



No. 340. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

# GILLET & 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 & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1913.  
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 NEW COUNCIL.

Competition for election to the Central Council is seldom great among the members of the various associations called upon to elect representatives. Often the appointment goes as a matter of compliment to some individual whom it is sought to honour, and by this means men have been elected to the central body without much practical acquaintance with ringing to recommend them. On the other hand, it cannot altogether be said that associations have ever had any difficulty in getting members willing to be elected as representatives, although when appointed a good many stay away from the Council meeting. But it is without doubt true that there is seldom any keen desire displayed to fill a post which might, if things were different, be considered one of the highest honours which an association could bestow upon one of its members. It is refreshing; therefore, to find that there was really a contest for this election at the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association last Saturday, and that the assembly had before them six names from which to choose four delegates. The election resulted in two of the best known North Country ringers losing their seats, but we may expect that those clear-headed Lancashire men who have been appointed will be able to add the weight of their opinion in reforming the Council.

In the newly-elected body, which is to deliberate in London next year, there ought to be no room for individuals of narrow views or prejudices, or of inexperience in ringing matters. What is wanted is men acquainted with the many-sided interests of ringing and ringers, who will see that the central body is made not a mere debating society for a few ultra-scientific theorists, but a deliberative assembly capable of putting the theoretical and practical into their proper perspective, of becoming a Council of action instead of procrastination, of being useful instead of merely talkative. Lancashire seems to have set an example to some other associations by treating its representation on the next Council as a serious matter, and it is a pity that the whole of the societies throughout the country have not taken the line that, next year more than ever—when the Council stands, as it were, at the parting of the ways—it is necessary to have a strong and full representation. If the Council continues in the groove into which it has slipped in recent years, its influence will dwindle still further and its value disappear. It needs new blood and the infusion of new ideas, and the best men the Exercise can send should be elected to restore the Council to the position which it might and ought to hold. But nothing will be gained if members of Associations imagine that elections to the Central Council are of no importance, and if they fail to send men of initiative, who have the aptitude and courage to voice their own opinions and the views of those who send them.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR  
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,  
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

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

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

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

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs 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,  
STEEL OR IRON.

**Chiming Machines**

Best Workmanship and  
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MALLEABLE IRON BRACKET.

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REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
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**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer.**

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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.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 15, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

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

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

JOHN WILLIAMS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM G. ANKER ... .. 5
GEORGE T. MITCHISON ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. MEERS ... .. 6
WILLIAM G. ELLIS ... .. 3	JOHN B. COLLETT ... .. 7
ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... .. 4	*SAMUEL PRICE ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by WILLIAM J. MEERS.

\* First peal. The ringers of the 1st, 2nd and tenor are members of the local band and were made members of the above association before starting for the peal. Rung on the eve of the Harvest Festival.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND  
ALL SAINTS' GUILD

On Saturday, September 15, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

*TOM FORD ... .. Treble	JAMES PIPPIN ... .. 5
JOHN BUTLER ... .. 2	JOHN W. JONES ... .. 6
CHARLES GREEDY ... .. 3	SIDNEY DAWE ... .. 7
WILLIAM BOLTON ... .. 4	HAROLD FORBES ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by JOHN W. JONES.

\* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Vicar of this parish (the Rev. Charles Bennett, M.A.), who died on the previous Sunday just at the close of the morning service, after a long and painful illness. He had been Vicar of the parish since 1901.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 5, 1917,

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

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor, size 15 in G.

REV. A. H. F. BOGHEY 1-2	REV. H. LAW JAMES ... .. 5-6
REV. E. BANKES JAMES 3-4	*ARTHUR E. WILKINS ... .. 7-8

Conducted by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

Witness: C. REILLY.

\* First peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thursday, September 13, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;**

THOMAS RUSSAM ... .. 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 5-6
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 7-8
WILLIAM KENT ... .. 9-10	

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

First peal of treble ten in hand by the above band and in the City of Birmingham.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting was held on Saturday week, at the Church of St. Ann, Highgate, members and friends, to the number of upwards of 25, putting in an appearance. The bells were kept going in various methods from 4 until 8 p.m.

At the business meeting, which followed in the tower, Mr. W. G. Matthews was elected to the chair, in the absence of the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), who was on holiday.

