



No. 416. Vol. XIV.

FRIDAY, MARCH 7th, 1919.

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

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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

MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1919.
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 gives 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. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK

HENRY JOHNSON.

The Johnson Commemoration Dinner to-morrow promises to be no wit behind its predecessors in point of popularity, and the dimensions of the gathering will only be limited by the accommodation available. All the tickets were disposed of some time since, and despite the drawbacks still existent there will be a company as fully representative of the Exercise as at any of the previous functions. The Johnson dinner is the only purely social gathering connected with ringing which the war did not disturb, and the success of which the dark days failed to dim. St. Martin's Guild may well congratulate itself upon the manner in which this annual event has been continued, and now that the war is over and the renewal of ringing is taking place there is no doubt the gathering will grow still further in importance from year to year.

Started originally in his lifetime to honour one of the greatest figures yet humblest spirits that ever adorned the Exercise, the dinner has been continued every year on some date approximating to the birthday of the Birmingham veteran, and there has grown up with it an increasing prestige which makes it rank in the forefront of such gatherings. Indeed there is only one other of its kind to compare with it and that is the College Youths' dinner, which has been suspended during the war, but which we trust will be revived next November. Functions such as these provide the opportunity for ringers to meet in a manner that no other gatherings do and it is a good thing that they should be maintained.

In the case of the Johnson commemoration there is a specially strong reason for its continuation. As humble in origin as he was meek in heart, Henry Johnson had one of the greatest intellects ever brought to bear on the development of ringing. His painstaking researches did not destroy his geniality of soul; his wonderful knowledge inspired no vanity. He probed the mysteries of an intricate science at the expense of long years of labour not for his own glorification, but for the benefit of his fellows. He gave of his best in everything, and in everything he was a true gentleman. Of those who personally knew Henry Johnson there is but an ever-narrowing circle left. Every year sees the thinning of this company, but those who remain cherish the recollection of his friendship as a fragrant memory. But for the vast body of ringers who know Henry Johnson in name only there is the ever present example of patience, perseverance, and humility in triumph. The combination of such traits as characterised this Birmingham worthy it would be difficult to find in another, but everyone may learn a lesson from his life.

BELLS! BELLS! BELLS!

Let the Music of the Bells celebrate Peace.

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The OLD-ESTABLISHED firm of Bellfounders,

are now prepared to execute orders for all kinds of Bells, singly or in rings. Their foundry is equipped with every modern appliance for the manufacture of Bells of any size, weight or note, all their Bells being moulded and cast on scientific principles; while their knowledge of the 'Chemistry of Metals' enables them to produce that fine quality of Tone so much desired by all lovers of Bell Music.

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Makers 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 Cathedral, etc., etc.

TEN BELL PEAL.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, February 18, 1919, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 5067 CHANGES;

*HERBERT STANSFIELD ... Treble	JOHN LEIGH 6
CHARLES BOWER 2	SAMUEL BOOTH 7
SAMUEL WOOD 3	TOM WILDE 8
WILLIAM BRAMMER 4	BENJAMIN THORP 9
THOMAS JAKEMAN 5	†THOMAS JACKSON ... Tenor

Composed by the late JOHN THORP.

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal.

Rung to celebrate the 75th birthday of Mr. Daniel Heap, the oldest member of the Ashton Company, and still a regular service ringer. Also as a welcome peal to Mr. Samuel Booth, who has returned from Salonica and is again in civil life.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(St. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.)

On Saturday, February 15, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

EX-S.M. W. HIBBERT ... Treble	PTE. F. POUNDS 5
L/CPL. W. HIBBERT 2	GEORGE ESSEX 6
ERNEST W. MENDAY 3	HENRY SIMMONDS 7
JOSEPH HANDS 4	RICHARD T. HIBBERT ... Tenor

Composed by FGT-SERGT. F. A. HOLDEN.

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

Rung on the 50th anniversary of the birth of the conductor, and arranged at short notice as a farewell peal for L/Cpl. W. Hibbert, who is for the 'army of occupation.'

LUTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1919, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

HERBERT WOOD Treble	*HARRY WOOD 5
FREDERICK HUNT 2	*BERT WILSON 6
L. A. GOODENOUGH 3	*THOS. KENDALL 7
THOS. BLACKBOURN 4	ALFRED KING Tenor

Composed by the late JOHN W. BARKER.

Conducted by ALFRED KING.

* First peal in the method.

First peal in the method as conductor, and first peal in the method by an entirely local band. Rung as a thanksgiving peal for the cessation of hostilities, also to commemorate the silver wedding of the conductor.

HITCHIN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 15, 1919, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 28 cwt	
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... Treble	CHARLES V. HARE 5
E. MAURICE ATKINS 2	WILBY J. HAZELL 6
EDWARD F. COLE 3	JAMES PARKER 7
HARRY FOWLER 4	*HERBERT ELSE Tenor

Conducted by MISS E. K. PARKER.

* First peal. The band was entertained to tea after the peal by Mr. Herbert Else.

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE. THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 15, 1919, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM DICKINSON Treble	JOHN W. WOOD 5
SIDNEY J. PROCTOR 2	F/SERG. F. A. HOLDEN,
CHRISTOPHER WARD 3	R.A.F. 6
HARRY THORPE 4	WALTER H. WOOD 7
	RUPERT RICHARDSON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRED. A. HOLDEN.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. (NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 17, 1919, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WALTER MASSEY Treble	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 5
JOSEPH FAULKNER 2	CORPL. HARRY PRICE ... 6
PTE. HARRY HILL 3	PTE. HARRY HUBBLE ... 7
ALBERT PRESTIDGE 4	SPR. ALFRED DAVIES, R.E. Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN, and Conducted by SPR. A. DAVIES, R.E.

Rung to welcome home from military service the ringers of 3, 6, 7 and 8.

LOWER BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 18, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THE LATE REV. H. EARLE BULWER'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 9 cwt.

HERBERT LODKIN Treble	JAMES MARTIN 5
EDWARD CAUNCE 2	HERBERT H. BARKER ... 6
JAMES MARSH 3	GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 7
HENRY FYLES 4	JOHN WILKINSON Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

SIX BELL PEAL.

LEADENHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE. THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. (NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 15, 1919, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Consisting of two 720's each of Fulbeck, Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, and one 720 Single Court.

ALBERT G. PAYNE Treble	CHARLES W. ELSE 4
CALEB L. SIMCOCK 2	JOSEPH NORTH 5
RICHARD W. PORTER 3	GEORGE SCOTT Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE SCOTT.

First peal on the bells after being rehung.

HANDBELL PEAL.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, February 18, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT ELMHURST STREET, CLAPHAM, S.W.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5025 CHANCES;

HARRY R. PASMORE 1-2	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 5-6
ALFRED B. PECK 3-4	HERBERT LANGDON 7-8
	THOMAS LANGDON 9-10

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and
Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire: Mr. W. E. GARRARD.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Messrs. W. Aggett and Sons, of Chagford, are rehanging the peal of eight bells at Holy Trinity Church, Barnstable, and are putting in their adjustable bearings. The back six of these bells were cast by John Briant, of Hertford, in 1803.

A 720 was rung on the Hawkstead bells on Feb. 23rd, in honour of the coming-of-age of Mr. Eric H. Truscott, of Trinity College, Cambridge, who was initiated into the art of bell ringing at Hawkstead.

The veteran, Ted Horrex, was in great form last Saturday, when he celebrated his 81st birthday by ringing the treble at Bow to a peal of Stedman Cinques. He rang his bell from end to end in faultless style, and ringers throughout the kingdom will not only join in wishing him 'many happy returns of the day,' but many more equally good peals.

His many friends, not only in the Eastern Counties, but throughout the Exercise, will regret to learn that Mr. William Motts, secretary of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, is seriously ill, and will wish him a speedy recovery.

