One a Beginner's" letter, naturally the discussion should be kept to him. As the names of four other ringers were given, and my own name was not mentioned, why did he single out Mr. Pye and myself for his unfair criticisms?

No doubt Mr. Proctor is satisfied that he is doing a lot of good in

running down other men's work, but he quite ignores my statement that for weeks past I have been helping the ringers in a well-known tower in London, and wonders if those whom I call "the learners" are the men who ring their first Surprise peals with me. I did not call anybody "the learners"; in fact, I did not use the words, and he has wondered " too much.

But we in London are doing our share in helping young ringers, as I have stated above, and if we choose, when we ring peals, to ring them in advanced methods, what right has Mr. Proctor to unfairly criticise

us for doing so?

s for doing sor.

In another part of his second letter, Mr. Proctor flatly contradicts statement he made in his first, when he claimed to speak on behalf "95 per cent. of the present-day beginners." Now he says, "I can-

a statement he made in his first, when he claimed to speak on behalf of "95 per cent. of the present-day beginners." Now he says, "I cannot speak for 95 per cent. of the beginners in the Exercise," and goes on to speak for 95 per cent. of the beginners in two counties only. This is a good sample of the whole of his statements.

Nobody ever claimed that the peal of London, rung at Southgate on Easter Monday, March 24th, 1915, was a benefit to beginners, especially to the 95 per cent. in the two counties, whom he speaks for, but does he deny the right of ringers to ring what they please, especially when they are out for holiday ringing?

In his first letter he referred to a 5043 Stedman Caters by Mr. C. Charge, and said that the conductors of Mr. Pye's band ought to know every change of that peal by this time. Now he says that he did not mean Mr. Pye. Then what did he mean? He used it as an argument for trying to prove that Mr. Pye was fond of calling one composition over and over again, and in his "ignorance and cheek," failed to remember that there are at least three peals of 5043 Stedman Caters by Mr. Charge, so that it would be quite impossible for him, or for by Mr. Charge, so that it would be quite impossible for him, or for

by Mr. Charge, so that it would be quite impossible to limit, or anybody else, to say which had been rung unless they heard it.

I should advise him to leave us in London alone, as we are quite capable of keeping ringing alive, as has been done so well in the past, and will be, we hope, in the future.—Yours, etc.,

ALFRED W. GRIMES.

To the Editor. Sir,-Many of the Exercise, I feel sure, read with pleasure Mr. Pye's reply to Mr. Proctor. Not that any reply was needed from one who, should say, has assisted more novices than any man living. I should have thought that by now the miles Mr. Pye has travelled (not always a 3d. 'bus ride) would have gained the respect of all ringers throughout the country, but apparently it is not so. As Mr. A. T. King rightly Says, no one minds fair criticism, but to abuse is quite another thing. Mr. Pyo mentions that his brother and myself used to go 70 miles to help a band practise Surprise methods. How many men are there I wonder who could lay claim to having done this? Also how many of the present-day beginners are aware that the three brothers and myself, when practising for the first handbell peal of London, travelled or walked 1,000 miles each before we accomplished the performance? No one can gain experience as a ringer unless he goes where it is to be had; it will never come to him. That is what I think Mr. Proctor has not yet found out. He mentions the distance some towers are apart, but surely it is clear to auyone that the art of ringing cannot in ordinary circumstances flourish in such districts as it would do in more thickly populated places, and where, naturally, better ringing is to be had. But unfortunately those who help others do not always get their reward, as I know only too well. It is a hard job to please everyone. One can only do his best to assist others. As to whether the future one can only do not best the second will bring forth any such experts as we have to-day remains to be seen personally. I have no doubt whatever on that point, although we must not forget that the war this country is now engaged upon will make a vast difference to ringing and ringers, and peal ringing may in the not far distant future he greatly curtailed. I think the hour and time will produce the experts in all walks of life in the future as they have in the nast. No science stands still. Possibly there may be facilities in the future for getting over the broad acres and fenlands otherwise than by bus, train or train. Who knows? Who would have dreamt of fighting in the air 20 years ago? It would have been laughed at, and yet it is taking place to-day. Who will be the first man to fly and ring a peal? One must not forget aircraft is as yet in its infancy. In conclusion, let me ask Mr. Proctor to make more sure before he criticises are in whether it is experts or novices so-called.—Yours faithfully. Kelvedon. will bring forth any such experts as we have to-day remains to be seen:

THE BELL OF RUGBY SCHOOL CHAPEL

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BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

ST. MARY-DE-CASTRO, LEICESTER.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

The church records relating to the old peal of bells at the Church of St. Mary, Leicester, are unfortunately lost, but Nichols, the historian, preserves a few entries from the Churchwardens' Accounts, from which we learn that there were five bells only in 1495 :-



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LEICESTER.

"1495.—The frames for the five bells made this year: wages to workmen wore:

Carpenters per diem Inferior servants under them ...3d.
Labourers4d.

1509.—Paid to the ringers of all the bells for our King Harry the Seventh, the which deceased the 25th April £0 s1. d2."

In 1830, one of the ancient ring of five being cracked, it was agreed that the 4th should be retained as the tenor for a new ring of eight bells, the other four being taken away. Mr. T. Mears, of London, cast the new bells, which, when hung, completed the present ring. The inscriptions are as follows :-

Treble.

"T. Mears of London. Feeit 1830. John Moore born June 19th

Second.

"T. Mears of London. Feeit 1830. John Warburton born August 20th 1778. Parishioner. John Baxter born October 14th 1771. Parishioner.'

Third and Fourth.

"T. Mears of London. Feeit 1830. W. L. Fancourt, D.D. Vicar; Simeon Morris, Thomas Dexter, churchwardens,

> Fifth, Sixth and Seventh. 'T. Mears of London. Fecil 1830."

Tenor.

"I.H.S: Nazarenys Rex: Iviteorym Fili: Dei Miserere: Mei 1631: T.W. ISC U " (Trade mark of Watts of Leicester).

Translation: "Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews, O Son of God, have mercy on me." Weight of tenor 18 cwt. Key F.

The bells were opened on March 7th, 1831, as the following extract from an old peal book shows:-

"St. Mary's Bells open'd on Monday March 7th 1831 with a true and compleate peal of 5040 Grandsire tripples which was com-pleated in 3 hours and 3 minutes by the following persons

ter, 7; John Jee, Loughborough, tenor: composed and conducted by Edward Biggs."

A number of peals of Grandsire Triples have been rung here from time to time, and the first peal of Major was one of Kent Treble Bob, 5024 changes, in three hours three minutes, on August 20th, 1864, conducted by John Wilson. On April 8th, 1872, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, the tenor man being Charles de Quincey, who was totally blind, and who was for a number of years steeple-keeper of this church. This peal was conducted by the late Alfred Millis. Only two peals of Stedman Triples have been rung on the bells, the first on Aug. 2nd, 1892, conducted by G. Cleal, and the other on Oct. 13th, 1895, conducted by G. Lindoff. The first time Holt's Original was ever rung in Leicester on tower bells was at this church, on May 12th, 1894, conducted by W. Willson, who also on Oct. 29th, 1898, composed and called the only peal of Bob Major on them, and this was the last peal to be rung on the bells.

At the present time little or no change-ringing is done on account of the bad "go" of the bells, which sadly need rehanging.

MR. W. PYE'S BEREAVEMENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I be permitted through your columns to thank the manninging friends who have expressed their sympathy with me in my sad bereavement. I cannot reply to them all separately, and trust this brief acknowledgment will be accepted in the same spirit it is sent.— Yours faithfully,

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at St. Peter's Church, Sharnbrook, on Saturday A meeting was held at St. Peter's Church, Sharnbrook, on Saturday last, when Miss E. Steel was voted to the chair. Members were present from St. Paul's and Peter's, Bedford. Elstow, Harrold, and the local company. One new member was elected, and a vote of thank was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local company for having everything ready. The methods rung during the day were Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Oxford Minor, Double Stedman, Cambridge, and London Surprise.