The next meeting was fixed for Saturday, October 13th, full particulars of which will appear in "The Ringing World."

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, also to Mr. Baker (steeplekeeper) for his kindness in having everything in readiness.

**KILLED IN ACTION.**

After serving just over two years at the front, Sergt. W. Daniels, of the Northants Regiment, who, before joining the army was a ringer at Moulton, Northants, has been killed in action. On Sunday week a memorial service was held at his parish church, and 720 Grandsire Doubles, the six six-scores being called differently, were rung with the bells half-muffled, by: T. Law 1, H. Clarke (conductor) 2, F. Rollings 3, G. Parker 4, H. England (first 720) 5, F. Dawson (first 720) 6.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE TO A RINGER.**

A memorial service was held at the Parish Church, Eton, Northants, on Sunday afternoon for Pte. Ralph Elson, 10th Essex Regiment, who was killed at Ypres on August 12th. A promising young ringer who joined up in March, he was in charge of the Eton band, who have a roll of honour of 14, all members of the Central Northants Association. His officer writes of him: "He was a bright, smart lad, and never gave the least trouble. He met his death facing the enemy in a manner worthy of the best British soldiers."

At the invitation of the Rector (Canon Jephson), six members of the Association attended and rang the bells half-muffled for the service, and, afterwards, the whole pull and stand, followed by 360 Grandsire Doubles: F. Hopper 1, F. Rollings 2, B. Soden 3, H. Clarke 4, T. Law (conductor) 5, W. Rogers 6. Pte. Elson was 20 years of age.

**SHELL SPLINTER KILLS BECKENHAM RINGER.**

It is with great regret we have to record the loss of Gunner J. B. Lovell, of the 119th Heavy Battery, R.F.A., who was struck by a flying splinter of shell on August 21st, and died immediately. He is buried in the military cemetery, near Vlamerlinghe, on the Ouderdom-Vlamerlinghe Road (Belgium).

He was an old Volunteer, and fought through the South African War, and was called up under the Derby Scheme about 18 months ago. A native of Beckenham, he started to ring when a band was formed there in August, 1904 (on the completion of the new tower and recasting of the present peal of eight bells), and made good progress in the art of change ringing. He only rang four peals, but was a regular attendant for Sunday and practice ringing, always cheerful and willing at all times to give a helping hand to anyone as far as lay in his power. He is sadly missed in the belfry.

On Thursday, Sept. 13th, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to his memory, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by his fellow members: C. Terry 1, G. Durling 2, Pte. V. Neale 3, G. Wickens 4, P. Terry 5, Pte. W. E. Mauken 6, W. Smith (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8; also the whole pull and stand, the deceased's age, 41 years, being tolled on the tenor.

Gunner Lovell leaves a mother, two sisters and a brother to mourn their loss.

**ANOTHER RINGER GAINS MILITARY MEDAL.**

The Military Medal has been awarded to W. J. Grove, of Tring. The official record of the action which won this distinction states that Pte. Grove on August 5th volunteered to carry an important dispatch to Brigade headquarters, when all other means of communication had failed, thereby greatly assisting in the operations. His coolness and great courage throughout added greatly to the success of the operations.

Pte. Grove, who is much esteemed by all his ringing colleagues, first learnt to handle a bell at Shiplake, Oxon, where he rang the tenor to a peal of Doubles. Going afterwards to Tring he joined the band there, at that time ringing only "stoneys," but just beginning to learn change ringing under the tuition of Mr. Smith, late of Aldermaston. Before joining the army Pte. Grove was a gardener at Tring Park. He joined the Northants Regiment, in November, 1915, and was afterwards transferred to the 10th Battalion the Queen's, Royal West Surrey Regt. He went to France in May, 1916.

**SILENT FOR 30 YEARS.****HOLNE CHURCH BELLS NOW BEING RESTORED.**

The village of Holne is pleasantly situated on the banks of the River Dart, amidst some beautiful Dartmoor scenery, and its church is an ancient edifice with an embattled tower containing six bells, cast by an ancient bell founder, Ambrose Gooding, of Plymouth, in 1743.

