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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1926.

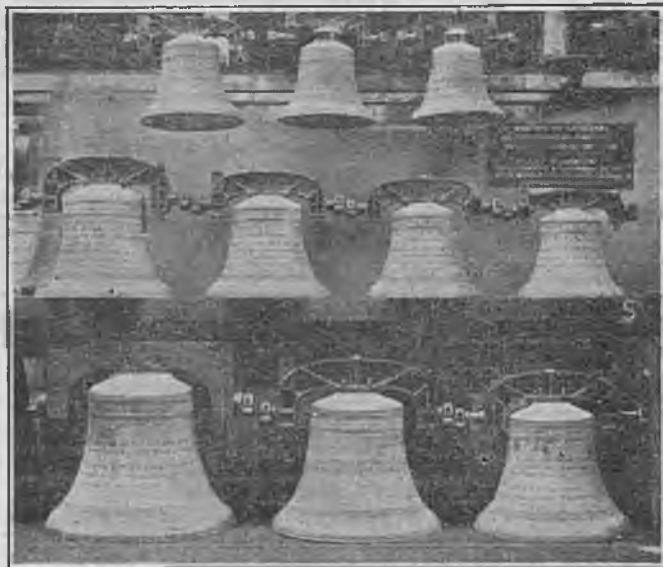
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KEENNESS—AND INDIFFERENCE.

Among the towers in this country there are many where the ringers do not come much into the limelight of peal ringing, but where the ringers nevertheless make good and substantial progress by steady and sustained effort. Their work is done on practice nights and for Sunday services, and, in the case of some six-bell towers especially, a marvellous proficiency in method ringing is exhibited. The details published elsewhere in this issue show what some of these bands accomplished in the past years, and among them the first place is undoubtedly taken by the men of South Anston, Notts, who rang one hundred and three Minor extents in one hundred and three methods. This surely must be a record! A few methods were rung twice, and the total, which so exactly corresponded with the number of seven hundred and twenties, was made up by ringing some of the extents by method-splicing. This enterprising band was among the first to introduce this system into their ringing, for they practised it soon after it was put forward by the Rev. H. Law James. Another company who, while ringing fewer methods, rang even more 720's in the year, was the band at Bucknall, Staffs, who completed one hundred and eight extents in nineteen different methods. The Leytonstone company, who for many years have been among the most expert 'practitioners' on six bells, also had a proud record. Other companies can doubtless claim to have done well, and they also have the satisfaction of knowing that their work is as commendable as some of that which receives a wider notice.

But there are other bands, ringers on eight as well as on six, who might ask themselves if they have done as well as they could have done with more whole-hearted effort. What the Exercise suffers from to-day is the indifference of so many of those who call themselves ringers. Here and there throughout the country we have notable examples of a genuine enthusiasm for progress, but for the most part ringers are content to carry on in a style which just keeps the breath in the art in their district, but respiration is so feeble as to be almost invisible. This is revealed in many directions—in the attendance at meetings, in peal ringing, in the slackness with which service ringing is maintained. There are notable exceptions, of course, but it is nothing unusual to find meetings with only ten or fifteen per cent. of the members present. Peal ringing is confined principally to the activities of a more or less limited number of bands—we doubt if fifteen per cent. of the ringers affiliated to the associations of this country ring a peal a year—and efficient service ringing at a large number of towers is

(Continued on page 114.)

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conspicuous by its absence. The progress of the Exercise is made by the keenness of a comparatively small minority—would that it were otherwise. Despite all that the associations are doing, there is big scope for driving out this spirit of apathy and indifference.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

PAINSWICK.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.
On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5100 CHANGES;

THOMAS BALDWIN Treble	HERBERT BISHOP 7
WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 2	THOMAS F. KING 8
WILLIAM IRELAND 3	ARTHUR PRINCE 9
CHARLES GARDINER 4	WALTER FARLEY 10
ALBERT BOND 5	JOHN F. BALLINGER 11
ALBERT WRIGHT 6	THOMAS HOGSFLESH Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

Rung to commemorate the sixth anniversary of the peal of 13,001 on Feb. 4th, 1920.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 11, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL, 8040 CHANGES; BRIGHTON VERSION.

WILLIAM C. HART Treble	ARTHUR T. VERRELLS 6
JOHN T. RICKMAN 2	FRANK BENNETT 7
GEORGE SMART 3	JOHN DEARLOVE 8
JOHN CAPP 4	ALBERT D. STONE 9
CHARLES PALMER 5	KEITH HART Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by KEITH HART.
The first peal ever rung in the method.

BRISTOL.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
On Thursday, February 11, 1926, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 8040 CHANGES; Tenor 36 cwt.

JOHN G. JEFFERIES Treble	WILLIAM H. THOMAS 6
EDWIN J. RIDLER 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT 7
REV. H. LAW JAMES 3	E. GEORGE TREW 8
RICHARD CLARK 4	JOHN A. BURFORD 9
ALFRED E. REEVES 5	WILLIAM A. CAVE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

The thanks of the band are due to the ringer of the treble for filling a gap caused by the defection of one of the band, and also for filling it so well.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 11, 1926, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES; Tenor 20½ cwt.