A fund has been started for the recasting of the 6th bell of the ring of twelve at High Wycombe. The local ringers have raised £17 towards the £45 needed. Funds are urgently required, and would be gratefully received by Geo. Twitchen, Hon. Treasurer, 17, Totteridge Road, High Wycombe, Bucks.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ASHFORD DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held at Headcorn, on Saturday, February 15th. The attendance was good, and touches in all four standard methods were rung during the afternoon. Members attended a special service in the church, the Association's form being used. The organist very kindly led the singing, and the Psalms, Nunc Dimittis and two hymns were sung. The Vicar gave a short address of welcome.

The members then adjourned to the George and Dragon to partake of a tea, kindly provided by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Dalb), whose hospitality was much appreciated.—The Vicar presided at the tea, and also at the meeting which followed, when six new practising members and one honorary member were elected. Folkestone was chosen for the next meeting, on Easter Monday.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for permission to hold the meeting at his church, for conducting the service, for kindly providing the tea, and for presiding at the tea and meeting was carried with acclamation.—A vote of thanks to the organist brought the meeting to a close.

The members attending represented Ashford, Brabourne, Biddenden, Bonenden, Mersham Stone, Teatenden, Willesborough, and several of the local band.

The visitors included Mr. F. C. Lambert and his two sons from Horsmonden; Mr. D. Hodgkin, of Marden. Pte. R. N. Runham from Hythe Aerodrome paid his first visit to Headcorn, and also rang at Biddenden for morning service on Sunday, Rolvenden in the afternoon, and Teatenden in the evening, thus adding four fresh towers to his list.

WELCOME HOME.

Recently a party of ringers and friends met at Edgbaston Parish Church to welcome Mr. S. Fremantle, who returns to his duties as vergier, after a further spell with the Royal Navy, with which he served twelve years previous to the war. Leading Seaman Fremantle is the handyman in more than one sense, always ready to take a rope when a company are one short. As a welcome touch, a quarter-peal of Doubles was rung by: J. Johnson 1, W. Bryant 2, G. Pigott 3, V. Henus (first quarter-peal) 4, H. Withers (conductor) 5, S. Fremantle 6.

Afterwards a social hour was spent with the handbells, etc. The party expressed their pleasure at having their friend back among them again. In the duties of vergier, Mrs. Fremantle has successfully 'carried on' during her husband's long absence.

In honour of the return of Pte. H. Hill (R.W. Surrey), Cpl. H. Price (A.P.C.), Pte. H. Hubble (Worcesters) and Spr. A. Davies (R.E.), to their places in the Netherton band, after their term of military service, a peal of Treble Bob Major was rung at Netherton on February 17th. These four members are at present on their 28 days' demobilisation furlough, and the Netherton band has now all its members back, and congratulates them on their safe return.

At St. Mary's Church, Bucknall, on Feb. 4th, 720 Bob Minor: Alice Wheeldon 1, G. G. Clarkson 2, Alice Preston 3, C. Pointon 4, W. Wheeldon 5, C. Preston (conductor) 6. This was rung as a 'welcome home' to C. Pointon, after more than three years' absence with His Majesty's Forces. It was the first 720 with a Bob Bell by Miss Alice Preston, and the 3rd on the treble by Miss Alice Wheeldon.—On Tuesday, Feb. 11th, 720 Oxford Bob: W. Wheeldon, junr., 1, C. Preston 2, *Alice Preston 3, W. Wheeldon, senr. (conductor), 4, W. Fradley 5, C. Pointon 6. * First 720 in the method, and rung at the first attempt.

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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 in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

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

NATIONAL MEMORIAL SERVICES.

RINGERS' GATHERINGS IN THE PROVINCES.

Appended are particulars of some of the Memorial Services held simultaneously with that at St. Clement Danes on Feb. 22nd. Reports of others will be given next week.

WINCHESTER GUILD SERVICE.