This fine-toned ring has not been rung for nearly 30 years, owing to some dispute between the late Vicar and the ringers, but they are now being put into thorough ringing order by Messrs. Aggett and Sons, bell hangers, of Chagford, in time to be rung for the induction service of the new Vicar (the Rev. Harvey Roysce), when their sweet sounds will be again heard pealing over moor, hill and dale.

In the churchyard is a curious epitaph on an old tombstone in memory of an old sportsman:—

Here lies poor old Ned

On his last mattress bed.

He lived a life merry and free,

He knew well Holne Chase,

But now has run his race,

And his name is Ned Collins, dee zee.

Holne Chase is a noted part of Dartmoor for fox-hunting.

**ANOTHER BUCKS VETERAN DEAD.****WILLIAM WILDER.**

Another Bucks veteran has passed away, creating a second gap in the octave of branch members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild who survived the 40th anniversary of the formation of the East Berks and South Bucks Association in June, 1877. William Wilder fell asleep on Tuesday, 4th inst., in the 79th year of his age, after only a few days' illness.

He was born in the parish of Upton-cum-Chalvey, then a hamlet of 500 inhabitants, but now merged into a town, re-named, of 16,000. It was not until rather late in life that he took up bell ringing, by joining the St. Mary's Society, Slough, about 1873, a few years after a serious accident on the Windsor-line, G.W. Railway, which nearly cost him his life, and changed his former boisterous disposition. As a young man he was an expert boxer. Of short stature and sturdy build he was able to take as much punishment as he gave, and he never gave in, even when the bare fists were used to oblige some quarrelsome friend with a few rounds, such was his bull-dog strength, and thus he earned the by-name of "Nineter."

Having become proficient as a call change hand, under George Sheppard, one of old scrouffe, he was quite content till about 1875, when the Rev. C. T. Mayo, of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, and first secretary of the West Middlesex Association, was able to convert him to the "new style," as method ringing was then considered to be at most towers throughout the country. But the process was tedious, the pupil slow, and many personal discussions on various railway stations took place before success was reached.

Mr. Wilder whose bluff exterior covered a warm heart, was one of a family of five, and he was named after his father, whose farm wages were 8s. per week. He himself started work at eight years of age for 1s. 10d. per week, so that education was non est in his case, and this often handicapped him in later years. He never touched intoxicants from the day of his accident, believed in insurance and thrift, and proved himself to be a friend in need to more than one change ringer in the London area by giving a substantial loan without fee or reward when the recipient was in sore straits.

Progress in change ringing resulted in a score of 33 peals being rung, comprising only two methods, his last being at Farnham Royal, conducted by Mr. J. J. Parker, who, like the writer, has some vivid recollections of "Nineter's" early efforts in Grandsire Minor.

In addition to the two societies already referred to, Mr. Wilder joined the Waterloo and the St. James' Societies of London in 1882, also the Royal Cumberland Youths in 1884, the latter being his favourite company, to which his loyalty had more than once been tested by an invitation to "turn over."

As a railway employee he made good use of the privileges for travelling, and soon became a well-known visitor to most of the towers between Reading and London. He succeeded the late Wm. Leader as steeplekeeper at St. Mary's, in 1899, and retired in 1914, during his term of office developing strict attention to good striking and punctual meeting; and more inclined as his years grew to speak his mind to rector and ringer—to quote his actual words—"offend or please."

His aversion to the Oxford Guild may be dated from the refusal of that body to book up a legitimate peal rung by that local society some 30 years ago. Many visitors to Slough were not favourably impressed by his gruff and determined manner and speech, but this came to him by force of habit after 50 years' service on the G.W. Railway: the greater part of the time as foreman painter. "Never absent and never late" was recorded on his time-sheet, but his long and faithful service went unrecognised by the company.

Some interesting anecdotes could be told about the deceased, and some day perhaps may appear in "The Ringing World." For the present I may add that his life resembles that of a Berkshire hoy—Mr. Wm. Newell, of Reading who very kindly thought of his namesake last Christmas in a practical way, for the old-age pension doesn't go far in war-time.

Both these ringers were born on the same day, November 9th, 1838, married on their birthdays and have seen their golden weddings.

Mr. Wilder was laid to rest on Saturday, Sept. 8th, the funeral service taking place at St. Mary's, Slough, conducted by the Rev. E. A. Steer (in the absence of the Rector). The widow and four married daughters were the principal mourners, and several wreaths draped the coffin.