*FRANK JENNINGS Treble	†GEORGE JENNINGS 6
†LEONARD BANCE 2	ALFRED J. TRAPPIST 7
CHARLES H. KIPPIN 3	FREDERICK C. COLLINS 8
†JOHN LEE 4	†JOHN GALVER 9
DANIEL COOPER 5	†HERBERT H. PRATT Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by A. J. TRAPPIST.

* First peal. † First peal on ten. ‡ First peal of Grandsire Caters.

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WEEK

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5177 CHANGES;

Tenor 28½ cwt. in D flat.

JOHN H. SWINFELD Treble	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN... .. 6
ALBERT H. WARD 2	GEORGE BULL 7
HARRY ARGYLE 3	E. HARRY STONELEY 8
MAURICE SWINFELD 4	EDWARD C. GOBEY 9
CHARLES DRAPER 5	GEORGE F. NEWMAN Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by MAURICE SWINFELD.

This composition is now rung for the first time. The ringers wish to thank Mr. George Bull for filling a vacancy at the last minute, caused by the sudden illness of one of the band.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CHERITON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 5, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

STEPHEN A. BAKER Treble	*ALFRED G. WRATTEN 5
WILLIAM BIDNELL 2	SERGT. D. J. BOUCHER 6
*RICHARD BIRCH 3	HARRY PARKS 7
ARCHIE C. KAY 4	FRANK SLINGSBY Tenor

Conducted by HARRY PARKS.

* First peal of Stedman. Ringer of the 6th is from Shrewsbury. Rung as a birthday compliment to S. A. Baker.

PENDLETON.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

HERBERT GREENHALGH ... Treble	HAROLD JONES 5
TITUS BARLOW 2	THOMAS B. WORSLEY 6
HARRY SMALE 3	ALLEN F. BAILEY 7
FREDERICK J. STEELE ... 4	*HAROLD HOLLINGWORTH... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

* First peal. Mr. H. Smale belongs to Harlow Common, Essex, and was elected a member previous to the peal.

CLEVEDON, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Andrew.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY PRING Treble	WILLIAM KNIGHT... .. 5
ALFRED E. REEVES 2	WILLIAM A. CAVE 6
RICHARD CLARE 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE 7
WILLIAM H. THOMAS... .. 4	WALTER FARLEY... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

This, the first peal of Stedman on the bells, was rung for the above association by request. The band expressed their complete satisfaction with this splendid new peal.

LONG STANTON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

FRANCIS G. GLEAVES... Treble	HAROLD J. HAYZELL 5
CHARLES W. COOK 2	GEORGE CRISP 6
FRANK WARRINGTON 3	ERNEST G. HIBBINS 7
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 4	A. GEORGE RIVERS Tenor

Composed by J. HOLT. Conducted by ERNEST G. HIBBINS.

This is the first peal in the method by the Ely Association, and by all the hand on tower bells, and was rung without previous practice. Also the first peal in the method on the bells.

HANDSWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

GEORGE F. SWANN Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS 5
RICHARD C. INGRAM... .. 2	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH 6
*WILLIAM J. MEERS 3	*WILLIAM DAVIES 7
JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... 4	*HERBERT C. SPENCER ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob.

SALLE, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM J. WASEY Treble	WILLIAM B. DUNCAN... .. 5
BEN S. THOMPSON 2	FREDK. J. HOWCHIN 6
GEORGE H. CROSS 3	WILLIAM CLOVER 7
JAMES F. DUFFIELD 4	GEORGE MAYERS... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

First peal in the method on the bells. Arranged and rung as a compliment to F. J. Howchin on his 59th birthday.

DENHOLME, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14¾ cwt.

*ARTHUR BAIRSTOW Treble	*JOE GREENWOOD 5
FRED HUTTON 2	WILLIAM AMBLER 6
HAROLD PEARCE 3	*VERNEY BAIRSTOW 7
THOMAS SENIOR... .. 4	*MILLIGAN HARRISON... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM AMBLER.

* First peal in the method.

HYTHE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

FRANK SLINGSBY Treble	D. J. BOUCHER, K.S.L.I... 5
STEPHEN A. BAKER 2	†ALFRED G. WRATTON ... 6
RICHARD J. BIRCH 3	WILLIAM BIDNELL 7
*STANLEY R. MOWL 4	ARCHIE S. VINCENT Tenor

Conducted by A. G. WRATTON.

* First peal, and first attempt. † First peal as conductor, and first attempt. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. G. Prebble, one of the local ringers.

PENISTONE, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

LEONARD SHAW Treble	JOHN ARCHIE BREARLEY ... 5
WILLIAM A. WOOLER... .. 2	GEORGE HILL 6
HARRY BOWER 3	ERNEST BRITTS 7
ARCHIE BREARLEY 4	FRED HODGSON Tenor

Composed by JAMES PLATT. Conducted by GEORGE HILL.

ANOTHER VETERAN BULWELL RINGER DEAD.

The ringers of Bulwell, Nottingham, have lost yet another veteran—the fourth since the bells were augmented to eight four years ago. It is a pathetic circumstance that the four should have passed away, one in each year. All of them had given between 30 and 40 years' service in the belfry. They were William Spencer, Enoch Foster, George Tyers, and now William Wadsley. The parishioners of Bulwell, as well as the ringers, feel they have sustained a great loss by the death of the stalwarts, whose places it will not be easy to fill.