EASTER TOURS.

NORTHANTS TRIP

On Easter Monday, a ringing tour in Northants was arranged by Mr. Smeathers, and a most pleasant day was spent. The band met at Burton Latimer at 11 a.m., and an excellent 720 of Cambridge Surprise was rung by: J. R. Main 1, G. Barford (first in the method) 2, L. Wyman 3, A. Smeathers 4, G. Lines 5, R. C. Loveday (conductor) 6. L. Wyman 3, A. Smeathers 4, G. Lines 5, R. C. Loveday (conductor) 6. A 360 of Woodbine followed, with Mr. A. Pettit, of Leicester, ringing the 5th, and conducted by A. Smeathers. A move was then made to Isham, where on the light ring of five a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by: R. C. Loveday 1, L. Wyman 2, A. Smeathers 3, G. Barford 4, G. Lines (conductor) 5, J. R. Main 6. A 360 of Double Oxford was also rung with R. C. Loveday conducting. Another move was then made to Finedon, where a good touch of 1046 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung on the splendid peal there by: G. Lines 1, L. Wyman 2, H. Meadows 3, T. Abbott 4, G. Barford 5, R. C. Loveday 6, J. R. Main 7, A. Smeathers (conductor) 8. This was the longest length in the method by all except the ringers of the treble, 6th and tenor. A 336 method by all except the ringers of the treble, 6th and tenor. method by all except the ringers of the treble, 6th and tenor. A 356 of Stedman Triples followed, by: A. Smeathers (conductor) 1, T. Abbott 2, G. Lines 3, H. Meadows 4, G. Barford 5, R. C. Loveday 6, J. R. Main 7, L. Ryman 8; and a course of Double Norwich. A pleasant evening was afterwards spent at the Old Bell Iun, which is believed to be the oldest public-house in England, handbell ringing and tune playing being kept up till time came for home. The ringers wish to thank the Rectors of the various parishes visited for the use of the bells, and Mr. A. Smeathers for making all the arrangements.

ON THE HANTS AND SUSSEX BORDER.

An Easter Monday tour amongst the border six-bell towers of Hampshire and Sussex, arranged by Mr. C. Edwards, of Farnham, turned out most thoroughly interesting and enjoyable. The cycling part of the programme, writes Mr. R. Whittington, commenced at varying times and places, whilst the ringing portion was scheduled to com-mence at Blackmoor tower at 9 a.m., and continued at Hawkley at 10.30, but as either of these towers is nearly 30 miles from our home, my wife and I, who were invited to join the party, very reluctantly had to come to the conclusion that the time of meeting and the distance constituted a little too much of a "tall order" We, therefore, decided to pick the party up at Liss at noon. A 720 of Bob Minor was brought round a few minutes after we arrived at Liss by the following ringers: J. Fowler 1, H. Gardiner 2, H. Chaffey (conductor) 3, A. R. Elkins 4, Pte E. Drew 5, C. Edwards 6, and was the first 720 of Minor by the ringers of 2nd and 5th. A few more touches were rung before