Only a few days before Mr. Wilder's death it had been ordered that no bells were to be rung, chimed or tolled, owing to serious illness near the church, but the Rector's pleading and Mr. Leader's personal appeal made it possible for the local members to score a musical 500 of Grandsire Triples, muffled, on the day of interment to the memory of a staunch old advocate of half-pull, who was an honest and reliable church worker. The ringers were: E. T. Hooper (conductor) 1, A. E. Leader 2, W. G. Bedford 3, T. S. Smith 4, G. T. Leader 5, W. H. Fussell 6, W. Henley 7, F. Purdue 8.

W. H. F.

**HOUGH-ON-HILL.**—Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—On August 19th, after evening service, 720 Rob Minor: J. Hayes 1, J. J. Jutson (conductor) 2, A. Mackears 3, S. Whaley 4, S. Nicholson 5, Pte. C. Nicholson 6.



# MEARS &

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Established  
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*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

## ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells to 5-13, Bell Ropes, &c.

*At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to hands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

## RINGING AFTER SUNSET.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I should be glad if you can inform me whether it is possible to obtain permission to ring the bells after sunset, and, if so, to whom should application be made. I have written to the local superintendent of police, and he informs me that he has no power in the case.

I should also like to know, failing permission being obtained, whether we could legally ring for evening service (6 p.m.) through the coming winter.

I may say that we are in the West Riding of Yorks, and last winter in the borough of Doncaster, three miles distant, the bells were rung regularly until 6 p.m.—Thanking you in anticipation, yours faithfully,

H. WOODHOUSE,

Arksey, Doncaster.

Hon. Secretary.

[Our correspondent, and others similarly situated, should apply for permission to the Competent Military Authority for the particular district in which the bells are situated. Failing his permission to ring after sunset, it would be an offence under the Defence of the Realm Regulations to ring the bells for any purpose during the prohibited hours.—Ed. "R.W."]

## RECIPROCAL PROOF.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In these strenuous times, the above subject will appeal to very few, and I have very little spare time to waste.

If your correspondent, Second-Lieut. H. W. Fright, knew anything of Reciprocal Proof he would know that no other kind of proof is possible in methods in which the treble is a plain hunt whatever the number of bells, the reason being:—

We prove by the path of the treble.

In Treble Bob methods on six and ten bells, or any odd numbers of pairs, Reciprocal and Equivalent Proofs are one and the same.

In Treble Bob methods on eight and twelve bells, or any even numbers of pairs, it is necessary to use Equivalent Proof.

In some principles and systems that are imperfectly constructed Reciprocal Proof will find every false course-end; in others, Equivalent Proof must be used to obtain a correct result.

I have not forgotten my promise to write some articles for the "Ringing World" on Reciprocal and Equivalent Proofs, but while the war lasts I must beg to be excused.—Yours faithfully,

39, Clifton Street, Brighton.

GEORGE BAKER.

## LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A most pleasant and enjoyable time fell to the lot of those who wended their way to Lea on Saturday last for the purpose of attending the last meeting, for 1917, of the Gainsborough district. The weather was all that could be desired, and a good number of ringers were present from Gainsborough, Kirton Lindsey, Scotter, and Bigby. The bells, a ring of six, were available during the afternoon and evening, and kept going to the methods of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Double Court. Shortly before five o'clock the visitors adjourned to the Rectory, where the Rev. R. G. Fookes and Mrs. Fookes had very kindly thought of the inner man, and provided a very nice tea for them on the lawn. This was greatly appreciated by all, as was also Mrs. Fookes' kind invitation to a stroll round the Rectory gardens. Before leaving the tea tables, Mr. F. F. Linley, President of the Northern Branch, proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. R. G. Fookes and Mrs. Fookes for their kind hospitality.—This was responded to by the Rev. Fookes, who gave a most cordial welcome to the members of the Guild.

A plain course each of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major on the handbells was followed by the business meeting, at which Mr. F. F. Linley presided, supported by the Rev. R. G. Fookes and the Rev. H. T. Parry (Rector of Bigby).

