

No. 218. Vol. VIII.

FRIDAY, MAY 21st, 1915.

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

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 GILLET 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, Wolverhampton, 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 CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

The business before the Central Council, who assemble for their 25th annual meeting next Tuesday at Westminster, appears, from the agenda, likely to provide a tolerably full day. Being the first of the triennial period (this is the ninth Council since its inauguration) the president and hon. secretary will have to be elected, but the holders of these offices are so much respected by the Council and valued for the ungrudging labours they have given to the work for a long period of years that this part of the business will be purely formal.

The usual committee reports are down for consideration, the only one which has been published for the members' perusal beforehand having been that of the Analysis Committee, the result of whose labours are studied with interest by the whole Exercise. Of the four resolutions of which notice has been given, that seeking for the reconsideration of the conditions laid down for the legitimacy of methods is likely to be the most debatable. It is one of those questions dear to the heart of theorists, but of which the merely practical ringer has little more than superficial knowledge, and in which he is apt to get lost in the labyrinths of technicalities. The ventilation of such subjects as these are, however, essential if the art is to be put upon a sound foundation, although ordinary mortals may be excused if they fail to grasp their full significance.

It was, perhaps, to be expected that the ringing of bells during war time should come up for discussion, and the motion which will introduce this subject is one which, we think, will appeal to the majority of the members. It recognises with emphatic approval the cessation of peal ringing, but regards it as "the privilege and sacred duty of ringers, wherever circumstances permit, to continue, alike in time of war and of peace, to honour with the music of the bells the Lord's Day and other Feasts of the Church, as also on Royal and national anniversaries to give expression to the thankfulness of the British people to Almighty God for the many blessings vouchsafed to this Empire and for the preservation of His Most Gracious Majesty to preside over its momentous destinies."

The question of the issue by the Council of a national badge for ringers, a matter adjourned from last year in order that the feeling of the various associations may be taken, is to come up again. As far as it is possible to judge from the reports of association meetings the matter has really been considered by very few of the county and diocesan bodies, and so far as the Council is concerned we fear that it will not be in a much better position than it was last year to voice the direct feeling of the various organisations upon this matter.

The remaining motion is one drawing attention to the increasing abandonment of raising and falling in peal.

(Continued on Page 25b.)

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR  
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,  
Chelmsford

Dear Sir,

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

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

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

CHAS. C. CARR, LTD.  
Smethwick.

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

**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

## BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,  
SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.**

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
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**Chiming Machines.**

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Satisfaction Guaranteed**

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OF ALL INDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON  
BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS  
BEST BELL ROPES.  
REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers.**

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE.**

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# JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer,**

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

**Late 158, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.**

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

There is no question that this pleasing method of getting the bells up and down is less practised than it used to be, and it must be said, to the general discredit of change ringers, we think, that, speaking generally, the "stoney" men give them a lead in the ability and regularity with which they raise and fall in peal. There are, in our opinion, two main reasons why change ringers bother so little about raising and falling in peal; one is that it takes up time which they prefer to devote to touches, and the other is the absence in a great many towers of a competent man for the treble, which is the key of success. The one might be got over by meeting a few minutes earlier, the other by practice. The resolution is timely and deserves support.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HIGHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, May 11, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, HIGHGATE,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 14½ cwt.

EDGAR WIGHTMAN ... .. Treble	ALBERT A. BRIGHTMAN ... 5
ERNEST BONFIELD ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... .. 6
GEORGE B. LUCAS ... .. 3	WILLIAM T. POWELL ... 7
RICHARD BEVAN ... .. 4	FRANK SMITH ... .. Tenor

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN, and  
Conducted by FRANK SMITH.

Rung, with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute to Mr. Andrew Warner, who died of wounds received in action. This peal was composed expressly for this occasion, and is now rung for the first time.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Friday, May 14, 1915, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 13½ cwt.

SAMUEL GROVE ... .. Treble	GEORGE SWANN ... .. 5
*JAMES GEORGE ... .. 2	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 6
GEORGE GARRISON ... .. 3	PERCY O. LAFLIN ... .. 7
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 4	JOHN NEAL ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and  
Conducted by P. O. LAFLIN.

\* First peal in the method with a bob bell. 100th peal by the ringer of the 4th.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 15, 1915, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lbs.

FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE ... Treble	JOHN POTTER ... .. 5
JAMES H. RIDYARD ... .. 2	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 6
JOSEPH LOWE ... .. 3	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... .. 7
HARRY CHAPMAN ... .. 4	WILLIAM JONES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

Rung in honour of the birth of Lord Brackley, son and heir of the Earl of Ellesmere.

## DEATH OF MR. A. HARRIS, OF LOUGHBOROUGH.

It is with deep regret to record the death of Mr. Albert Harris, of Loughborough, at the early age of 19 years. Having learnt his ringing at Stanford-on-Soar, Notts, he rang, in all, three peals on the treble. His last peal was on Sunday, September 27th, 1914 (Harvest Festival), it being then noticed that his constitution was far from perfect, and he really did but very little ringing afterwards. Although of a quiet demeanour he was always willing to stand for a peal. His loss will be keenly felt by his brother ringers. At the funeral a wreath was sent by the members of the Stanford-on-Soar company.

### ROLL OF HONOUR.

Pte John Palmer Jaggard, eldest son of Mr. John Jaggard, of Oldbury, has been wounded in action while serving with the 4th Worcester-shire Regiment at the Dardanelles.

The following is a further list of ringers who are serving with H.M. Forces:—

Pte Alfred Jones, of Aston Parish Church, Army Service Corps.  
Tpr. W. C. Duffield, of Tasburgh, Norfolk, Bedfordshire Yeomanry, now at Staunsted, Essex.  
Cpl. F. Copeman, of Tasburgh, 4th Batt. Norfolk Regiment, now at Bury St. Edmund's.  
Pte Alfred Butler, of St. Peter's, Staunton-on-Arrow, Hereford Territorials.  
Pte Frank Taylor, of Moorside Parish Church, Oldham, 1st London Sanitary Corps.  
Pte Percy Harris, of Ospringle, Kent, Home Counties (Kent), R.G.A.

### YORKSHIRE, NOT KENSINGTON SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Dains is guilty of an unintentional act of piracy in putting forward in your last issue a method under the name of Kensington Surprise. As a member of the Yorkshire Association, if he will turn to his Report for 1902 and 1903, he will find the method there given as Yorkshire Surprise by Mr. A. Craven, and also the first peal in the method rung at Ranmoor, Sheffield.

Mr. Dains gives an excellent and unsolicited, though rather late testimonial, and I have no doubt he will not grudge it to the author for his production of this most musical method. It contains all the combinations mentioned, and has a most perfect coursing order. At St. Michael's, Headingley, it is one of four Surprise methods we keep in practice for service ringing. Our men like it for its music, and it is not without trickiness in ringing. We often wonder why the peal experts have not included it in their usual programme of methods.—Yours faithfully,  
H. WILLIAMS.

### RINGER'S WEDDING AT STOKE POGES.

A pretty and interesting wedding took place at the picturesque Parish Church of Stoke Poges on Saturday, April 24th, when Miss Nellie Walden, of Fernacres Farm Gardens, Fulmer, was married to Mr. James J. Jolley, of Farnham Road, Stoke Poges. The Rev. Canon Barnett officiated.