A memorial service, for all members of the Guild who have died in the war, was held in the Cathedral on February 22nd at the same time as the proceedings at St. Clement Danes. The service commenced with the singing of the hymn: 'O valiant hearts.' The opening sentence from the burial service was then read, followed by Evensong, special Psalms and Lessons being used. The Psalms were the 23rd and the 121st, and the lessons, Wisdom iii. 1-9, and St. John xi. 21-26. The first lesson was read by the Dean (Dr. Furneaux), and the second by the Master of the Guild (the Rev. G. E. Mathews). A setting in D by Dr. Arnold the late organist of the Cathedral, was used for the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. The anthem, 'We bless and thank the Lord, for those within the veil' was written and composed by Dr. Prendergast, the present organist, in memory of Lieut. E. H. Bligh, R.N.V.R., who was killed in action at Gallipoli.

The roll of honour was then read by the Dean. At the close of the special prayers the 'Dead March in Saul' was played by Dr. Prendergast on the organ. After a pause the 'Last Post' rang out from the extreme east end of the Cathedral, the C.O. of the Rifle Depot having kindly sent buglers for the purpose. A very impressive service was closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

Tea was provided for the ringers who attended, in St. Maurice Hall and between 50 and 60 were present.—The Master expressed the thanks of the members to the Dean and Chapter and to the Precentor and organist for so kindly arranging the service.—The Rev. Canon Braithwaite, on behalf of the Dean, who regretted being unable to be present, said it was the wish of the Dean and of every member of the Chapter that the Cathedral should be the centre of all religious work in the diocese, and bell ringing was a very important work.

Archdeacon Fearon said he had a good deal of information concerning the bells in the diocese, and he hoped the Master would help him to make the information complete.—The Rev. Canon Mudge, one of the original founders of the Guild, also said a few words on the same subject.

The Master promised to give all the time he could spare from his parish work, and hoped many more bells would be added to towers as bells would form a far more fitting memorial of those who had fallen in the war, when ringing out Sunday after Sunday and during the week, calling people to pray, than a silent brass or marble tablet.—A very hearty cheer greeted Mr. William Crute, a member of the Cathedral band, who was badly wounded in France, as he was helped into the room, the hospital authorities having sent him down in a bath chair to be present at the service and the tea.

The Cathedral bells were rung half-muffled, both before and after the service.

THE BRISTOL SERVICE.

The members of the Exercise in the West of England are to be complimented upon the success of the memorial service at Bristol, which was held at SS. Philip and Jacob's Church, the arrangements having been made by the Vicar (the Rev. M. E. Thorold), who is Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and other officials of the society. The impressive service was attended by a large congregation. As the worshippers assembled in the old Bristol church there was muffled ringing on the bells. A verse of the National Anthem was sung by the choir; then followed the hymn, 'Let saints on earth.' The Rev. M. E. Thorold (Vicar) and Canon Cornwall (Vicar of Thornbury) officiated, the latter reading the lesson: I. Thes. iv. 13 to the end. The Nunc Dimittis was chanted, and prayers were offered for the sick and suffering and for the sorrowing and bereaved. The anthem was Stainer's 'What are these?' Next the Vicar read the roll of honour. He told the congregation that a return has been received from 64 parishes, which showed that 295 church bell ringers have served or are serving in the Forces, and that 57 have been killed. In memory of these two collects from the Burial Service were read, and were succeeded by the ringing of the 'whole pull and stand' seven times by a band of demobilised men, the congregation meanwhile kneeling. The hymn before the sermon was 'Jesus, lover of my soul.'

Bishop Clifford, in the absence through illness of the Archbishop of Bristol, gave the address. He took for his text, 'And they made bells of pure gold' (Exodus xxxix. 25). He said that they were there to commemorate by a special service those members of church bells of the dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol who had given their lives for their country. Although those heroes could not be laid in the earth of their own land and amidst the ashes of their own kindred they could and did give them their affectionate and grateful remembrance in that church. Those who engaged in the ringing of bells acquire a genuine sense of brotherhood. Each one was dependent upon the other, for a bell sounded in the wrong place or not in accurate time

spoiled the peal. Bell ringing was a beautiful art which had its moral side as well as its material and technical side. Having referred to the association of bells with worship, he added that those ringers who had given their lives in the great war formerly did their part in helping the cause of God and religion, and now they had made the great sacrifice their comrades remaining cherished their memory, for they were worthy of their honour and their love.