Mr. J. C. Tinker made reference to the pleasure it gave the members in once again having Mr. Linley with them, and made allusion to the great amount of labour and spade work he had done for the welfare of ringers since 1884, when the North Lincolnshire Association was first formed.—Mr. Linley, in acknowledging these remarks, made some very interesting references in regard to the late Sir Charles Anderson, of Lea Hall, the Rev. Cockin (a former Rector of Lea), and the ring of six "lady" bells which formerly hung in the rood tower of Lincoln Cathedral.

The Rev. H. T. Parry very kindly thanked Mr. Linley for what he had told them in regard to these bells.

Cpl. J. T. Bartram, R.F.A. (a member of the Gainsborough Parish Church company, and at present stationed at Aldershot), was home on leave, and able to take part in the proceedings. On being informed that he is about to go abroad on active service, his brother ringers gave him their very best wishes.

This brought the business to a close, and the visitors returned to the church, where further ringing was indulged in until about seven o'clock, when the bells were lowered, and the last, but not least, of the Gainsborough district meetings for 1917 brought to a pleasant end.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.****ANNUAL MEETING AT BLACKBURN.**

To make the most of the Daylight Saving Act the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association was arranged a fortnight earlier than usual, and it proved very successful. Upwards of 80 members attended, representing 30 towers and all the nine branches. The bells of the Parish Church were set going just after 12.30, various methods being practised on the ten bells. When each set had tried their hand, they moved forward to St. Michael's and Holy Trinity Churches, gradually finding their way back to the Parish Church for the service, at which a very helpful address was given by Canon Sale, the Vicar, from the last verse of Hebrews i. He explained that ringers were ministers just as much as the clergy, and in greater touch with the people by sending the message to all who were out of reach of the voice of the pulpit. He went on to point out that that Association and other Associations in the country had raised the status of the ringer, and brought home to all the responsibilities of his office.

Ten was ready in the schools as soon as service was over, and 70 sat down, Canon Sale presiding. But the Vicar, like many of the other clergy, has a big parish, and his curates are away from various causes. He, therefore, had to leave before the meeting, but before he went the President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee) thanked him, on behalf of the Association, for the trouble he had taken in connection with the day's gathering.

In a witty speech the Vicar said it had been a pleasure to him and his ringers to meeting the Association that day, and he told a few anecdotes as to why he was not a ringer.

The business meeting followed, with the Rev. H. J. Elsee presiding. The President touched on the ringing problem when peace was restored, and referred to the way the ladies had come forward to help in these critical times.

The committee's report was brief. It recorded that the membership was now 1,304, of which about 175 were away on active service, some 14 or 15 having paid the supreme sacrifice. The balance sheet showed an income of £20 6s. 6d., and expenses £28 17s., while two branches had not sent in returns at the time the statement was made up. The bells rung were only seven in number, the lowest ever recorded by the Association.

The officers to be elected were returned as follows: Vice-President, Mr. J. Ridyard; Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. H. Banks; auditors, Messrs. Barnes and Greenhalgh.

There were six nominations for the Central Council, and the following were elected: Rev. H. J. Elsee, Messrs. Wilson, Banks and Taylor.

Four places were proposed for the next annual meeting, and on being put to the vote Rochdale was chosen.

After the usual votes of thanks had been given to the various authorities for the use of the bells, and the ringers for getting everything ready (with a special allusion to the sugar), the ringers returned to the various towers till "lights out" closed one of the best annual gatherings in the history of the Association.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

A visit was paid by the North and East District to Edgware on Saturday last, and the bells were kept going during the afternoon, many methods being attempted. Edgware, like other towers in this district, has suffered badly through the war, the bells not having been rung for nearly two years, so that the visit was much appreciated. A short service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. Consterdine), and consisting of war prayers and an address, in which he gave the members a hearty welcome.

At the business meeting, which followed, four new members were elected, and the place and date of the next meeting left with the hon. secretary to arrange.

A resolution of sympathy and condolence was passed with the hon. treasurer and vice-president (Mr. F. A. Milne), whose only son was killed in France on July 31st.

The meeting concluded by expressing hearty thanks to the Rector of Edgware for the use of the bells, the service, and his kind welcome, also to the organist, and Mr. G. Hall, of the local band, for making the arrangements.