The bridegroom has been for several years a ringer at Fulmer Parish Church, as have, also the bride's two brothers. As the wedding party left the church, members of the Oxford Guild rang a well-struck 720 of Oxford Bob Major: J. J. Parker (Farnham Royal) 1, E. Harding (Fulmer) 2, W. H. Fussell (Slough) 3, G. H. Gutteridge (Fulmer), conductor, 4, W. Henley (Stoke Poges) 5, W. J. Bateman (Stoke Poges) 6, the ringers wishing the bridal pair good luck, and many years of happiness. In the evening, at Fulmer Church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by: F. Clarke 1, E. Harding 2, J. Walden 3, F. Sheppard (Broxbourne) 4, G. Gutteridge 5, K. G. Hawkins 6.

### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

A most enjoyable meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at Alveston last Saturday, and was favoured by fine weather. There were 29 members present, representing 14 towers. Touches of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor were brought round before the service, the latter being conducted by the Rev. E. Langley, Vicar, who gave a very appropriate address, while the singing was of a bright and hearty character. The Rev. G. R. Wood (Almondsbury), an honorary member, read the lesson. Tea was provided at the Ship Hotel, the donor being Mr. G. Gardiner (churchwarden), to whom thanks are due for so successful a meeting.—Mr. Gardiner gave a very interesting account of the church and bells, which was appreciated by all.—At the business meeting the Rev. E. Langley took the chair, and Marshfield was selected as the next place of meeting on June 19th.

It was a pleasure to the members to have with them the Master of the Guild (Mr. F. K. Howell), the hon. secretary (pro tem) Mr. R. J. Wilkins, and Messrs. J. W. Jones (Newport, hon. secretary of the Llandaff Association), and W. A. Lewis (Berkeley).—Mr. H. Howell (chairman of the branch) extended a very hearty welcome to the visitors, and the Master proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar for so readily granting the use of the bells and welcoming the Association to Alveston. This brought the meeting to a close.

The tower was again visited, while some members went on to Almondsbury. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were successfully brought round. Thanks are due to Mr. H. Attwell for having everything in readiness at Almondsbury.

In the report of the funeral of Mr. John Tapp at Lamberhurst last week, we omitted, through a slip of the editorial pencil, to mention that the Lamberhurst ringers sent a beautiful floral tribute in the shape of a bell.

### LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The committee of the Lancashire Association chose Middleton for their half-yearly meeting, so on Saturday last ringers to the number of 40 met there to try the ancient bells of this still older church, touches in Standard methods being practised by those present. Portions of the church date back to 1120, and the first mention of a priest by name was in 1183, when one witness to a grant of land was Adam, Priest of Middleton. There are in the church three rolls of honour to Middleton men, the first being to the archers on Flodden Field, and is in the form of a stained glass window with the heads of the archers and their names written on the arrows that they carry. Alongside it is the flag, helmet, sword and spurs supposed to have belonged to Richard Assheton, who was knighted on the field of battle, and afterwards dedicated by him to this church. The next is an oak board containing the names of those in this parish who fell in the Boer War, and now there is a temporary one with the names of those who have enlisted in the present cause.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee (the President of the Association), in his remarks mentioned that there was only one peal of bells in the Rural Deanery of Middleton, which was unique for the diocese of Manchester. There were some old bells in the tower, but there was no trace as to how many, as they were taken away and a new peal of six by Rudhall, of Gloucester, were placed on the top of the tower in 1714, and covered over with a wooden roof. These were made into a peal of eight in 1891. There is a bell rung here every night for ten minutes before ten o'clock to warn people that it is closing time; it is known locally as the "nowster" (now stir), and some of the older inhabitants tell how they used to rush home when it started, for fear of being locked out by their parents.

The Rector (the Rev. W. S. Jones) arranged a short service, and also explained the points of interest in his church. He also gave the ringers an invitation to visit the oak room at the Rectory, which is well worth seeing. His lady met the party and showed them round, while the gardener, not to be behind, afterwards took them on a tour of inspection of the kitchen garden and the glasshouses.

The Rector gave the Association a hearty welcome, and said that when they were short of a place for an annual meeting he would be pleased to do all he could to entertain them.—Mr. Elsee thanked him for his kind offer, and also for doing what he had done that day. This was supported by Mr. J. H. Banks, and the best thanks were given to the ringers for having everything ready for the visitors, who congratulated the local men on the belfry, which had been newly decorated for the occasion. The ringing continued almost till the "nowster" started, and brought another successful half-yearly meeting to a close.

### WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

#### YORKTOWN DISTRICT MEETING AT WEYBRIDGE.

A very successful meeting of the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild was held at Weybridge, Surrey, on Saturday, when among the towers represented were: Hersham, Yorktown, Oatlands, Weybridge, Hawley and Chertsey, while the number of visitors present was most pleasing. They included Miss Dorothy Steel, of Bedford; Miss Elsie Bennett, of London, three "gentlemen in khaki," and other ringers from Leatherhead, Isleworth, Slough, Binfield, Old Windsor, Clapham, Hounslow and Swindon.

Ringings took place during the afternoon, and the members attended service conducted by the Rector (the Revs. S. R. A. Buller), who subsequently presided at the business meeting which followed tea in the Parish Hall.—The Ringing Master (Mr. W. Shepherd) reported that Sunday ringing and practice had been fairly well maintained, but the demands of the war had depleted the ranks of many bands. There had been only one peal rung during the quarter, on handbells, at Clapham, but two quarter-peals had been rung, and he congratulated the Bagshot band on having rung theirs with entirely a local company. They worked hard to get their new peal, and were now reaping the reward.

It was decided to hold an all-day meeting on some Saturday instead of on August Bank Holiday as in former years.

Mr. Ferris Shepherd proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for his reception of the members, and for granting the use of the bells.—The Rev. S. R. A. Buller, in replying, expressed his great pleasure in welcoming the Guild to Weybridge, and said nobody could overrate the services of the ringers for the Church, and he looked for the time when the bells would celebrate peace after the war, which we were fighting for God against the Devil.

Courses of Stedman Caters and Bob Royal were rung on handbells, and in the tower touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were brought round.

### MR. M. J. MORRIS'S CENTURY.

Minor, 4 Methods, 1; Bob Triples, 1 (conducted 1); Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 1 (cond. 1); Grandsire Triples, 17 (cond. 10); Stedman Triples, 18 (cond. 1); Bob Major, 9 (cond. 3); Kent Treble Bob Major, 7; Forward Major, 1; Double Oxford Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 6; Double Yorkshire Major, 2; Superlative Surprise Major, 2; Cambridge Surprise Major, 9; Grandsire Caters, 5; Stedman Caters, 8; Grandsire Cinques, 1; Stedman Cinques, 11; total, 100.



## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

## A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The annual meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society was held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, when in spite of a wet afternoon and other adverse circumstances, over 70 ringers put in an appearance from Anston, Barnsley, Beighton, Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Darley Dale, Doncaster, Dore, Dronfield, Eckington, Killamarsh, New Mills, North Wingfield, Norton, Ranmoor, Rotherham (Parish Church and Eastwood), Sheffield (All Saints', Cathedral and Norfolk Row), Staveley and Worksop. Short touches of Grandsire and Steadman Triples, Plain and Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Duffield and Superlative were rung during the afternoon, and a short service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar of Ranmoor (the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls, M.A.), an honorary member of the society. Mr. J. C. V. Stacey, the talented organist, presided at the organ, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. W. P. Wright (ex-President of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association), who has quite recently taken up his duties as Vicar of St. Silas', Sheffield. He took his text from the first lesson for the day (SS. Philip and James), Zechariah iv, 6 and 10, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit," said the Lord of Hosts. For who hath despised the day of small things," and he gave an inspiring and encouraging address. The service was followed by an excellent meat tea (kindly provided by the Ranmoor company), in the Parish Rooms.

The business meeting was afterwards held, the Vicar presiding, supported by the President of the Society (Mr. J. P. Tarlton), the hon. treasurer (Mr. David Brearley), the hon. secretary (Mr. J. E. L. Cockey), and the acting secretary (Mr. Sam Thomas). The balance sheet, which showed a balance in hand of 13s. 6d. on the yearly account and £13 6s. 11d. on the capital account, was adopted. The hon. secretary's report showed the society was still making progress. The number of towers affiliated was now 20, a gain of two on the year, and the number of members 255, a net gain of six. The total comprises five honorary, 15 life members, 184 attached to affiliated towers, and 51 unattached members. Three members had been lost by death, and a like number by removals. The monthly meetings were well attended and successful until the outbreak of the war, which had caused three meetings to be abandoned, and, to a slight extent, adversely affected some of the others. The number of peals rung during the year was 14, which compared very favourably with the 16 rung last year, the outstanding feature being the three Surprise Minor peals rung by the Killamarsh band, including one of 14 methods, and the first peal on two new rings of six, viz.: Barlboro' and Norton Cuckney. In addition there were peals each of Bob Major and Grandsire Caters, one each of Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Major, Norfolk and Yorkshire Surprise Major, and one Kent Treble Bob Royal. Mr. Arthur Knights conducted five, Messrs. C. Severn and S. Thomas three each, Mr. G. Hollis two, and Mr. John Flint one.

## A FINE RECORD.

The society's silver cup and framed certificate for the best average attendance for Sunday service ringing had been won this year by the Eckington company, with 99.87 per cent., followed by Anston with 97.38, Doncaster with 96.32, Beighton with 92.32, Worksop with 91.66, while a new company in Barlboro' had 98.91 per cent. for three-quarters of the year. The Eckington company were to be congratulated on their exceedingly fine record, which was the second highest ever obtained. Anston who were also runners-up last year, were also deserving of special mention, as, but for a run of sickness in the last quarter, they would probably have "lifted" the cup. Sickness also greatly interfered in the case of Doncaster, while Worksop had lost two members who had joined His Majesty's Forces.

In arranging the fixtures for the coming year, the committee, taking into consideration the suspension of cheap railway tickets and other matters arising out of the war, had decided to hold the meetings bi-monthly, which, by having the first in June and the annual in May, would give seven meetings in place of twelve, and the hon. secretary urged all members residing near a meeting place to make it a point of honour to attend if at all possible, not necessarily with a view to obtain some practice, but rather with the idea of giving assistance to others, and in this manner furthering the objects of the society by trying to raise the standard of ringing, and of orderliness and good conduct in the belfries. In conclusion he thanked all those whose regular support of the society, in many ways, had given great encouragement to the officials, and he also wished to place on record the continued and increasing support and encouragement given by the clergy.

## OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The retiring officers were all re-elected, viz.: President, Mr. J. P. Tarlton; vice-presidents, Messrs. A. Knights and W. Bignin; hon. treasurer, Mr. David Brearley; hon. secretary, Mr. J. E. L. Cockey; assistant hon. secretary, Mr. G. Hollis, and the hon. auditors, Messrs. G. W. Bennrose and W. Peabody.

The Hon. Secretary expressed a desire to retire, but the meeting wished to retain him, Mr. Sam Thomas undertaking to continue to do the duties as secretary pro tem, the difficulty was overcome. The whole of the committee were also re-elected, as were also the cup sub-committee.

The Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls then presented the cup and certificate

to the ringers of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Eckington, a duty, he said, which gave him great pleasure, as he was only recently informed the society was doing this good work in encouraging a regular attendance for their Sunday duties. He heartily congratulated the Eckington ringers on their achievement, more so as they had made the second highest record obtained in the history of the competition, a record which he hoped others would try to emulate.

The fixtures for the ensuing year were confirmed.

One honorary (the Rev. W. P. Wright) and twelve ringing members were elected, including a lady.

It was decided to retain in full membership all those who were serving the King in the war, and, on the motion of Mr. H. Haigh, the question of suitable permanent recognition of all such members was deferred until a later date, as no doubt there will be others who will respond to their country's call.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Ranmoor company for the excellent tea provided and for making arrangements for the meeting.—Mr. F. Ward suitably responded, and a similar compliment was paid the ladies for serving tea.

Mr. Cockey, in moving a vote of thanks to the Rev. W. P. Wright for his excellent address in church, extended to him a cordial welcome as a valuable addition to the Exercise in Sheffield. Thanks to Mr. Stacey, the organist, was also included in the motion.

Mr. Haigh moved that a like compliment be paid to the chairman for presiding, which was carried with acclamation. The meeting then concluded with prayer.

## NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

The 27th annual meeting of the North Notts Association was held at East Retford on Saturday week, and was very well attended. The towers represented included East and West Retford, Anston, Ordsall, Blyth, Worksop, Warsop, Norton Cuckney, East Markham, Tuxford, Harthill, Gainsborough, Everton, and several members from kindred associations. Proceedings commenced with a short service at the Parish Church, at which the Vicar of Anston preached, the service being conducted by the Rev. Canon Gray and the Rev. Eric Read. Afterwards a splendid tea was served at Cannon Cafe, over 50 members being present.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. Haigh) gave a most interesting report, in which a hearty welcome was given to the Norton Cuckney and Warsop ringers on their initiation into the society. Good hopes are entertained that, when peace is declared, the ring of four bells at Warsop will be augmented to a ring of six or eight. The Association members live in the brightest hope that before the end of 1915 the bells of every town, village and city will be ringing out with joy and thanksgiving the welcome proclamation of peace. Although the Association fully maintains its numerical and financial position, the report of performances was but meagre; the sum total for entry in the peal book being the smallest for several years. The list of special performances was confined to the towers of Anston, Worksop, West Retford, East Markham and Tuxford. The October quarterly meeting was not held owing to the high tension of feeling in the country and the news from the seat of war. There were 132 efficient members, 16 probationers, and 19 ex-officio, making a total of 167, being an increase on the year of 27. The finances showed a gain on the year of £1 17s. 4d., the balance in the bank and secretary's hands being £12 0s. 3d.

The report was adopted, and the officers re-elected.