While the hymn 'Brief life is here our portion' was sung, a collection was taken to defray expenses, and the service closed with the Blessing. Finally the 'Last Post' was sounded by four buglers standing near the entrance to the chancel; the organist played a 'Fantasy' by Ashford; and as the congregation left the church the 'whole pull and stand' rung 23 times.

Associated with the Bristol memorial service muffled touches were rung in most church towers where there are peals of bells, both in the city and country parishes, during the afternoon and evening, both on Saturday and Sunday.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL.

Owing to the St. Peter's Guild of Teachers holding their service in the Cathedral immediately preceding the ringers' memorial service, only a few rounds were rung on the bells with clappers half-muffled before the latter, which followed very closely the order used at St. Clement's. The opening hymn was 'O God, our help in ages past.' The Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls, Vicar of Ranmoor, read the opening sentences, taken from the office of the 'Burial of the dead,' followed by the Psalms 23rd and 121st. The Rev. W. P. Wright read the lesson, taken from the Book of Wisdom iii., and the Archdeacon, the Rev. H. Grosford Jones, offered up special prayers, during which he read the names of eleven ringers who have paid the supreme sacrifice, the whole congregation standing. This was followed by the beautiful prayer used in London, commencing 'O God Eternal, all Loving Saviour and Friend,' and other prayers, after which was sung the hymn, 'Jesu, Lover of my Soul.' The Archdeacon based his address on the words, 'Father into thine hands,' Psalm 31 v. 5. 'What,' he asked, 'had drawn them there to-day? Some sixty members of their Society have seen service in connection with the war; Sergt. W. H. Johnson, of Workson, has gained the Victoria Cross, four others have gained medals; but they were there to-day to honour the memory of those ringers who have fallen. The most fitting way in which the ringers could pay their last tribute to the memory of their fallen brethren was in prayer. A man was never more manly than when on his knees humbled before God, and when they descended from the belfry to join in the praise and worship of God ringers ennobled their calling.' There was a ministry of bells as well as of the music, and other features of religious worship, added the Archdeacon, and this he illustrated by a true story in connection with their own bell and Cathedral. He appealed to the ringers to recognise that they might be instrumental in bringing the saving and strengthening power of religion to men and women who might not otherwise be reached, and pleaded with them, as man to man, to pray for God's blessing to go out with the message of the bells. Before concluding his address, the Archdeacon recited the lines from Longfellow's 'Golden Legend' which were used as the first lesson in St. Clement's.

After the sermon came the hymn, 'For all the Saints' (3rd tune A. and M.), and the volume of male voices in unison during the singing of it was, as one listened a little apart, very fine. The first verse of the National Anthem was next sung, and, after the Blessing, the 'Dead March in Saul' was played on the organ by the Cathedral organist, Mr. T. W. Hanforth, Mus. Bac., F.R.C.O., whose masterly execution brought out all the beauties of this grand work. Indeed, few of the congregation will ever hear a more noble rendering of it, and in the words of the organist himself, 'one felt that it was an occasion on which one should put forth his best efforts.'

The roll of honour contained the following names: Frank Humphries, Eckington; Harry Marshall, Eckington; Thomas Billingham, Beighton; Arthur Welpton, Beighton; D. Ivor Brearley, Bolsterstone; Percy H. Sault, Chesterfield; Harry Champion, Doncaster; John Taylor, Dore; Hubert Tarlton, Ilkeston; Arthur Ward, Ranmoor; Leonard Garrison, Rotherham.

The Cathedral bells were half-muffled after the service, various touches being rung until past seven o'clock. Amongst the ringers present, whose number was about 150, were representatives from the following towers, viz.: Anston, Barlboro', Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Beighton, Chesterfield, Derby, Dore, Dronfield, Eckington, Ecclesfield Gainsboro', Handsworth, Ilkeston, Hoyland Swaine, Norton, North Wingfield, Penketh, Rawmarsh, Ripley, Rotherham Parish and Eastwood, Sheffield Cathedral, All Saints', St. Marie's, and Ranmoor, Staveley Workson and Wortley.