BIRSTALL, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble	JOSEPH KELLETT 5
WILLIAM H. SENIOR 2	SAM GIBSON 6
WILLIAM CLARK 3	EDWARD CROWTHER 7
EDWARD CRABTREE 4	HERBERT PEEL Tenor

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY.

Conducted by J. BROADLEY.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. Herbert Peel and Mrs. Peel. Treble ringer hails from Bradford; 2nd and 8th from Batley; the rest are local men.

GOUTHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

FREDK. J. LAMBERT, SEN. ... Treble	ROBERT T. LAMBERT 5
REGINALD E. LAMBERT 2	STAFFORD H. GREEN 6
WILLIAM COLLISON 3	HERBERT MARKWELL 7
WILLIAM LATTER 4	FREDERICK WHITE Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by S. H. GREEN.

This is believed to be the first Surprise peal on the bells.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

GEORGE PINCOIT Treble	GEORGE POWNELL 5
ROBERT ALLRED 2	*THOMAS ALLRED 6
HENRY SMITH 3	HARRY ALLRED 7
JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW ... 4	WILLIAM PENNINGTON ... Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Conducted by J. LEATHERBARROW.

Rung as a memorial peal to the late James and Robert Allred.

* First peal of Major.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

CHARLES NORRIS Treble	VICTOR A. JARRETT, R.E. ... 5
FRANK BELSEY 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER 6
EDWARD A. G. ALLEN 3	THOMAS BRACMONT 7
*PHILLIP SPRINGHAM 4	WILLIAM HAIGH Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by W. HAIGH.

* First peal in method.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS B. KENDALL ... Treble	*SYDNEY SADLER 5
†MISS OLIVE L. LUMLEY ... 2	*GEORGE ROBINSON 6
STANLEY ROBINSON 3	*HARRY LINDSAY 7
*RALPH UMFLEBY 4	ERNEST H. SIMPSON ... Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT.

Conducted by ERNEST H. SIMPSON.

* First peal in method. † First peal in the method on tower bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. T. B. Kendall, and to Miss E. Simpson, daughter of the conductor.

'SILENT' SPLICED SURPRISE.

On Monday, Feb. 8th, at St. John-the-Baptists' Church, Leytonstone, in 27 mins., a non-conducted 720 of Spliced Surprise Minor (Beverley, Durham and Surfleet) by the following: A. Prior 1, G. L. Joyce 2, W. H. Theobald 3, W. Miller 4, E. D. Smith 5, J. Moule 6. This is the first to be so rung. Witnessed by Messrs. P. H. Avey, H. Molton, E. T. Butler (Essex Association), and A. Reeve (Wanstead).

ALDERSHOT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 8, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Michael-the-Archangel,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.

*CHARLIE DENYER ... Treble	*WILLIAM DENYER 5
MISS BERTHA M. MILLS ... 2	*ALBERT J. CROUCHER ... 6
*MISS ADDIE A. FISHER ... 3	*GDSM. E. J. BRAGG, G.G. ... 7
MISS HILDA F. MILLS ... 4	C.Q.M.S.G. GILBERT, R.E. Tenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT, R.E.

Rung by entirely local band. * First peal of Treble Bob. First peal in the method on the bells, and by all the band except the conductor. It is also claimed to be the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major ever rung in the Guild by a local band, and believed to be the first in the method for 29 years, the last having been rung at Soberton on September 20th, 1897.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 8, 1926, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. Paul.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5162 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*WILLIAM BROOKS ... Treble	*RICHARD A. GOFTON 5
*GEORGE L. GOFTON 2	THOMAS T. GOFTON 6
JAMES E. GOFTON 3	†STEPHEN W. STRATFORD ... 7
†WILLIAM L. GOFTON 4	†R. ALDER GOFTON Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JAMES E. GOFTON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of esteem and respect on the occasion of the funeral of the late Rev. Edw. Smith, M.A., who was Vicar of this parish for a period of 30 years. * First peal and first attempt. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. George L. Gofton is the third son of R. Alder Gofton.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, February 9, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary, Willesden, N.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 8640 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD C. E. LANKESTER Treble	WILLIAM E. JUDD 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	HARRY KILBY 6
CECIL V. EBBERSON 3	GEORGE M. KILBY 7
WALTER G. MATTHEWS ... 4	PERCIVAL W. NORTON ... Treble

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

BRENCHELY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 10, 1926, in Three Hours.

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN WHEADON ... Treble	†HARRY BAKER 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	THOMAS E. SONE 6
JARVIS L. HARRIS 3	HERBERT J. HAMMOND ... 7
WILLIAM E. PITMAN 4	*PERCY HODGES Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal. † 50th peal. First peal of Triples on the bells; also a birthday compliment to J. L. Harris. Thanks are due to Mr. Pitman for kindly accepting a rope at the last moment.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 12, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5640 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 13 cwt.

*MISS LAURA LANCASTER ... Treble	*SIDNEY TONELL 5
*ALFRED COATS 2	ALBERT HUNTER 6
WILLIAM JONES 3	THOMAS METCALFE 7
THOMAS LANCASTER 4	JOHN W. PASSMAN Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS METCALFE.