Votes of thanks to the preacher, the Rev. R. Hodson, for his admirable address, to the chairman, the Rev. J. T. Mumford, Vicar of East Retford, for presiding and use of bells, and to the Rectors of West Retford and Ordsall for use of bells, brought the meeting to a close.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire Triples, Steadman Triples and Treble Bob Major were rung at East Retford, whilst at the six-bell towers, Bob Minor, Kent, Oxford and Violet Treble Bob were rung.

## EMPIRE DAY RINGING.

By the kind permission of the Incumbents and Cathedral Chapters, the following London peals of bells will be rung on Empire Day (Whitsun Monday), in honour of the magnificent response made by our Colonial brethren in coming to the aid of the mother country in her time of need.

St. Michael's, Cornhill, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

St. Paul's Cathedral, 1.30 to 3.30 p.m.

St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, 3 to 5 p.m.

Southwark Cathedral, 3.30 to 5 p.m.

**FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.**—On April 11th, before evensong, at the Parish Church, 984 Bob Major: George Beverley 1, A. Dye 2, C. Wybrow 3, Miss A. E. Adcock (longest length of Major) 4, A. W. Baldwin 5, Chas. S. Tutbill 6, Pte C. V. Ebberson 7, R. Cooke (conductor) 8.

**STAINES, MIDDLESEX.**—On April 11th, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: W. G. Bedford 1, W. Bavin (first quarter-peal) 2, T. S. Smith 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. Beeby 5, E. W. Butler 6, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7, W. S. Greenwood 8. Messrs. Greenwood, Butler and Bavin are local ringers; the others are from Slough. Mr. Beeby (late of Sittingbourne) was paying a visit to his native belfry.

### THE CENTRAL COUNCIL. NEXT TUESDAY'S MEETING.

As already announced the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers will assemble at the Church House, Westminster, for the 25th annual meeting, next Tuesday. The Standing Committee, which is really the executive of the Council, will meet at 9.45, and the full Council at 11 a.m.

The triennial meeting in London usually attracts a fairly full attendance of members, although this year the exceptional conditions prevailing may have some effect on the numbers present. Railway facilities, which are important when members have to travel from all corners of the country, are more restricted this year, and several of the representatives are away on military duties. Nevertheless there is every prospect of a good meeting. In past years the London assembly has been made the occasion of a big re-union of ringers, and while, in the present state of affairs nothing has been pre-arranged, there are certain to be friendly gatherings in the evening. One such will be at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, where the College Youths will be holding one of their periodical meetings, to which members of the Council are invited.

As to the business before the Council, the agenda includes the election of President and hon. secretary, the election of committees, and the consideration of their reports and discussion on the motions, the terms of which we published last week.

#### LEGITIMATE METHODS.

One of the motions down for discussion was before the Council in identical form when last they met in London—three years ago:

"That it is desirable to reconsider some of the conditions laid down for the Legitimacy of Methods as stated on page 18 of 'Rules and Decisions, 1904.'"

On that occasion the motion was brought forward by the Hon. Secretary (the Rev. C. D. P. Davies), and was eventually out-voted. A new Council, with possibly numerous changes in personnel, is now to consider the subject, which is really a highly technical one, and one, also, which few ringers have studied really deeply.

It may, therefore, be of assistance if we give the definitions which—if we may be guided by what took place three years ago—it is the object of the mover to get reconsidered. They are as follows:—

"The working bells shall be in the same coursing order at each lead head, and end in the plain course"—this means that all methods must have what are known as Bob Major lead ends.

"A plain lead is a succession of rows so arranged that when the hunt (or hunts) has completed its work from the lead head to the lead end, it is in a different relative position among the working bells, but the working bells are in the same coursing order.

"A bob lead is a succession of rows so arranged that when the hunt (or hunts) has completed its work it is in a different relative position among the working bells and the working bells have three of their number in a different coursing order.

"A single lead is a succession of rows so arranged that . . . the working bells have two of their number in a different coursing order."

The crux of the argument on the previous occasion seemed to be that the mover was against the retention of the rule that a method, to be legitimate, must have the Bob Major lead ends, while, by those who opposed the motion, it was held that Bob Major lead ends had not been laid down as an arbitrary rule, but had been found, upon investigation, to be the result of natural laws.

Of course it is not possible to say that this will be the ground of argument next Tuesday, for the subject opened up is a very wide one, and, while we do not wish to anticipate the discussion, we have no doubt that the new members, particularly, will find a knowledge of the points mentioned of use in following the debate.

#### RINGING AT SHOREDITCH.

As no intimation has been received of members who will be able to ring at Shoreditch on Whit-Monday, an effort is being made by the Master of the Cumberland Youths (Mr. J. D. Matthews) to get permission for ringing at that tower on Tuesday evening, and, if granted, it will be announced at the meeting.

### KENT RINGERS IN SUSSEX.

The Hawkhurst (Kent) ringers cycled to Salehurst (Sussex) on Sunday evening, and, thanks to the kindness of the Vicar (the Rev. C. E. Ward) and the courtesy of the local company, had a very enjoyable ring. The party numbered seven, and on their arrival everything was in readiness. With the help of one of the local band a quarter-pool of Grandsire Triples was rung in 46 mins., by: G. Maskell 1, J. H. Durrant 2, A. H. Wellard 3, J. Blake 4, —, Perry (Salehurst) 5, O. Waghorn 6, G. Billenness 7, F. Chapman 8. The Vicar favoured the company with his presence in the belfry, and extended a cordial welcome to the men from Kent. Several of the visitors remained for the service, at the conclusion of which the Vicar bade them farewell. The Hawkhurst band return hearty thanks to the rev. gentleman for granting them permission to ring, and to the local ringers for allowing them to come to Salehurst.

**HORSLEY, DERBYSHIRE.**—On Tuesday evening, April 13th, on the occasion of the induction of the new Vicar (the Rev. S. Rys Williams), 520 Grandsire Doubles: Willis Cresswell 1, William Smith (conductor) 2, John Harrison 3, Thos. H. Whilton 4, Thos. Morriss 5.

### THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT STAMFORD HILL.

There was a capital attendance at a meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association at St. Ann's, Stamford Hill, on Saturday last, over 40 members and friends joining in the ringing during the afternoon and evening. The "experts," too, were present, and one noticed that they took their turn at helping learners through Kent Minor, or "standing behind" ringers endeavouring to master the intricacies of Grandsire Doubles. In this way all present had a "pull," the methods rung ranging from Bob Minor to Cambridge and London Surprise.

There was a short service at 5.30, when an address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. F. Rice), who made some interesting observations with regard to bells, which were listened to very attentively by the many ringers present.—Tea was served in the Memorial House, followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Vicar, at which four new members were elected.