SELBY ABBEY.

A memorial service, held simultaneously with that at St. Clement Danes, Strand, took place at Selby Abbey. The bells were fully muffled for the occasion, and during the afternoon touches of Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples were rung. The Rev. Percy Marshall, F.R.A.S., officiated, and delivered a most impressive address, remarking upon the important and faithful work of bell ringers, and made reference

to those who had fallen. After the service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by: J. W. Hall 1, J. Jackson 2, R. H. Morley 3, R. Smith (Howden) 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, H. Fairlam (conductor) 7, G. Rippon (Chesterfield) 8. Composed by E. C. Shepherd (Solihull), and rung for the first time.

A service was held at Hawkshead Church, on Saturday at four o'clock to synchronise with the central service held at St. Clement Danes as a memorial for bell ringers who have fallen in the war. Ambleside joined forces with Hawkshead, and in the course of the service 'the whole pull and stand' was rung seven times as the ringers' last tribute to their dead. The Rev. W. P. Dawe, Vicar of Satterthwaite, read the passage from Longfellow's 'Golden Legend' on Bells and their Symbolism, and Mr. Churchwarden Heelis, himself a keen ringer, read the lesson. Canon Irving gave an impressive address. The ringers had tea together, and afterwards continued their memorial ringing on half-muffled bells until late at night.

At Salisbury, half-muffled ringing took place at St. Paul's, St. Thomas' and St. Martin's Churches, a service being held at the last-named church. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Doubles were rung before service at St. Thomas' and St. Martins. After service, a 504 Grandsire Triples was rung by: A. Fry 1, F. Romaine 2, S. Macey 3, L. Harris 4, J. Gransbury (High Wycombe) 5, R. P. Knight 6, Corpl. F. Precey (cond.), R.E., 7, W. Wright 8.—On Sunday evening, for service, 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. Fry 1, F. Romaine 2, S. Macey 3, L. Harris 4, J. Gransbury 5, R. P. Knight 6, Corpl. F. Precey, R.E. (conductor), 7, C. Sanger 8.

In sympathy and synchronising with the service held at St. Clement Danes, London, on Feb. 22nd, a muffled peal of Stedman Cinques was attempted by members of the Durham and Newcastle Association at St. Nicholas' Cathedral, Newcastle-on-Tyne, but was brought to a disastrous finish, as the result of a change course, after 2 hrs and 40 mins. ringing: E. Perry 1, W. H. Barber (conductor) 2, J. McKeag 3, C. L. Routledge 4, W. Sinclair 5, A. Holmes 6, G. Foreman 7, Pte. M. F. R. Hibbert 8, A. F. Hillier 9, J. E. R. Keen 10, R. Richards 11, B. G. Dixon 12. Pte. Hibbert, who is stationed at Caterick, Yorks, and is a member of the Bushey Parish Church, Hertfordshire, company, was elected a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association before starting.

At Sudbury, Suffolk, on Saturday, Feb. 22nd, at St. Peter's Church, with the bells half-muffled for fallen ringers, 504 Grandsire Triples, and 224 Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, the ringers taking part being: T. Howell, M. Silvester, G. Tatham, A. Perry, A. Scott, C. Clarke, D. Elliott, W. Cross, and G. Dixon.

At the meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths, held on Feb. 25th, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector of St. Clement Danes and his staff: Mr. E. A. Young (the hon. secretary), and all members of the committee who made such excellent arrangements for the Memorial Service.

PRINCESS PATRICIA'S WEDDING.

CROYDON FOUNDRY FIRM HONOURED.