During lunch I learnt that about 12 ringers met at Blackmoor, at 9 a.m., where touches in various methods were rung, and a 720 of Kunt Treble Bob by: Pte Albert Croucher 1, C. Edwards 2, A. R. Elkins 3, H. Chaffey 4, E. Nowell 5, Airred Croucher (first 720 of Kont as conductor) 6. All then made a move for Hawkley, a distance of as conductor) 6. At their made a move for Hawkley, a distance of about four miles, where they found a very quaint tower, a well-kept ringing chamber, and a fine ring of six bells, touches and 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung so that all might get a pull, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, by: W G. Elkins 1, H. Chaffey 2 Alf. Croucher 3, C. Edwards (conductor) 4, A. R. Elkins 5, E. Newell 6. This was the first 720 ever rung on the bells, and the inhabitants were delighted to hear their bells rung in a scientific manner, and gave the ringers a pressing invitation to ring a full peal when the war is over. They also said that it was the first occasion on which any members of the Winchester Guild had taken the trouble to pay them a visit, and I find to my surprise that the tower is not included in the list of rings of six in our report-further good evidence (if any more is required) of the need for the formation of the proposed new district in that locality.

The next tower on the programme was Liss at 12, where, as stated above, we joined the party, took part in some ringing, had lunch, and then started off, 14 strong, to invade Sussex by way of Rogate, a very prettily situated old-world village, with a delightful little ring of six hells, to which, moreover, there is quite a history attached, although a modern one. Previous to 1904 there were but three hells at Rogate, the Vicar at that time being the Rev. A. H. Simpson, cldest son of Canon Simpson, known (by name at least) to all ringers as the gentle-man who initiated the five-tone principle of timing church bells. By the offerts of the Vicar of Rogate the three old bells were recast, and three more added, the work being done by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who were at that time, I believe, about the only firm who tuned on Canon Simpson's principle, and who, to show their appreciation of his work in that direction, recast the old tenor free of chargo, the bell bearing the following inscription:— "S. Paul. Brianus Eldridge me feeit. R.T.B.B. 1624. Recast by John Taylor in commemoration of the Rev. Arthur Barwick Simpson, Rector of Fittle-worth 1876—1900." Those ringers who like to hear bells which we tuned on Canon Simpson's principle would be delighted with the peal at Rogate, and I should like some ringers, who I have heard pass un-complimentary remarks on that principle, to hear Rogate bells also. For their weight (8½ cwt.) they are, I think, the best peal of six that I have ever heard. We raised them in peal and rang 120 Stedman Doubles, and several touches in other methods to give all a chance, Mrs. Whittington being told that she was the first lady to have handled | but there would be a fine bag if they did."

a bell in that tower. A 720 of Oxford Single Bob was then rung by: W. G. Elkins 1, R. Whittington 2, Alf. Croucher 3, E. Newell 4, A. R. Elkins 5, C. Edwards (conductor) 6. There is rather a lot of rope, and the comfort of ringing would be much increased if a light guide frame was fitted for the ropes to pass through.

(To be continued).

THE BELLFOUNDER "TOMMY."

MR. ANDREW WARNER SERIOUSLY WOUNDED.

Ringers generally, and particularly those who have visited the Spitalfields Bell Foundry, or who have met Mr. Andrew Warner at their own towers, will learn with regret that his brother (Mr. Robert Warner) has received information that Mr. Andrew, who was serving in the London Rifle Brigade with the British Expeditionary Force, is lying seriously wounded in the Casino Hospital at Boulogue-sur-Mer. His regiment suffered severely during the famous storming of Hill 60. Rifleman Warner's injury is a wound in the skull, and was due to the bursting of a shrapnel shell. He will have the best wishes of all for his speedy recovery

FURTHER INTERESTING LETTERS FROM THE TRENCHES.

A further account of life "somewhere in France" sent home by Rifleman Andrew Warner was received by his brother, Mr. Robert Warner, prior to the news of his having been wounded: The Bellfounder Tommy says: "We are again in the firing trenches to-day, and have seven men now in our shelter, which number adds to the warmth and general comfort. Our reserves are behind, and they are haring at the moment a nice warm dose of high explosive in their dug-outs. I hope none of my pals will get underneath. We are about 150 yards from the opposite trenches, and we are indulging in snap shooting on both sides. It has been miserably cold these last few days, and there has been sharp frost, snow, rain, etc., but the sun is now shining, and it is warm out of the wind. FOOD IN THE TRENCHES.