Mr. F. A. Milne, vice-president, referred to the severe loss sustained by the late President of the Association (the Rev. H. G. Bird, now Rector of Newdigate, Surrey), in the death of his son, Lieut. W. S. Bird, of the 6th Bait. K.R.R. (attached 2nd Battalion), who was killed in action a few days previously. Mr. Milne stated that the deceased gentleman had played cricket for Oxford University and Middlesex, and was for some years captain of Mr. G. O. Smith's school at Cock-fosters, Hadley. At the outbreak of war he obtained a commission, and now the news had been received that he had died fighting for his country in France.—Mr. Milne proposed that a vote of condolence be passed and forwarded to the Rev. H. G. Bird, expressing their sincere sympathy with him in his great loss.—The Hon. Secretary seconded, and the vote was passed in silence, the members all standing.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) stated that there was another sad duty they had to perform. It had just come to their knowledge that one of their members, who had been connected with the society for many years, had had the misfortune to lose his wife. He proposed that they should show their sympathy with Mr. George A. Card, of the Edmonton band, by passing a vote of condolence with him in his bereavement.—This was seconded by Mr. G. B. Lucas, and passed in the same manner as before.

#### SUGGESTED AUGMENTATION OF BELLS.

With regard to the next meeting, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the hon. secretary.—Mr. Milne proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. F. Rice for allowing them to use the bells that day, for his presence amongst them, and for his excellent address. He was very interested in what the Vicar had said, and had learned many things that were quite new to him. Mr. Milne also thanked the local ringers and the ladies who had prepared tea for them.—The Hon. Secretary, in seconding, stated how pleased they were to visit St. Ann's. He said that the success of the meeting was in a great measure due to Mr. Ringrose, and he should like to thank him for his help in arranging the meeting. He had heard whispers of two new bells at Stamford Hill, and hoped that on their next visit they would have the pleasure of ringing on a peal of eight.—The vote of thanks was carried with enthusiasm, and the Vicar, in replying, said how pleased he was to meet the members of the Association. He was sure not to forget about the extra two bells as Mr. Ringrose was always quietly telling him how nice eight bells sounded, and how there was just room in the steeple for two more. He would like to give a hint to the secretary. In whist playing there was a rule, "When in doubt, play trumps." He would like to say, "When in doubt where to hold a meeting, come to St. Ann's."

Mr. Ringrose said that he felt he had made a record, for this meeting was the first held at Stamford Hill since the bells were placed in the tower 50 years ago. He, too, was very pleased to see so many present, and hoped they had all enjoyed themselves.

The meeting concluded, after a touch of Stedman Triples and a course of Stedman Calers had been rung on handbells (which were provided by Mr. J. Rayner) by the following members: Messrs. W. Pye, A. W. Grimes, J. Hunt, J. Armstrong, and C. T. Coles. The tower was then again visited for a short period of ringing, to celebrate, as the Vicar said, the further advance of the Allies in Flanders.

### LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Northern Branch (Gainsborough District) was held at Willingham on Saturday, and well attended. The bells of St. Helen's were available during the afternoon and evening, and some excellent ringing done in various methods, including a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by: H. Plowright (first in the method) 1, C. H. Baker 2, W. Roberts (first in the method) 3, F. S. W. Butler 4, W. Herring 5, J. T. Ladd (conductor) 6. Tea was provided at the Half Moon Inn, and was followed by the business meeting.—The Rector of Willingham (the Rev. S. Malkinson) presided, and was elected an honorary member.—Votes of thanks to the Church authorities for the use of the bells, Mr. Hy. Plowright for making the necessary arrangements, and the host and hostess, were unanimously passed.—The best thanks of the visitors are also due to Mr. R. C. Bacon, J.P. (Willingham Hall), who kindly granted permission to the visitors to stroll through his beautiful grounds. This was very much appreciated by those who took advantage of the opportunity.

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## BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

### ST. MARY'S, MELTON MOWBRAY.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

The magnificent church of St. Mary's, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, contains a fine peal of 10 bells, which have a very interesting history. In 6 Edward VI (1553) there were "v great bells in the stepyll wth ye sance bell." The churchwardens' accounts supply some interesting particulars relating to this peal, and the following are a few extracts:—

" 1546 Itm payde for ij bawdryckes to ye bells .....	xxd.
" Itm payde for a wele to on of ye bells .....	vs jd.
" Itm payde for medying of the lytyll bell .....	vd.
" 1547 Itm pd. to ye Smyth of Kyrkeby for peesying the Grett beill clapper .....	vs.
" Itm pd to ij Ryngers wch. rong to ye Simon when the bisshop of lincoln was here .....	ijd.



ST. MARY'S, MELTON MOWBRAY.

- " 1553. October. Itm payd to John Hynmane and to Robert Bayworth for rynginge of ye great bell for Master latimore [Hugh Latimer's] sarmon  
Itm payd to the Ryngers at the dyryde for the Kyng [Edward VI.] ..... ijd.
- " Itm paid the x daye of Aprell to Thomas Owefield for casting the Santa bell ..... xs.
- " 1557-8 Itm pd for a galland of ale to ye Reyngars when ye byschype was here ..... ijd.
- " 1562. Pd for drinck at the lifting up of or Ladye bell iijd.
- The townwarden's accounts also tell us more about "our Lady bell" (the present 7th) which was cast by Newcombe of Leicester. The churchwardens' accounts for 1601 state:—
- " Rec. of the Bellfounder for mettell wch was overplus of the forthe Bell wch was caste by him ..... xxijs.
- " It. pd Willm Smarte and his men for hanginge the bells and mending them ..... vjs viijd.
- Nichols preserves the inscription of this bell, which was "I will sound and resound unto thi people Lord with my sweet voyse to call them to thy word. Thomas Owndle Thomas Clowdesley Wardens 1601."
- " 1610 Another levie made the x of december for castinge the third bell and other nedefull charges about the churche weh came to ..... xli ixs viijd.

This bell was inscribed "Hec campana sacra fiat Trinitate Beata 1610."

The great bell of the ring of five appears to have been

recast in 1656, and to have been inscribed: "Glory be to God on High. Roger Waite and John Hodgkins, churchwardens, 1656." In 1728 the present 5th was added, making them six, and in 1754 the tenor was recast by Eayre, while in 1766 the present 9th was recast. In 1802 two more were added, making a peal of eight, and in 1894 they were all rehung in a new frame, and two trebles added, making the present ring of ten, which are inscribed as follows:—

#### Treble.

" Presented to this Church by Wm. Giles of this Parish in memory of his parents, William and Martha Giles of Colston Bassett, Not'rs. A.D. 1894. John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough."

#### Second.

" Presented to this Church by Eliza Brown in memory of her parents, Joseph and Mary Ann Littlewood. A.D. 1894. Vicar R. Blakeney; Churchwardens J. H. Petch and W. Willcox; John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough."

#### Third.

" Two bells were added to the peal by Subscription Anno Domini MDCCCII. Thomas Ford LL.D. Vicar; Vincent Wing and John Mowbray C. wardens. John Briant of Hertford. Fecit: Gloria Deo in Excelsis." (Glory to God in the Highest).

#### Fourth.

" Statutum est omnibus Semel Mori. Octo campanas sacra exaudimus in arce dulces altisonas O Hilaras, Hilaras: John Briant Hertford Fecit Anno Domini MDCCCII." [It is appointed unto all men once to die: We hear eight bells in the sacred tower sound soft and loud O joyful! joyful!]