Several members then adjourned to the tower for another short touch, while the majority walked on to Stanmore for an hour's pull.

About 25 attended the meeting, including Mrs. F. I. Hairs, and Messrs. A. Hubbard, J. Barry, W. Pickworth and J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, the latter having cycled from the meeting at Tichmarsh, Northants, and arrived after tea. Several good touches on handbells were also rung.

**INSTRUCTIVE PRACTICE AT HILLINGDON.**

A very successful result was obtained at Hillingdon, on Saturday last, when a united practice was held at St. John's Church, at which 17 ringers were present, including five ladies, the majority of whom rang Grandsire Triples and Caters. Touches of Treble Ten and Stedman Caters were rung by the more advanced ringers. Some of the party scored their first course of Stedman Caters; and, taken altogether, an instructive and enjoyable time was spent.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.****SOUTHERN DISTRICT MEETING.**

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District was held on Saturday week, at Wentworth, near Rotherham. This picturesque village, as is widely known, is the seat of Earl Fitzwilliam, whose mansion here is the largest private residence in England. With such an attraction and a beautiful day, the ringers congregated in extremely good numbers from far and near; and among the towers represented were: Sheffield (Cathedral and All Saints'), Rotherham (Parish Church) Ecclesfield, Barnsley, Darfield, Bolsterstone, Hoyland Swaine, Wortley, South Anston, etc. All present were delighted to see the smiling face of the district secretary (Mr. Arthur Hague), who was home on leave from the R.A.M.C., and able to be with his old friends. Sapper S. G. White, of Canterbury (a member of the Kent County Association), was also able to join the visitors, being in camp in the district.

By 4 p.m. the historical ring of six high up in the tower of the beautiful little church were raised, and touches in the standard method were rung during the afternoon. We have mentioned the bells as "historical," which term is borne out by the following narrative.

One, John Duke, of Barley Hall, near Wentworth, was the donor of the bells, and on the occasion of their being hung in the old church (which structure still stands in the village and bears the marks of the ravages of fire upon it), both he and his wife were drawn to the scene in their carriage by man-power. It is a noteworthy fact that Barley Hall has some historical connections and it is believed that John Wesley preached his first sermon in this notable house.

A splendid tea was partaken of by 30 of the visitors, while some late arrivals preferred to keep the bells going, thereby providing music for the others in the tea-room a few yards away.

At this juncture a letter was read to the company, which had been received from the head gardener on the Earl's estate (Mr. A. Thirl). This gentleman had kindly approached Countess Fitzwilliam (his lordship being with the colours in France), on behalf of the ringing visitors, and his letter stated he had been successful in obtaining permission for them to look over the gardens and conservatories.

**THE PAYMENT OF STEEPLEKEEPERS.**

A short business meeting was held following the tea, the vice-president (Mr. F. Willey) presiding.

Arising out of the minutes was the question of payment to steeplekeepers. It was pointed out that this matter would be brought before the General Committee at their next meeting, the basis on which such payment was being made at present being somewhat unsatisfactory.

Mr. D. Brearley moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. J. E. Rimmington Jones) and churchwardens for use of the bells, and to the local company for making all necessary arrangements. —This was seconded by Mr. J. T. Rew, and carried unanimously.

Mr. F. Willey, from the chair, moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Countess Fitzwilliam for granting the visitors the privilege of having access to the gardens, and this was unanimously carried.

With reference to holding a December meeting, it was decided, after a short discussion, to approach the competent military authority in the Sheffield district with a view to having an extension of time, as otherwise it was thought inadvisable to hold a meeting, as the time for ringing would necessarily be very short.

The Chairman offered a hearty invitation to the Association to visit All Saints', Sheffield, if this application was successful. He remarked that a very pleasant meeting could be guaranteed by means of handbell ringing, and a suitable room for social intercourse.

Mr. S. Thomas proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be given to the district secretary pro tem. (Mr. L. Brightman) for carrying on the duties of secretary in the absence of Mr. A. Hague. The latter gentleman was also thanked for his services in an official capacity, and it was remarked how very pleased the members all were to see him present.

Both the secretary and secretary pro tem. suitably replied, Mr. Hague jovially remarking that it was very nice and comfortable to come to a meeting and have no work to do.