"We have hot bacon for breakfast and cocca, but the former product of the country is shockingly salt, and makes one terribly thirsty. My supper, about three in the morning, was biscuits and cheese and french mustard; we are now hotting up Army vegetable rations and getting some more water on the boil. It is a terrible trouble messing about with the ingredients, and the results are hardly worth the trouble, but it gives one occupation to pass the hours away and helps to have the civilities gives to reade up for lark of everyther the civilities.

trouble, but it gives one occupation to pass the hours away and helps to keep the circulation going, to make up for lack of exercise.

"We are to be in the trenches for an indefinite period, probably eight to ten days. Our old Brigade has gone on to Ypres, and we are now in those they have relieved here. We hear they had a bad time the first few days they arrived, and they especially asked that we could go with them, as they have a very high opinion of us and the work we do.

"I made brief mention of the Artists' Corps in my last letter to you. and you will notice that they were mentioned in the last Dispatches. They are serving a very useful purpose, but they come in for endless chaff and back slang, which will never be washed out of Army annals. Their pet names are the 'Estaminet Lancers' and the 'Bailleut Barnacles.' The last name is that of the town where they have been The last name is that of the town where they have been all the time we have been here, and where we incidentally come for our rest and meat cure.

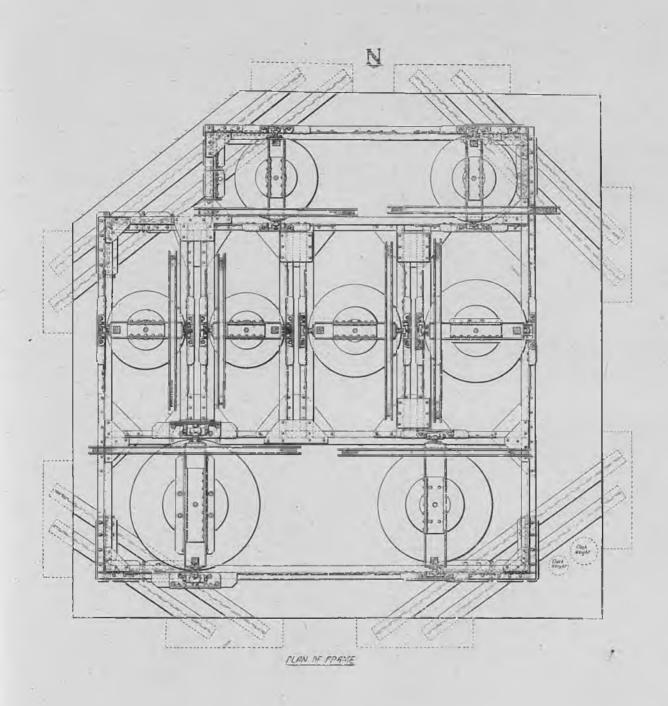
"I forgot to thank you for the last lot of food which you sent. The condensed milk is much better than the general article here 'Lait condense,' and one cannot have too much. Our tea is well sugared, only no milk, but one gets used to the absence of the milk.

EXCITING WORK.

"It is now nearly 11.30 p.m., and I have to start fatigue work, that is to say, taking trench boards and boxes to the firing line, or something equally exciting. This fatigue job is more dangerous than any trench work, as the bullets make the whole country draughty. One of our officers got a bad head graze last night, and one of our chaps was killed. I did some good shooting the night before last, and silenced some opponents opposite, who were worrying one of our working parties. It was only by firing at their flashes, but they gave in, and consoled themselves by waving a charcoal stove above the treuch, which was their way of signalling a 'wash out' or miss, I expect. Our routine now is to have two days in the trenches and two days in the reserves just behind, and then two more days in and two more behind.