#### Fifth.

" Benefactors to this bell. Duke of Rutland, Sir T. Parkens, T. Bennett, Esqr., E. Smith, Esqr., Mrs. D. L. Fountaine, Mrs. Green, Mr. J. Reeve, Mr. S. Stokes, Mr. J. Browne, Mr. T. Craven, Mr. J. Brewin. A.D. 1728."

#### Sixth.

" HVIVS SANCTE MARIA " (In Early Gothic Capitals 2 inches high, under which is a shield)

#### Seventh.

" BE A TA MA RI A " (The shield contains the Trade Mark of Thomas Newcombe).

#### Eighth.

" Gloria Patri Filio et spiritui Sancto 1730 Calorum Christe Placeat



"Tibi Rex Sonus Iste" (under which is an impression of a Queen Anne's Groat) [Glory be to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Be Christ the King of Heaven, pleased when this sound is given.]

### Ninth.

"William Durrance, William Hill, Matthew Simpson, overseers 1766. Robert Wartnaby, Richard Worrill, Churchwardens. Joseph Eayre, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire 1766." (There is an impression of a George II farthing).

### Tenor.

"Thos. Eayre de Kett. Fecit. James Fowkes and James Durrance C.Ws. Ao Di 1753 Wm. Hose and James Fowkes C.Ws. Ao Di 1754. Cum sono si nou vis venire nunquam ad preces cupies ire: Sit nomen domini benedictum laudate illum cymbalis sonoris." [If you're unwilling to come when I call to prayers, you'll not wish to come at all: Blessed be the Name of the Lord, praise Him on the loud cymbals.]

The tenor weighs 25½ cwt., is 53½ inches in diameter, and 42½ ins. in height. When the bells were rehung all the old crowns were taken off, and fitted with new iron headstocks. There was a carillon fitted in 1878 by Gillett and Bland, of Croydon, and played the following tunes every three hours: Monday "Last rose of Summer," Tuesday "Harmonious Blacksmith," Wednesday "See the Conquering Hero Comes," Thursday "Blue Bells of Scotland," Friday "Eisenach," Saturday "Home Sweet Home," Sunday "Hanover." Unfortunately they are now out of repair and do not play. The earliest record of a peal being rung here that I am able to trace is the following: "On Tuesday in Whitsun week—June 1st 1830—was rung at Melton Mowbray a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hours 22 minutes, by the following persons from Leicester viz:—

James Harrott .....	Treble	Edward Biggs .....	5
John Smart .....	2	William Harrott .....	6
Thomas Langham .....	3	James Harper .....	7
Lawrence Staynes .....	4	William Billington .....	Tenor

Conducted by James Harper.

On January 28th, 1882, eight members of St. Margaret's, Leicester, visited Melton and rang 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hours 16 minutes, conducted by George Burrows, and in recording this peal in a book. Mr. Stephen Cooper remarks: "It is more than 50 years since a peal was rung on these bells, and unless they are made to go better, I think it is very likely to be as long before another is rung; the above band made an attempt last year, but when they had rung 2520 changes the conductor called the bells round; however, we were determined to have the peal if possible and a very tough task it was for the 5th, 7th and tenor." The first peal on the 10 bells was 5008 Stedman Caters by the Loughborough ringers, in 3½ hours, conducted by Mr. John W. Taylor, junr. (bellfounder). The next peal was 5021 Grandsire Caters rung muffled to the memory of the late Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, conducted by Wm. Willson on May 28th, 1898. Only three peals of Royal have been rung on the bells, two of Bob Royal, conducted by the late Chas. H. Fowler and W. Willson respectively, and one of Kent conducted by F. H. Dexter. A number of peals of Grandsire Triples have been rung by the local Society, conducted by the captain, Mr. R. H. Bartram. On May 2nd, 1908, the writer rang there his first peal as conductor—Holt's 10-part—at the age of 18. Of late years several peals of Grandsire Caters have been called by W. Willson, and Stedman Caters by F. H. Dexter, among the latter being the first peal on ten bells by the Warwickshire Guild out of that county. Only one peal of Major has been accomplished—Double Norwich—conducted by the late Mr. C. H. Fowler, and rung muffled to the memory of the Duke of Fife, on Feb. 3rd, 1912, in 3 hours 35 minutes.

### KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Lewisham District was held at St. John's, Deptford, on Saturday week. The tower was open during the afternoon, and the bells were kept going in various touches until 5.30 p.m., when about forty members attended service, the Association Form being used, and a very interesting address given by the Rev. W. F. Jepson, Vicar.

The members then adjourned to the Whidbourne Institute, where a splendid meat tea, kindly provided by the Vicar and his churchwardens, who were also present, was thoroughly enjoyed.—The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding, and giving the Association a most hearty welcome to St. John's. He also spoke in glowing terms of the local band, and the way they had worked to put the belfry into the respectable condition it was now in.—Mr. C. W. Young and Mr. Harry (wardens) both said how pleased they were to meet the members, and spoke of their long connection with St. John's Church.

Three new members were elected, and Chislehurst was selected for the next quarterly meeting in July, the secretary (Mr. T. Groombridge, senr.) being left to arrange the date.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his address, the use of the bells and for presiding, also to the Vicar and churchwardens for the splendid tea they had so kindly provided, and this, needless to say, was carried with applause.

Mr. C. W. Young then joined the Association as an hon. member.—A course of Stedman Caters was rung by C. H. Stonely, A. D. Barker, W. A. Alps, A. W. Grimes and C. H. Hughes. The ringing in the tower consisted of touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge and London.

### THE EXPERT.

#### ANOTHER VIEW.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The expert is not, as you and Canon Papillon say, a professor who ought not to teach the rudiments, for are not all ringers experts? The term "expert" is, in ringing, only one of degree; that is, one who can ring in rounds is an "expert" compared to the one who can only toll a bell; the six-bell change ringer considers himself an "expert" against the five-bell man; the eight-bell man considers himself better than the six, while those who have the privilege of ringing on 10 and 12 beat the lot (in their own opinion) and, going backwards, the eight-bell man considers himself more of an expert than the 10 and 12 man, for is not 10 and 12 almost like call changes, and he (the eight-bell man) rings more methods. As for the six-bell ringer, is not six the foundation of all methods? And having got the foundation the rest is simple, while more methods are practised on six than any other number. So now who is the expert? It seems to me that the acknowledged top as far as practical ringing goes is London Surprise, and that should be our aim, but, when that end is attained and the whole band can ring it, what is to be done should one or two die or leave the parish, for if the "expert" should not teach the rudiments who should? Should the expert then look round and try to induce some from a neighbouring band, who are not "experts," to fill the vacant places for polishing purposes? If this be the idea the ultimate result would be most lamentable, for to induce a young ringer to leave his own church where he has been taught to handle a bell and where he is a member of its various organisations for the doubtful honour of ringing with a further advanced company is very likely to break him from the attendance at the services to which he is calling others. No, sir, that is not the way. The expert should always see to it that he has one or two youngsters in his own tower to whom he should be imparting the rudiments; then he would be doing something to forward the work of the church instead of giving a knock-down blow to the neighbouring tower and church organisations, if he followed your and the Canon's advice.—Yours sincerely,

AU FOND (Not AU FAIT).

P.S.—I am not acquainted with any who have been mentioned in this correspondence.