* First peal in the method.

BUXTED, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED J. TURNER Treble	ROBERT J. DAWE 5
ALBERT D. STONE 2	OLIVER SIPPETTS 6
ALFRED W. GROVES 3	JOHN DEARLOVE 7
FRANK BENNETT 4	KEITH HART Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by KEITH HART.

ANSTLEY, Near LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

F. H. DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

J. FREDERICK MILNER Treble	WILLIAM H. CLARKE 5
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD 2	ERNEST W. TIPLER 6
PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM 3	NORMAN S. BAGWORTH 7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 4	JOHN GRANT Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Dorothy Belton, daughter of Mr. C. R. Bellon of Barwell; also in honour of St. Valentine's Day. The conductor's 25th peal of Stedman Triples on tower bells.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF ROCHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

LEONARD P. BAILEY Treble	GEORGE WILSON 5
ALFRED KEEBLE 2	ERNEST S. BAILEY 6
* FREDERICK J. SMITH 3	JAMES M. BAILEY 7
JAMES C. RUMSEY 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by C. F. BAILEY.

* First peal in the method.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S No. 35.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr.

LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS Treble	HECTOR G. BIRD 5
† VICTOR WHITE 2	* JOSEPH H. COX 6
WILLIAM BROWN 3	SAMUEL GROVE 7
THOMAS GREENHALGH 4	ALFRED HACKETT Tenor

Conducted by S. GROVE.

* First peal of Stedman. † 50th peal.

BLACKBURN.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.)

FREDERICK HINDLE Treble	JOHN SANDERSON 5
JOHN BROWN 2	THOMAS WILSON 6
WILLIAM ROBINSON 3	WILLIAM E. WILSON 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 4	JAMES HARRISON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM E. WILSON.

The ringer of the 3rd bells from Ambleside; 2nd and tenor from Houghton. Rung on the eve of the Blackburn 'Bishopric Sunday,' on which day effort was made throughout the Manchester Diocese to raise the remaining portion of the £75,000 necessary to establish the Bishopric.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.—On Tuesday, Feb. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins.: J. Waugh 1, G. Perry 2, G. Carter 3, E. A. Bacon (conductor) 4, C. Morris 5, W. S. Carter 6, W. Clark 7, J. Rann, jun., 8. First quarter-peal by J. Waugh, who is only 14 years of age.

TIPTON, STAFFS.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S No. 32.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

BENJAMIN GOUGH Treble	JESSE SCREEN 5
SAMUEL J. HUGHES 2	ALFRED ROWLEY 6
SYDNEY ELTON 3	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 7
* JOSEPH HOPSON 4	REUBEN HALL Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED ROWLEY.

* First peal.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON

DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter, Walworth,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS Treble	HAROLD W. CLARK 5
EDWIN F. PIKE 2	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JOHN T. KENTISH 7
CECIL V. EBBERSON 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

GEORGE GREEN Treble	WILLIAM LINCOLN 5
EDWARD F. BUCKINGHAM 2	JOHN WOOD 6
THOMAS LINCOLN 3	WILLIAM KEEBLE 7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 4	ARTHUR HEAD Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

First peal in the method on the bells. Rung to celebrate the 70th birthday of W. J. Nevard.

TETTENHALL, STAFFS.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Collegiate Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

* BENJAMIN DALTON Treble	WILLIAM A. COOPER 5
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	EDWARD F. MITCHELL 6
JOHN PERRY 3	ROBERT PICKERING 7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 4	JOHN C. ADAMS Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by ROBERT PICKERING.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Major on the bells. Rung on the Eve of St. Valentine's Day, and as a birthday compliment to Mrs. E. F. Mitchell, wife of the ringer of the sixth.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 13, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

PERCY J. JOHNSON Treble	WILLIAM BARTON 5
JAMES COTTERELL 2	ERNEST H. SIMPSON 6
JOHN LAWSON 3	FREDERICK W. DIXON 7
REV. C. C. MARSHALL 4	JOSEPH BROADLEY Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by FREDK. W. DIXON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. G. Bolland and Mr. W. Lomas, by officers of the association, Mr. J. Lawson has just completed 50 years as a ringer.

BISPHAM.—At the Parish Church, on Jan. 4th, 720 Oxford Single Bob: G. Parkinson 1, A. Parkinson 2, G. Dewhurst 3, R. Benson 4, J. Jackson 5, C. Sharples (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by all except conductor; also first on the bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WOOTTON COURTENAY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, January 5, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*R. COURT ... ..	... Treble	S. BAKER	4
W. MIDDLETON	2	W. CONIBERE	3
N. BALL	3	*T. ROBERTS	Tenor

Conducted by W. CONIBERE.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the Rev. E. P. Stanley, who has been Rector of this parish 41 years.

PATTISHALL, NORTHANTS.

THE TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.*On Thursday, February 4, 1926, in Three Hours and One Minute.*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores in 10 different callings.

*RICHARD ROCKALL ... ..	... Treble	GEORGE HOWARD	4
JOHN M. GRAY	2	J. WILFRED SHARP	5
JAMES W. HAYNES	3	*JOSEPH LAGTSBURY	Tenor

Conducted by J. WILFRED SHARP.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the sexton, Mr. S. Birch, who was 80 on February 2nd. * First peal and first attempt, both of whom belong to the local band.