"Of course I am badly in need of a wash and shave, as water is more precious than silver, which one has in the pocket and cannot spend, and in fact for drinking we have to be very careful. The dirt seems to collect on the hands and face and work off before long, and also on the coat and nuttees, but I consider our battalion looks a lot of men, and canable of any blood-thirsty work; in fact, when we are all clean and shaved, it appears that butter would not melt in our mouths, as we all look so eminently respectable, but at the present moment as I look round in the firelight. I see many who look as though they would make excellent burglars and also candidates for the Stepney Municipal carts, while the rost have outle the appearance of having spent some of their career in Pentonville.

"We have still another four days to go, and at the present moment we are in a barn in the reserve hollow, that is out of the enemy's observation, and their shells are now passing over into what is left of the village beyond. There is not much chance of any dropping here,



Vertical Cantilever Bell Frame for St. Michael's Church, Bray-on-Thames.
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NOTICES.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Ringing for Divine service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields the first Sunday in the month, and at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, both at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every third Monday at 8 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.
—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Nicholas,
Newchurch, on Saturday, May 1st, 1915. Bells ready at
5 o'clock. Meeting at 7.30 p.m.—J. H. Haydock, Branch
Secretary.

GUILD FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Church Stretton, on Saturday, May 1st, 1915. Ringing at the Parish Church at 3 p.m., business meeting at 5 p.m. in the Vestry. — H. B. Beckwith, M.A., Bidgemount, Shrewsbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Weston on Saturday, May 1st. Tea at Glass's Restaurant at 4.15 p.m., meeting to follow. Service in the Parish Church at 5.30 p.m. Bells available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Honorary Secretary, Taunton.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBY-SHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The annual meeting for the transaction of the business of the above society will be held at Ranmoor (Sheffield) on Saturday, May 1st, 1915, the following being the arrangements for the afternoon: The bells will be available from 3 to 5.30 p.m., service in the church at 5.30, tea will be served in the Parish Room at 6 o'clock, followed by the business meeting, after which the bells will be available until 9 o'clock. A good attendance is desired. — Sam Thomas, Secretary, protem., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting will be held at Dorchester on Monday, May 3rd. Service at St. Peter's Church 12.30, preacher Rev. H. C. Coote. Luncheon at St. Peter's Church Institute, at 1.30, by kind invitation of the Rector and local friends. Towers open: St. Peter's (8), Wyke Regis (8), Fordington (6), Puddletown (6) and Upwey (6).—F. Ll. Edwards, Honorary Secretary.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.— Established 1637. — Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell ringing on May 6th and 20th, and for business on May 11th and 25th, all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturdays at 7.30 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—ALTERATION OF DATE.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Deptford, S.E., on Saturday, May 8th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and Address by the Rev. W. F. Jepson (Vicar) at 5.30 p.m. Tea to follow at the Whidbourne Institute. Those who intend to be at tea must send me notice not later than first post, Tuesday, May 4th.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Stalybridge, on Saturday, May 8th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Honorary Secretary, New Mills.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, May 8th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Tea by invitation of J. F. Stilwell, Esq. Members intending to be present please notify me by May 5th.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Secretary, Heston, Hounslow.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Guisley on Saturday, May 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the Red Lion Hotel at 7.30 p.m.—William Barton, Honorary Secretary.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, May 8th. Service in Parish Church 4.30 p.m. Tea at Baker's Cannon Cafe 5 p.m., 9d. to members, 1s. to non-residents, and 1s. 3d. to others. Ordsall and West Retford bells (6) will be available during the afternoon and evening, and East Retford (10) from 2 p.m. to 6.45 p.m., after which the general business meeting will be held.— H. Haigh, Honorary Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Chipping on Saturday, May 8th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Hon. Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.— Meeting at Weybridge on Saturday, May 15th. Bells available 4 to 4.50 p.m., and 7.30 to 8.45 p.m. Tea, etc., in the Parish Hall, 5.30 p.m. Service in church 5 p.m. All ringers heartily welcomed.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society).—Established 1824. — Northern District. —The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. John at Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, May 15th, 1915. There will be ringing from 4.30 p.m. to 8 p.m., after which a business meeting will be held at 8.30 p.m. in the "Earl of Derby." All ringers will be welcome.—L. B. Porter, Honorary Secretary, 1, Canonbury Mansion, Canonbury, N.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD. — The next meeting of the North and East District will be held at St. Ann's, South Tottenham, on Saturday, May 15th. Further particulars next week.—C. T. Coles, Honorary Secretary, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The half-yearly meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, May 15th. By kind permission of the authorities the bells of St. Leonard's Church will be available from 3.30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Schools at 5.30 p.m.—W. H. Shuker and J. H. Banks, Honorary Secretaries.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit-Monday at Chelmsford. Divine service at the Cathedral, with address by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, at 11.30; business meeting in the Vestry Hall at 12.30; lunch in the Boys' Schoolroom at 1.30. Members intending to be present must, without fail, notify me before Wednesday, May 19th.—Henry T. W. Eyre, Hon. Secretary, Great Totham.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