[Our correspondent is wrong in his conception of our views. To begin with, we do not look upon an expert merely as a man who rings on 10 or 12 bells. The expert is the man who can ring any method on any number—and ring it well. Indeed, he must not only be able to ring his own bell, but he must be able to give others help when they stumble. There are plenty of men able to ring Stedman Cinques who cannot ring London Surprise, and, while they are able men, they are, in the words of our correspondent, only experts in degree. As to the experts teaching the rudiments, it has never been argued that they should not do this. They have all done their part in the days gone by, and our argument is that it ought not to be expected that they should still devote all their time to elementary matters. There are others, whose assistance to beginners would be equally useful, who could do that, leaving the "professors" to help on and encourage those who have left the "elementary class."—Ed.]

### THE LATE MR. SAMUEL REEVES.

#### MEMORIAL TABLETS UNVEILED.

On Thursday week (Ascension Day) the two brass tablets erected in Christ Church, West Bromwich, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Reeves, were unveiled and dedicated by the Vicar, the Rev. Basil G. Nicholas. One tablet, erected by the congregation of the church, recorded the 27 years he had been clerk, vergor and ringing master at the church, and also a peal of Grandsire Triples rung by the local band on the day of his funeral, June 24th, 1914.

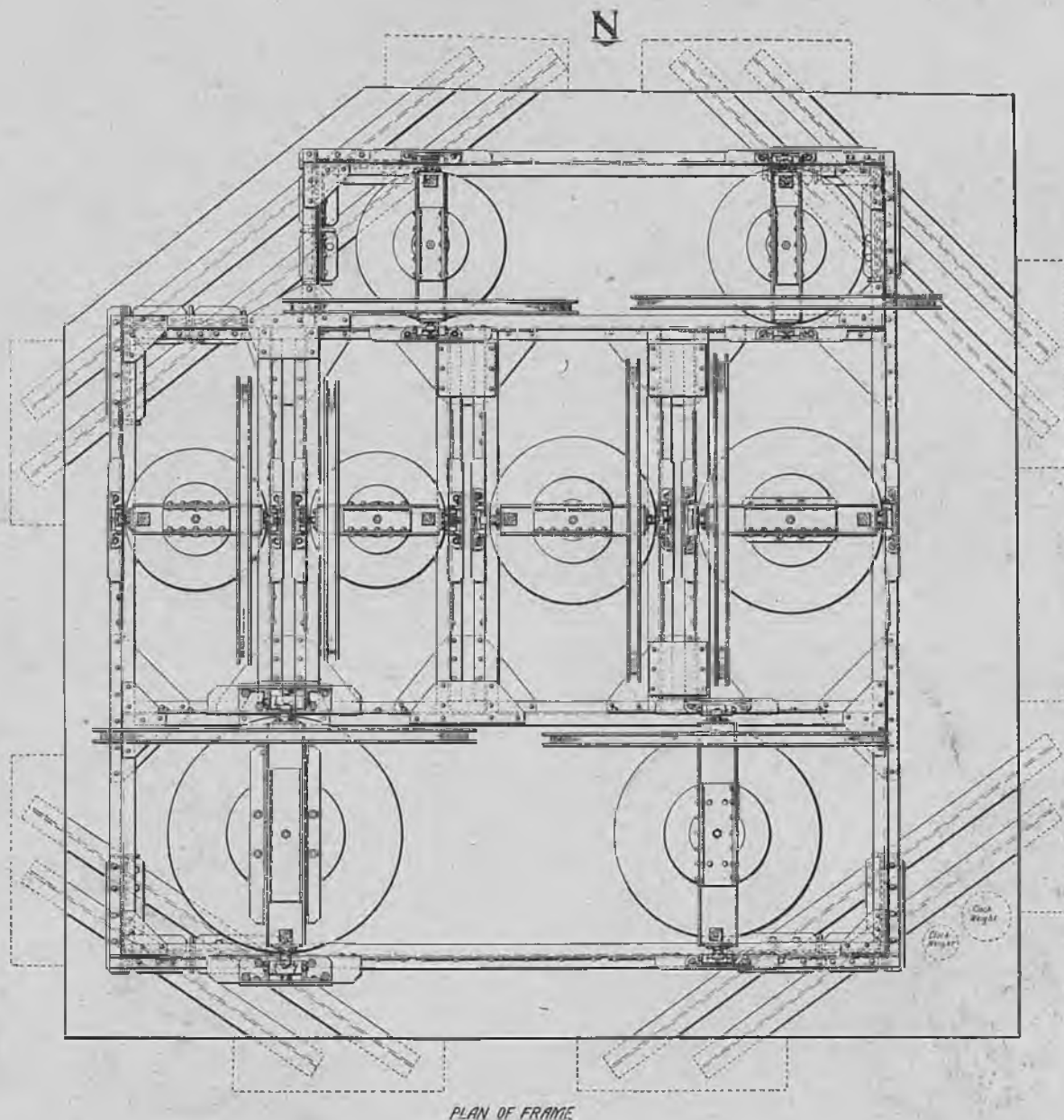
The other tablet, erected under the auspices of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford by a number of his personal friends, was formally handed over to the Vicar by Mr. W. Rock Small, representing the society. This records the 23 years the late Mr. Reeves was hon. secretary of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, his official connection with the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham, viz., formerly President and latterly vice-president, and also a peal of Stedman Cinques rung on the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect, on June 27th, 1914.

The Vicar, taking as his text, "And ye shall be witnesses unto me," gave an interesting address on the doctrine of the Ascension, in the course of which he stated that he had personally known Mr. Samuel Reeves for twelve years, and during the whole of that time he had been his right-hand man. He had always found him perfectly honest, straightforward, punctual; a most conscientious servant, and a true witness of Jesus Christ.

The service, which was fully choral, was attended by a good number of ringers, the St. Martin's Guild being represented by one of the vice-presidents, the ringing master, hon. secretary and others. Ringing in various methods took place before and after the service.

NOTTINGHAM.—At St. Peter's Church, on April 11th, for evening service; also as a birthday compliment to William Flinders, who was unable to take part owing to indisposition, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples: Miss Mary Woolley 1, Alfred Barrett 2, Edwards Hughes 3, Geo. H. Parlett 4, Geo. West 5, Geo. H. Johnson 6, Walter C. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. R. Cobbin 8.





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## NOTICES.

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

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Established 1637.—A meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for business on May 25th, 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.

**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—By kind permission of the Rev. B. S. Batty, a meeting will be held at St. John of Jerusalem's Church, South Hackney, on May 22nd. Tower open 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch, E.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells available 4 o'clock. Tea at the Cafe, High Street, at 5.30. Meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Secretary.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Grassendale on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells ready at 4. Members intending being present please send word to Walter Hughes, Branch Secretary.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Bennington on May 22nd, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. A free tea will be given by the Rector, Rev. Canon Mills. Business meeting after. All will be made welcome. Kindly notify me during the week.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary, Little Munden, Ware, Herts.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting 6.30.—Joseph Ogden, Secretary.

**CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Whit-Monday, May 24th, 1915. The bells of St. Giles', St. Edmund's and St. Peter's will be available from 10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Service in St. Giles' Church at 12 noon. Luncheon, at the Peacock Hotel, at 1 o'clock, members 1s. each, non-members 2s. Business meeting to follow. The bells of All Saints', St. Giles' and St. Sepulchre's will be available after the meeting from 4 to 7 p.m.—Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

**CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Thirsk on Whit-Monday, May 24th, 1915. The bells of the Parish Church (8, tenor 17 cwt.) and Felixkirk (6, tenor 9 cwt.) are available for ringing all day. Committee meeting at 11.15 a.m. Dinner, at 1.15 p.m., at the Three Tuns Hotel, Thirsk. Members 1s., non-members 2s. 6d. Divine service in the Parish Church 12.15 p.m., when an address will be given by the Rev. W. R. Hannam, Vicar of Felixkirk, and Rural Dean.—T. Metcalfe, Honorary Secretary, 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Wye on Whit-Monday, May 24th. Ringing to commence at 2 o'clock, and a special service in the church at 4.30. An allowance of one penny per mile (single journey), maximum 2s., will be paid to all members attending, provided their subscriptions have been made for this year. By kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. L. O. Crawford) Ashford bells will be available from 11 to 1 o'clock.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—The next meeting of the Eastern Division of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Market Weighton on Whit-Monday, May 24th, 1915. Bells available all day. Tea at 4.30 for all who notify me by Tuesday, May 18th, 1915 (1s. each).—Thos. Smith, Hon. District Secretary.

**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. The following towers will be open for ringing: The Cathedral, Broomfield, Springfield, Widford, Boreham, Writtle, Allday.—Henry T. W. Eyre, Honorary Secretary, Great Totham.

**ST. PETER'S, SOUTH CROYDON.**—This tower (10) will be open for ringing on Whit-Monday (Empire Day) from 3 to 5 o'clock, and after 6.30. All ringers welcome.—Charles Dean, 2, Biddulph Road, Croydon.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The Whit-Monday meeting this year will not be held owing to bells at Alnwick not being available, and there being no reasonable travelling facilities to Rothbury.—Geo. T. Potter, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—A quarterly meeting of this Guild will be held at All Saints', West Bromwich, on Saturday, May 29th. Bells available at 4 o'clock, service in church at 5 o'clock, to be conducted by the Rev. M. M. Connor (Vicar). A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than May 26th. Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Secretary, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.** Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Birch Fields, Rusholme, on Whit-Saturday, May 29th. Bells available at 4.30. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, June 5th, 1915. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

**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.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**SIBLE HEDINGHAM.**—On April 11th, being the anniversary of the opening of the two new trebles, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: E. Kendall 1, L. Wiseman (conductor) 2, W. Clark 3, H. Hale 4, F. Wiseman 5, H. Cooper 6, S. Hale 7, W. Ruffle 8. For evening service, 350 Grandsire Triples: E. Kendall 1, L. Wiseman (conductor) 2, R. Rayner 3, H. Hale 4, O. Broyd 5, F. Wiseman 6, S. Hale 7, W. Cross 8. Also 224 of Bob Major. After evening service, 700 Grandsire Triples: E. Kendall 1, L. Wiseman (conductor) 2, R. Rayner 3, H. Hale 4, W. Clark 5, S. Hale 6, B. Pettitt 7, W. Cross 8.

**GREAT HAMPTON, EVESHAM.**—Worcestershire Association. — On April 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1260 changes) in 50 mins.: H. Gould 1, R. Cook 2, E. Robbins 3, J. Robbins 4, A. Jordan 5, J. Hemming (conductor) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. J. Dain, a prominent Churchman and sidesman, and to Pte W. Harding, who died from wounds received in action in France, a memorial service being held in the evening.

## EASTER TOUCHES.

**BARNET.**—Middlesex Association.—At St. John-the-Baptist's Church, for evening service, in 47 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. J. Chandler 1, W. Childs 2, J. Sumpter 3, C. J. Tricker 4, W. Seer 5, F. A. Milne 6, A. J. Trappitt (conductor) 7, G. Herbert 8.

**GREAT HALE, LINGS.**—For 7 a.m. Communion, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Ward 1, F. Ekins 2, J. T. Holmes 3, T. Humberstone 4, W. H. Wood 5, W. Dickinson (conductor) 6.

**MERTHYR TYDFIL.**—At the Parish Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) by the local band, in 45 mins.: David Lewis 1, Geo. Hyde 2, Walter B. Althorp 3, William Morgan 4, Samuel Oakley 5, William Badham 6, Alban E. Slatter (conductor) 7, Frank Stirk 8. First quarter-peal by all except W. Morgan and A. E. Slatter.

**CAERPHILLY, GLAM.**—At St. Martin's Church, for 7 a.m. service, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, 7-6-8 covering: E. Phillips 1, \*J. Roberts 2, H. Broughton 3, \*P. Jones 4, G. Cooke 5, F. Vicary 6, C. Hawkins 7, A. Jayne 8. For 11 a.m. service, four six-scores of Doubles: E. Phillips 1, J. Roberts 2, \*A. Jayne 3, H. Broughton 4, G. Cooke 5, P. Jones 6, C. Hawkins 7, F. Fry 8. \*First 120 on an inside bell. For evening service, three six-scores, in which C. Hawkins rang his first 120 on an inside bell. The old band at this tower has been broken up owing to six having joined the army. These 120's of Doubles are the result of the efforts to bring in recruits to fill the gaps.

**HECKINGTON, LINGS.** — For 6 a.m. Communion, 504 Grandsire Triples: M. Clark 1, A. Dixon 2, J. T. Holmes 3, C. Ward 4, W. H. Wood 5, J. H. Clark (conductor) 6, F. Ekins 7, J. Rogers 8. Also 504 in the same method for morning service: M. Clark 1, J. Green 2, J. T. Holmes 3, C. Ward 4, W. Dickinson (conductor) 5, F. Ekins 6, J. H. Clark 7, J. Rogers 8.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

Thursday last was the one hundredth anniversary of the first peal on the bells of Lichfield Cathedral, as recorded in the peal book of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham. The entry reads as follows:—

"On May 20th, 1815,

A Compleat Peal of Grandsire Caters  
containing 5039 Changes  
was rung at  
Litchfield Cathedral

by the Society of St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham,  
in 3 hours 21 minutes.

James Jarvis .....	Treble	Henry Cooper .....	6
Thos. Worrall .....	2	Wm. Newman, junr. ....	7
John Edmunds .....	3	Short and Dovey, senr. ....	8
Wm. Hassall .....	4	Saml. Lawrence .....	9
Thos. Chapman .....	5	Wm. Marsh .....	Tenor

Composed and called by Henry Cooper.

The above was the first peal ever rung upon those bells, having been hung 127 years."

There is an interesting link between the band that rang this peal, and St. Martin's Guild of to-day, for William Marsh was the great-grandfather of the present Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. Paddon Smith). It seems a pity that permission to ring a centenary peal could not be obtained.

## AN INVITATION.

The Ancient Society of College Youths will be pleased to welcome any members of the Central Council to their meeting room at The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Tuesday, May 25th, at 7 p.m.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, Hon. Secretary.

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