GREAT WOLFORD, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE FOUR SHIRES GUILD.*On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 5 six-scores each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, and 32 six-scores of Grandsire in 18 different callings.

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. in F sharp.

GEORGE HIATT ... ..	... Treble	WALTER LARGE	4
HORACE TERRY	2	FRANK SMITH	5
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	FRANK EDGINGTON	Tenor

Conducted by HORACE TERRY.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE LITTLE MUNDEN SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, February 9, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS ... ..	... Treble	ARTHUR PHILLIPS	4
SIDNEY CARTER	2	*GEORGE H. CARTER	5
ARTHUR WOOLSTON	3	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE	Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY CARTER.

First peal as conductor. * 50th peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Thursday, February 11, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.*

AT SUPERLATIVE VILLA,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

MISS NORAH M. BIBBY	1-2	*FRANCIS BIBBY	5-6
*JOHN E. BIBBY	3-4	EDWARD JENKINS	7-8
WILLIAM BIBBY	9-10		

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by E. JENKINS.

Miss Bibby's first peal 'in hand.' * First peal of Royal. † First peal of Royal 'in hand.' First peal of Little Bob Royal in the county. First peal of Royal 'in hand' by the Guild with a resident band.

[Other Peal Reports are unavoidably held over.]

COVENTRY BELLS.

MR. W. W. STARMER'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS CHANGE RINGING.

Mr. William Wooding Starmer, F.R.A.M., who was one of the expert witnesses called in support of the petition for recasting Coventry bells, takes exception to the comment, which we made in one of our leading articles, that he has in the past shown antipathy to the art of change ringing. Mr. Starmer informs us that he has never written or said anything from which this could be inferred. We are glad, therefore, to be able to correct this mistaken impression of Mr. Starmer's attitude towards bells rung in English fashion.

Delivering the second of a series of six lectures at the University of Birmingham on Wednesday in last week, Mr. Starmer dealt with English bell music, explaining that change ringing was a mathematical problem involving no musical considerations. It was a science and an art possessing a language of its own, and, he said: 'In change ringing, bringing the bell from one 'set' position to the others demands skill and judgment so that the successive 'striking' shall be regular and even. An expert band of ringers secures perfect precision in the 'striking.' This, together with the full tone of the bell in whole swing, the ever-changing notes, the continuity and the mingling of sounds, constitutes the indescribable charm of good change ringing. In many ways the succession of sounds has little real musical significance, but the indefinite rhythmic tonal progression is ever most fascinating.'

Mr. Starmer also referred to famous ringing societies and their histories, some of the great achievements in peal ringing, and old belfry rhymes and rules.

OUR FAMOUS BELLS IN JEOPARDY.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your recent article, 'How Coventry Bells were lost,' should be taken to heart by all members of the various ringing societies and associations throughout the length and breadth of these islands. Scientific change ringing on church bells will become as dead as the dodo if ringers do not wake up to the true position of affairs. Commercialism has entered the field cap-a-pie, be it disguised as campanological expertise or exponents of the 'tierce' and 'quint' makes no difference; it is there to supplant change ringers by a soulless carillon machine. Now, ringers, ask yourselves, each one of you, 'What am I doing to prevent this?' It is of no consequence if, at your general and other meetings, you simply pass pious opinions against the vandals, and then as meekly enter the like in your minute book. This will not avail one iota to arrest the march that vandalism has already made, and will continue to make if we do not see to it, and that right soon. It is imperative that representative ringing societies should take active steps to educate the public generally, and church people in particular, in regard to what is at stake. Apparently, at present, any Tom, Dick or Harry can come along and throw to the four winds of heaven the pious intentions of the donors of our famous and beautiful bells, taking only into account present fads and fancies, drilled into their heads by the insistent warblings of the aforesaid experts.

The great responsibility of the possession of any famous peal in regard to its upkeep as a priceless gift to the church, through the piety of our ancestors, has recently become a negligible quantity, and goes with the bells into the melting-pot. How long is this to be tolerated? Nothing can be advanced against melting down bells that have become fractured or so badly worn as to be unfitted for their original use, but even then they can, and in some cases, are preserved as good examples of a by-gone founder's art. Be this as it may, the case under review strikes an alarm, and we must come to attention, using our greatest endeavours to prevent any repetition in regard to our remaining famous bells, to preserve them from their would-be destroyers, preserving them as far as possible in their entirety for those that are to come and take our places.

We must bear in mind that 'Simpson tuning,' so-called, is only a stalking horse, the real issue following closely in its shadows is a carillon, played upon by multitudinous wires—exit bell ropes and scientific bell ringers. What appears to be a phantasy to-day may become a reality to-morrow if we ringers take this challenge lying down, turning our ringing ropes into objects of pity and the bells into a roaring mass of inarticulate vibrations, with the horrid 'howl' of the tierce (or minor third) thrown in as a companion to the work of the vandals.