The visitors assembled at the estate gardens at 7 p.m. and were very cordially received by Miss Lucas, one of the head gardener's lady assistants.

The tour took the party through the vineries and all the conservatories, with a lovely walk among the exceptionally fine trees and flower gardens. In one of the larger conservatories a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by the following band: Miss W. M. Hague 1-2, Sapper S. G. White 3-4, G. Lewis 5-6, Pte. A. Hague 7-8, S. Thomas 9-10. At the close of the visit, this was repeated by the same band in front of the gardener's lodge. On this occasion several of his lordship's servants gathered to hear the handbells, and the performers were much applauded.

Mr. F. Willey expressed the thanks of all present to the guide, who suitably replied, intimating that the visit had given her much pleasure. Thus terminated one of the most enjoyable half-day meetings on record for the Southern district of the Association.

L. R.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

## NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT VISIT WHATTON.

On Saturday last, a "bye" day, to appropriate a sporting term, was chosen for a visit to Whatton, and the number of those who kept the appointment exceeded all expectations. A glorious day brought representatives from far and wide, including Nottingham, Grantham, Bottesford, Bulwell, Cotgrave, Long Bennington, Redcliffe, etc. It was quite like a cycle club Saturday afternoon run, and fine weather added to a very pleasant and interesting day. The faces of those present beamed with delight to have the opportunity of ringing upon the pretty peal of six bells in the parish church of Whatton, a homely and queenly edifice. Considerably over a score of ringers could be named, including a good round up of local men, who are under the able tutorship of the Rev. C. J. Sturton, whose efforts here and elsewhere are untiring, and undoubtedly give impetus to those who are willing to make progress. Another enthusiast is the Rev. A. D. Hill, of East Bridgford, a capable ringer, whose energy in trying conclusions with standard methods, with a view to further development, is amazing.

Those present included: Rev. A. D. Hill, East Bridgford; Rev. C. J. Sturton, Orston; W. C. Hunt, Beeston; T. Jennison, W. Spencer, and W. Wadsley, Bulwell; Miss J. D. Thompson, Miss D. White, G. Footitt, T. Squires, W. White, and W. E. White, Cotgrave; H. Thorpe, Grantham; A. Mackears, Long Bennington; A. Barratt, Daybrook; W. Flinders, T. H. Kirkby, and C. F. Vickers, Nottingham; G. Nowell, Radcliffe-on-Trent; F. Spencer; and six or seven of the local ringers.

The methods that were rung were numerous and of good quality, and were nearly equal to the number of ringers present. Cambridge Surprise Minor was the height of the day's ambition by a few, but sad to relate this quintessence of delight was not achieved, unless a touch was brought round after your correspondent had left. Kenil and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Single Court, Bob Minor, etc., were a few of the most popular methods that ran out to a clean finish.

At an historic inn tea had been arranged by the Rev. C. J. Sturton. Returning afterward to the chief objective, the bells were again set in motion until darkness invited the party to bid adieu to the village and put an end to a grand afternoon and evening's programme.

The conducting was shared by Messrs. W. E. White, Walter White, Wadsley, W. C. Hunt, A. Barrett, etc. Miss Thompson rang the treble through a touch of 240 Bob Minor, in a very creditable manner, and Miss White (Cotgrave) also rang in a much improved style. Another event of interest was to see the Rev. C. J. Sturton and his pupil band of the Royal West Kent Regiment, congratulating him on being ances of growing merit will be placed to their credit in the very near future.

The company desire to express their thanks to the Rev. Dawson (Vicar) for placing the bells at their disposal, also to Mr. Huckerby and the Rev. C. J. Sturton, whose arrangements enabled such an enjoyable day to be spent.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

## NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the Northampton District was held at Hardingstone on Saturday last, members being present from St. Peter's, St. Giles' and All Saints', Northampton; Kingsthorpe, Weston Pavell, Cogenhoe, Brafield, Wootton, Moulton, Harlestone, and the local band. It is very gratifying to see the new members turn up so well at these meetings, and much useful work was accomplished.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Ven. Archdeacon Kitchen), and the collection for the Association Belfry Fund amounted to 6s. 3d.