VISITORS TO BRISTOL will find every convenience and moderate charges at Mr. Ponton's, Admiral Duncan, Nicholas Street, Bristol. Headquarters of the Bristol Ringers.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House,

LATE NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION (Bolton Branch) .-The next meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Horwich, on Saturday, May 8th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.-E. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION .- The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday afternoon, May 8th. Meat tea at 4.30 p.m., tickets 1/6 each, followed by usual business meeting. Service at St. Nicholas' Church at 6 p.m. Half fares, without limit, as also 1/- towards cost of tea allowed only to members resident in the county who notify me by Wednesday, May 5th, of their intention to be present. For place of meeting see next week's issue of this paper .- G. Watson, Hon. Gen. Sec., Vale Road, St. Leonards.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.-The annual meeting will be held at Canterbury on Saturday, May 15th. The bells of the Cathedral (10) will be available from 2 till 2.40 p.m., and after the tea S. Stephen's (8), S. Alphege (6), and S. Dunstan's (6), from 2 till 8 p.m. Divine Service at 4.30 p.m. in S. Alphege Church. Tea at Gaywood's Restaurant, High Street, at 5 p.m., for which a charge of 6d, per head will be made. Business meeting after the tea. All subscriptions should be paid before this meeting. Will all those who intend being present kindly let me know by Tuesday, May 11th.—E. Trendell, Hon. Dist. Sec., Boughton, Faversham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week, a very successful and well-attended meeting of the Manchester Branch took place at Stretford. Mr. Moss, senr., took the chair at the business meeting, and gave a very hearty welcome to the visitors, expressing the hope that before the next meeting in that tower they would have two trebles added to the present ring to complete the octave. This was heartily concurred in by the whole of the ringers present ringers present.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Birch-in-Rusholme.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local ringers

for the usu of the bells. Several 720's and shorter touches were rung, both before and after the meeting.

SHREWSBURY.—At St. Chad's Church, on April 11th, 287 Grandsire Caters: J. T. Wall 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Scarratt 3, W. Brooks 4, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 5, W. Taylor 6, W. Stockdale 7, G. Jones 8, A. Fullick 9, R. F. Turner 10. 224 Bob Major and 84 Stedman Triples.—For evening service, 423 Stedman Caters: C. R. Lilley (conductor) 1, G. Scarratt 2, G. R. Byolin 3, J. Tudor 4, W. Brooks 5, W. J. Taylor 6, W. R. Stockdale 7, G. Jones 8, A. E. Fullick 9, J. T. Wall 10.—For St Chad's Festival, 1007 Grandsire Caters: E. V. Rodenhurst 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Byolin 3, W. Brooks 4, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 5, B. Head (of Bridgnorth) 6, W. R. Stockdale 7, G. Jones 8, A. Fullick 9, J. T. Wall 10.

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