Mr. Cyril and Miss Nora Johnston had the honour to be present at their Majesty's evening party at St. James's Palace on Tuesday night (Feb. 25th) for Princess Patricia, and were also present at the Abbey on the occasion of her marriage with Commander Ramsay. Representatives of the employees of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston were invited to the afternoon reception at St. James's Palace on Wednesday afternoon to view the wedding presents and also had the honour of being present at the ceremony at the Abbey.

Amongst the representatives were some of the oldest workmen connected with the firm, whose length of service in some cases, ranged to over 40 years.

SHEFFIELD RINGER'S DEATH.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. William Smithson, of Sheffield, who, after suffering many years from rheumatism, passed peacefully away on Feb. 18th, at the age of 70 years. He was connected with the All Saints' Society from the year 1880, and took part in many of the first peals rung at that church. He had rung some 20 peals under the auspices of the Yorkshire Association, principally of Grandsire and Stedman Triples. He rang in the first peal of Grandsire Triples at Cattingham, in Staffordshire, under the head of the Yorkshire Association, and also in the first peal at Tickhill, in Yorkshire, after they had been augmented to a peal of eight. He also took part in one of Grandsire Caters at the Sheffield Cathedral on the death of the late Rev. J. H. Fish, M.A. Deceased was well known and highly respected in the South Yorkshire district. He was unassuming in disposition, kindly, and ever ready in his more youthful days to stand in a peal and to help the science and art in every way he could.

He was laid to rest in the Burngreave Cemetery, on the hill, which overlooks the church, where he had spent so many happy hours. He was carried to the grave by the members of his old company, who sincerely mourn the loss of his companionship and brotherhood. They afterwards assembled at the church, and rang muffled touches, as a last token of respect to his memory.

SUPERLATIVE MINOR.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—What is commonly called Superlative Surprise Minor is really only Reserve Cambridge; it is true, but not fit to ring, as 5th's place is made when the Treble is dodging in the middle. Superlative will not run on less than eight bells.

H. LAW JAMES.

Sir,—Superlative Surprise Minor (42 in Legitimate Methods) is hopelessly false when the Treble is in 3—4, all the blows of the Treble in 3rd's place being in-course (or positive), and those in 4th's out-of-course (or negative).

Thus, it will be found that the Treble going up from the lead-end 123456 repeats with the Treble going down to the lead-end 134256. Further investigation might reveal further falseness, though I think not, but this will doubtless be sufficient to satisfy Mr. Inglesant, involving as it does no less than 240 out of the 720 rows.—Yours, etc.,

E. S. POWELL.

Mr. C. Severn, of Killamarsh, writes to the same effect, the Superlative Surprise in 'Standard Methods' being true, but that in the Central Council's Collection false, as pointed out by the Rev. E. S. Powell.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge Branch was held at Wotton-under-Edge. Ringing was indulged in during the afternoon and evening, and short touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Bob Minor, were brought round by mixed bands from the various towers of the district. The Vicar (the Rev. F. J. Greenham) conducted a special service in the church at 4.30. Mr. E. L. Webber (churchwarden) joined the members at tea, which was partaken of at the Falcon Hotel, and presided over the business meeting. He said, although he knew very little about bell ringing, he had become very much interested in the work of the Association that afternoon, and would like to join them as an honorary member. He was accepted with applause, and two performing members also elected.—Cam was selected as the place for the next meeting, on March 15th.—Votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells, concluded one of the best meetings held at Wotton-under-Edge for some years.

THANKS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With reference to the handsome present made to me by the York Minster Society, and as reported in your issue of February 7th, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to all concerned my heartfelt gratitude for their goodness, and many kindnesses to me whilst stationed in York, in my capacity as Supervisor at the Headquarters of the District Purchasing Officer of Supplies.

In addition to the above, I would like to add my thanks to all my many ringing friends in the York district, viz., Selby, Hemingbrough, Escrick, etc., and elsewhere, all who made me so welcome wherever I went. I can honestly say that my happiest hours were those spent amongst my ringing friends, both individually and collectively, and to each and all I tender my very best thanks.—Yours sincerely,

ERNEST MORRIS, Sergt., R.A.S.C.