Tea was served at the Crown Inn, 26 being present. The business meeting followed, Mr. F. Hopper (vice-president) presiding.—Three new ringing members and one hon. member were elected, and Kingsthorpe was chosen for the next quarterly meeting.

It was unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to Pte. J. C. Dean, of the Royal West Kent Regiment, congratulating him on being awarded the military medal, an account of which appeared in last week's "Ringing World."—It was also decided to send a letter of condolence to the mother of Pte. R. Elson, Essex Regiment, a member of the Association, who fell in action on August 12th.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also for the service, the Vicar, in his reply, saying how pleased he was to welcome, for the first time, lady ringers to his church. They had, he remarked, nobly filled the gaps caused by so many of our brave boys who had gone—some, alas! never to return from this terrible war.

A vote of thanks to the local ringers and the host and hostess concluded the meeting.

## SAD NEWS FOR A MISSING SON.

The death took place on August 22nd of Mrs. Trappitt, mother of Mr. J. W. Trappitt, senr. Mr. Trappitt was formerly of Beddington, and one of the founders of the Surrey Association. His whereabouts, however, have been unknown to his family for the past 22 years, and, as they are unable to communicate with him, they hope this paragraph may meet his eye.

## NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on the 25th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Otley on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. Business meeting in the Church Institute at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromsgrove on Saturday, September 22nd. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 5.30. The election of elective officers for the ensuing year takes place at this meeting.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor, on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Bells available at 4.30. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Uckfield on Saturday, September 22nd, for the election of Officers and other business. Tower open, 2.15. Business meeting in Parish Room, 4.30. Half railway fare.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. E. K. Sopwith, on Wednesday, Sept. 26th. Ringing from 3 to 6. Service at 6 and tea (provided by the Association) at 6.30. Will all members intending to be present at the tea kindly inform me of same not later than Saturday, Sept. 22nd? Brother ringers in khaki will be heartily welcomed.—C. Tribe, Hon. Dist. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

HALIFAX & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Tong on Saturday, September 29th, 1917. Ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 3 p.m. Entries for the contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, Sept. 24th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday, September 29th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 at G. Austin and Co.'s, King Street. The tea will be 1/3 each, and will only be provided for those who notify Mr. J. Flower, Eaton Bank, Duffield, not later than the previous Thursday.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Stalybridge, on Saturday, September 29th.—A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Bells open from 4 to 7 p.m. Tea will be provided after ringing if members will let me know by the 24th.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**CENTRAL NORTANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Wellingborough Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wilby on Saturday, September 29th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30.—W. Perkins, Dist. Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—The next practice meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday, Sept. 29th. The bells (6) will be available from 5 p.m. till dusk. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph's Road, Guildford.

**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chepstow on Saturday, September 29th, at 5 o'clock. Bells available during the afternoon and evening, and tea will be kindly provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Corston on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Service in the Parish Church at 6.15 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Farnworth, on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. Bells ready at 5. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Secretary.

**LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next monthly meeting of this Society will be held at Bramley on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. The business meeting will be held in the Cardigan Arms at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**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.

#### SPITTLE MEMORIAL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	-	12	14 0
Mr. T. Bratton, St. Martin's, Birmingham	-	0	2 6
Total	£	12	16 6

#### NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.

On Sunday, Sept. 16th, a touch of 960 Forward Maximus was rung for service in the evening, by: W. Cooke 1, A. Dalton 2, G. L. Routledge 3, W. H. Barber (conductor) 4, W. Sinclair 5, A. Holmes 6, W. Story 7, W. J. Hazell 8, A. Hillier 9, J. E. Keen 10, B. Dixon 11, R. Richards 12, as a farewell to Mr. W. J. Hazell, who is leaving Newcastle for Woolwich. The members wish to express their appreciation of his kindly assistance and unfailing regularity of attendance during the few months he has been with them.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—On Sunday, August 12th, for evening service, at the Cathedral, on the back six, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. Dutton 1, W. J. Hazell 2, A. F. Hillier 3, B. C. Dixon 4, J. E. Keen (conductor) 5, R. Richard 6.—On Sunday, August 28th, 720 Oxford Minor: Pte. T. Male (St. Mary's, Warwick) 1, A. Holmes 2, A. F. Hillier 3, W. Sinclair 4, J. Keen (conductor) 5, R. Richards 6.

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