The line of least resistance must be dropped, and a live substitute found in propaganda work. It may be uphill for a time to get out of our present lethargic state. Our detractors are using all their efforts to effect their purpose, so be up and doing, interview members of Diocesan Advisory Committees, join Parish Church Councils, do your duty as staunch Churchmen, feeling and accepting the responsibility that your predecessors have left to you for safe keeping, and so help to arrest the canker which, if not stopped, will surely pursue its deadly course. Simpson tuning has the same relation to bells as water to milk, both are weakened in their constituent parts, more or

less as the case may be. Now we know, this being an age of discovery, why the old people used to call a milk seller who added water to his milk so as to increase quantity, not quality—'Simps-son'—Yours truly,

CLOCHES DE L'ARCHE.

[Other Letters are unavoidably held over.]

SOUTH ANSTON RINGERS' REMARKABLE FEAT.

103 MINOR EXTENTS IN 103 METHODS.

The company at St. James' Church, South Anston, had a fairly successful year during 1925, considering sickness amongst the ringing members, and sickness near the church, which caused them to stop ringing for a time. They rang altogether 103 720's in 103 methods, as follows: Spliced 720's of Oxford, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston; Combermere, Vale Royal and St. Werburgh. 720's of Duke of York, London Surprise, Primrose Surprise were rung twice, and the following were rung once: Violet, College Exercise, Ordsall Delight, Snowdrop, Old Primrose, Palm Sunday, Easter Morning, Burton, London, Sandall, Kingston, New London Pleasure, Kent, Trinity, Duke of Norfolk, Mirfield, Morning Star, Overton, Grove, Woodbine, Tanner's Pleasure, Tulip (Old), Royston Delight, College Bob 4th, Norwich, Wragby, Willesden, Morning Exercise, Middlewood, London Victory, City Delight, Braintree, Hull Delight, Kent Delight, Neasden, St. Oswald, Old Oxford Modernised, Duke of Clarence, Baden Powell, Elstow, Evening Star, Wuth and Pontefract Treble Bob; Worcester, Chichester, Lancashire, Lightfoot, Stamford, Wearmouth, York, Durham, Cambridge, Norfolk, Norwich, Lord Roberts, Annable's London, Nethersale, Kitchener, Hull, Bourne, Cunecaster, Canterbury, Westminster and Ebor Surprise. Extents in the following methods were rung during 1925 for the first time by the company: Marigold, Foxglove, Daffodil, Hyacinth, Fuchsia, Shamrock, Bluebell, Taxal, Bogedone, Ludlow Castle, Warwick Castle, Berkeley Castle, Pevensy Castle, Dunedin Castle, Ely Castle, Leasowe Castle, Conway Castle, Carnarvon Castle, Evesham Abbey, Tewkesbury Abbey, Crowland Abbey, Canterbury Abbey, Waltham Abbey and Burslem Abbey Treble Bob; Hexham, Surfleet, Bacup, Bamfborough, Kentish Delight, Woodcock's Victory, York Minster Surprise. The total number of changes was 74,160 rung by the following: Edgar F. Stenton, 85 720's; Gordon Turner, 102, conducted 82; Henry Stenton, 95, conducted 4; Francis Stenton, 81; Chas. Fowler, 97, conducted 13; William Platts, 62; Samuel Smith, 3; Herbert Turner, 83, conducted 2. Visitors: J. E.

Causar (Tickhill), 4, conducted 1; Chas. Lavern (Killamarsh), 1, conducted 1; Herbert Haigh (Worksop), 5.

Gordon Turner, who has rung 102 and conducted 82 of the 720's, is only 15 years of age, and this is not the least remarkable fact in a wonderful performance.

At St. Mary's Church, Bucknall, Stoke-on-Trent, during the year 1925, 108 720's of Minor were rung as follows: London, 19; Burslem, 12; Bucknall, 10; Milton, 8; Biddulph, 2; Cambridge, 14. Wells, 3; No. 17, 3; College P., 7; College Ex., 7; College S., 1. Duke of York, 2; Woodbine, 1; Violet, 10; Oxford and Kent, 3; Oxford, 2; Oxford Bob, 1; Plain Bob, 3.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

The annual general meeting was held on Saturday, January 30th, at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, about 40 members being present. Ringing on the famous peal of twelve took place, and all the officers were re-elected, viz.: Mr. J. D. Matthews, Master; Mr. J. Sparrow, secretary; Mr. J. W. Cornford, treasurer; Mr. C. Matthews, senior steward; Mr. T. Bevan, junior steward; Messrs. F. Smith and A. Hardy, trustees; and Messrs. W. Norton and R. Bevan, auditors.

The balance sheet for 1925 was presented, and passed, and several new members were made.

A resolution was passed that there be held some kind of social gathering during the early part of the summer, and a committee has been formed to make the necessary arrangements, particulars of which will be announced later.

LADIES' GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Southern District was held at Seale on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Owing to the weather the party only numbered 20, and represented three towers, Seale, Aldershot and Guildford. There was ringing on the six bells during the afternoon, and service was conducted by the Rev. R. S. Arrowsmith. Tea was served in the Parish Room, where the Rector said a few words of welcome.

At the business meeting, Miss Melville, of Guildford, and Mrs. Rogers, of Aldershot, were elected members.

The next meeting was fixed for April 24th, at Cliddingfold. The tower was re-visited, and the following methods rung: Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Double Court, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570
(13th year
of reign of
Elizabeth).