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FIFTY-SEVEN YEARS MARRIED.

At St. Mary Cray, Kent, on Feb. 1st, 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by: J. Emery 1, G. Durling 2, G. Daynes 3, R. B. Smith 4, J. Ford 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6; and another 720 in the same method by: G. F. James 1, I. Emery 2, G. Durling 3, J. Ford 4, G. Daynes 5, R. B. Smith (conductor) 6. Some Stedman Doubles were also rung, with Mr. W. Hewett taking part.

The ringing was to celebrate the 57th wedding anniversary of the parents of Mr. J. Emery, of Hershham, Surrey, and of Mr. I. Emery, of Bromley, the early experiences in ringing of both of whom was on the ancient five bells which used to hang in this tower. Wishes were freely expressed that the old couple would live to celebrate their diamond wedding.

EIGHTY-ONE, NOT OUT.

After a peal of Stedman Cinques at Bow Church, Cheapside, on Saturday last, an interesting gathering took place at the headquarters of the College Youths, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, Mr. Edwin Horrex being the recipient of a gift on the occasion of his 81st birthday. The proceedings were attended by a number of subscribers and well-wishers, and the presentation was made by Miss Macalpine Lenv, who congratulated Mr. Horrex on taking part in the peal that afternoon, wished him many happy returns of his birthday, and presented him with a case of Treasury notes amounting to £36, with the best wishes of his many friends all over the country.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 9, Commercial Road, Woking.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 31st Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 8th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, M.A., Rector of Birmingham. All tickets have now been allotted. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and the Cathedral (10) will be available from 3 to 5.15.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Estab. 1637.—Meetings will be held at Southwark Cathedral on March 4th, St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on the 6th and 20th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 11th, and *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 25th, all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards at headquarters.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at All Saints' Church, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 8th, 1919. The bells (8) will be available for ringing from 3 p.m., or any hour after 10 a.m. if pre-arranged with the Secretary of the Association. The Vicar, the Rev. W. S. Morgan, M.A., has very kindly consented to hold a short Service in the Church specially for ringers and friends. The usual business meeting will be held in the schoolroom, and the election of three committee-men. Messrs. Cockey, Dronfield and Panther are retiring, but are eligible for re-election. All members who are entitled to the new emblems may have the same on notifying the Secretary, and producing their entrance fee certificates.—Frank Willey, Sec. *pro tem.*, 11, Petre Street, Sheffield.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of the S.E. District will be held at Widford, on Saturday, March 8th. Bells available 3.30. Particulars re tea next week. Please notify me before the 5th.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

HILLINGDON: ST. JOHN'S (10 bells).—A special practice on Saturday, March 8th, at 6 o'clock.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The Memorial Peal announced to be attempted at St. Martin's on Feb. 25th was postponed, and will be attempted on Tuesday, March 11th.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—The monthly meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge branch will be held at Cam on Saturday, March 15th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short Service at 4.30. Tea by invitation of the Vicar, to those who let me know not later than March 12th.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting of this Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 15th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4 o'clock, which will be conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Phelps, M.A. A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Tuesday, March

11th. Business meeting afterwards. It is hoped that all outstanding arrears will be paid at this meeting.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Western District will be held at Earlsheaton on Saturday, 15th March. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) at 5 p.m. in Schools to those who notify Mr. G. H. Hardy, 279, Middle Road, Earlsheaton, not later than Tuesday, March 11th. Business meeting to follow tea. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 12, Willoughby Avenue, Holbeck.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leigh Parish Church on Saturday, 22nd March, bells available at 3 p.m., meeting 7 p.m. — Peter Crook, Branch Sec., 7, Melrose Avenue, Bolton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Kochdale Branch. The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 22nd, at Milnrow Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.—T. K. Driver, 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Meetings for practice at St. Martin's first Monday in the month at 7.30 p.m.; second Saturday, St. Bride's, 5 p.m.; third Monday, Shoreditch, 7.30 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Gloucester on Easter Monday, April 21st. Will members please watch this column for further particulars?—E. Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

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.

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