Bellfounders and

Bellhangers,

**32 & 34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD
LONDON, E.1.**



ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

for

Recasting, Retuning and Rehangings.

HANDBELLS

In Sets of any number.

BELL ROPES, MUFFLES. &

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. Harold J. Poole has become a member of the Leicester Police Force, and policemen-ringers, who are a numerous body, have thus received a valuable recruit.

The first peal of the Brighton Variation of London Surprise Royal is recorded this week, and it is interesting to recall that it was exactly twenty-five years ago next Monday that in the same tower (St. Peter's) the first peal of Bristol Surprise was rung.

Oxford University Guild was founded on Feb. 20th, 1872.

To-morrow is the anniversary of a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Kettering in 1729.

A peal of 6,720 Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung at Epsom, Surrey, on February 21st, 1802.

On Sunday, Feb. 23rd, 1783, a peal of 5,152 Cambridge Surprise was rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths (there were two societies of College Youths in those days) at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, being deemed the greatest performance ever achieved in the Campanistancan Art as so intricate a method was never practised by any other set of men whatever; indeed the same people (except one) did ring a peal in this same method, and at the same place on Sunday, January 30th, 1780, they being then London Youths, but as this was rung with the tenors together it proved false on the new discoveries which happened about this time, and was the cause of their ringing another peal.

J. E. Lilley, son of the towerkeeper at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, although only just 18 years old, has rung five twelve-bell peals, including two Stedman Cinques, one each of Grandsire Cinques, Bob Maximus and Kent Treble Bob Maximus.

For the sixth year in succession the record peal of 13,001 Grandsire Cinques at Painswick, in 1920, has been commemorated by a peal in the same method. This surely must be a record in its way. And the hand on this occasion included a King, a Prince and a Bishop!

An untimely interruption by an outsider put an end to a peal of Stedman Triples on Saturday at Llangollen, which was attempted as a sixtieth birthday compliment to a highly-respected member of the North Wales Association, Mr. Thomas Cathrall, of Wrexham. The chagrin of the ringers may be imagined, as some of them had come 30 and 40 miles for the peal. They had to get what consolation they could from ringing a quarter-peal.

'I received the copy of "Spliced Methods," and a fine book it is: many thanks,' writes a correspondent. He's right, it is a fine book, and should be in the hands of every ringer.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Thornaby-on-Tees, on Saturday, January 30th. By the great kindness of the Vicar of Thornaby, the audit was conducted in the Vicar's study in the morning by Mr. F. Barker and Mr. J. Sinclair. The bells of the Parish Church of St. Paul were available for ringing from noon onward, and were extensively used during the day. Service was held at 4 p.m., when the Vicar of Thornaby (the Rev. P. W. Worster) preached a kindly and encouraging sermon, which was much appreciated by the congregation. Tea was served in the neighbouring Parish Hall, and was immediately followed by the business meeting.

The president (the Rev. C. C. Marshall) was in the chair, supported by some thirty members.

The following resolution was moved by the president: 'That this meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers desires to place on record its sense of the great loss which it has sustained by the death of Mr. George B. Bolland, who joined the association in the second year of its history, and had been a vice-president for 42 years.' George Bolland, said the President, was rightly looked upon as the 'father of the association,' and no one commanded the respect and affection of the members more than he did. His interest in six-bell methods, and his keen advocacy of that branch of ringing, did much to lead to the truer acknowledgment of Minor ringing by the Exercise, and his wide experience and extensive knowledge were always at the service of any one who sought his assistance. No one did more than he did, by his work and strong personality, to build up the association, whose destinies he so long helped to direct, and the memory of his genial, robust Yorkshire character will ever be an inspiration to those who follow him.

On being re-elected as general secretary of the association for the ensuing three years, Mr. P. J. Johnson thanked the members for their confidence.—The auditors' report and the balance sheet were passed, on the motion of Mr. F. Barker, seconded by Mr. J. W. Addison, while the report of the general committee was passed, on the motion of Mr. J. H. Blakiston, seconded by Mr. Reyor.

Five new members were elected, and a vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens of Thornaby and to the local company, responded to by Mr. J. W. Addison, brought the meeting to a close.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GROWING AND PROSPEROUS.

Those who, like the present Master, recollect the old St. James's Society twenty-five or thirty years ago, when by lack of interest it almost died of inanition, and who were present on Saturday at the annual meeting of the London County Association, into which the old society has developed, must have been more than gratified at the progress which is being maintained. From a nearly moribund condition it has developed into a live society, with a rapidly growing membership, and activities extending not merely to peal ringing, but to the important work of keeping the bells going in several London towers for Sunday Service ringing. For this state of affairs the association has largely to thank the energies of Mr. T. H. Taffender, who, first as secretary and since in the office of Master, has worked untiringly to rebuild the fortunes of the society.

Two towers were open for ringing on Saturday afternoon, and early arrivals in the Metropolis visited All Hallows', Lombard Street—one of London's hidden churches—where the ten bells, now so rarely heard, were utilised for an hour or so. Here Mr. Joe Rayner, steeplekeeper at St. Andrew's, Holborn, now past his 90th year, was present. Although not now able to take a rope, he climbed the lofty steeple. That very morning he had been the subject of an interesting article in one of the great London dailies. To an interviewer who visited him in his workshop, behind his house in Clerkenwell, he said, 'I've been making and mending clocks since 1843, when my first job was to carry a clock away from Clerkenwell Church.' 'I can still do anything with a clock,' he said and proudly exhibited some of the work which had just left his clever old hands. When asked how trade was, he had nothing to grumble at, for although the English clock trade was 'done' since the war, old firms he had dealt with kept sending him work. And so this fine old English craftsman goes on with an almost boyish heart, delighting in his work, and in the bells, to which he has been devoted for nearly three-quarters of a century. His birthday is the first of January, and for almost fifty years without a break he 'rang in' this anniversary, with the new year.

The other bells available were those of St. Clement Danes', the headquarters of the society. Here, too, a group photograph was taken, and a service was held. This latter was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford), who is chaplain of the association, and the singing was led by the organ and choir. The preacher was the Rev. Gordon Ponsonby, Rector of St. Mary-le-Bow, whose text was the words in Zechariah xiv. 20, 'In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses "Holiness unto the Lord." ' He spoke of the memories of sorrow and joy called up by the bells, and emphasised that above all was the memory of the glory of God. He referred to some of the historical bells of the early centuries, and, urging ringers to carry out their work with holiness unto the Lord, bade them go forth with fresh resolution to carry on their tasks, in every detail of life, to God's glory and in His service.

Over a hundred members and visitors sat down to tea at St. Clement's Hall as the guests of the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford and Mrs. Bickford, whose cordial welcome and generous hospitality were warmly appreciated by the visitors. Mrs. Bickford personally superintended the serving of the repast, and, before leaving the hall, said she had been delighted to see them all, and wished success to the society. Ringing, she said, was a wonderful thing—it was even more wonderful than the parsons (laughter)—it brought the people into church, and it spoke for God. She wished them success in their noble work and their wonderful science.

ENCOURAGING PROGRESS.

The chair at the business meeting was occupied by the Master, who was supported by the chaplain, the hon. secretary (Mr. A. H. Keighley), the assistant secretary (Mr. Newman), the trustees (Mr. E. Alex. Young, who is also hon. treasurer, and Mr. J. George), and the district officers. There were a number of provincial members present.

The number of elections were ratified, and several new members (some of them now growing old in the Exercise) were elected.

The Secretary presented an encouraging report, which was accepted, and ordered to be entered on the minutes. He said the fortnightly practice at St. Clement Danes' had been well supported, but there had been no revival of the practice at St. Botolph's (which was dropped on account of repairs to the tower). Against this, however, they had instituted a monthly practice at St. Mary's, Lambeth, and a quarterly practice at St. John's, Wilton Road. The bi-monthly meetings of the districts had been uniformly successful, and particularly encouraging was the progress made by the Northern district. Some time ago this district gave them anxiety, but their efforts had been rewarded, thanks to the energetic manner in which the Master (Mr. Allaway) and the secretary (Mr. Bottrill) had worked. The year had been one of the most successful in the history of the association, and the balance in hand was a record. The association had taken its share in the agitation to secure cheaper railway travelling facilities for ringers, and although this agitation had not been successful,

no doubt it would be revived again later on. During the year the association had rung 22 peals, as follows: Grandsire Triples, 3; Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 9; Caters, 2; Ciuques, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 2; Royal, 1; Maximus, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Royal, 1. Eight members had rung their first peal. The balance in hand, including the sum invested in savings certificates, was £39 18s. 8d., an increase of £5 9s. 3d. over last year, but of this sum £1 10s. was earmarked for the writing up of twelve peals in the new peal book.

The auditors presented the balance sheet, which was adopted.

Mr. James George said the record of the muffled peal of Kent Maximus rung at Bow, for the death of Queen Alexandra, had been sent to the King, and had been acknowledged. Mr. George added that he had been very pleased to ring the tenor to that peal, and he wished to thank the band, and especially the 11th man, who had helped him to do it.

A PRESENTATION.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, who stated he joined the St. James's Society nearly fifty years ago, said when, some time ago, the question of providing a new peal book for the society was raised, their untiring and excellent Master, in the diplomatic, ingenious and clever manner in which he conducted everything connected with that association, approached him and said they were in 'a pretty pickle,' as they wanted the peal book, and it was going to cost a lot. He (Mr. Dawe) suggested changing the subject (laughter), and the subject was changed (laughter), but when Mr. Taffender was gone, he (the speaker) rang up Mr. Young, who, in his usual generous-hearted manner, at once agreed to share with him the cost of the new book (applause). He had great pleasure in presenting the book to the society, on behalf of Mr. Young and himself, and he hoped it would be possible for the peal of Maximus at Bow to appear on the first page. He was not in the peal, but he heard it, and congratulated their 'aged brother,' Mr. George, on the way he rang the tenor on his 72nd birthday (applause).

Mr. Young said it was only the old societies who retained the practice of entering peals in volumes, and he was glad that they continued to do so. They all knew what a pleasure it was to look at the ancient peal books of the old societies, and these books were justly treasured. They (the London County Association) had a most interesting first book—the others were, perhaps, not so interesting to them of the present day, but they would become more interesting as the years went by, and probably in a hundred years' time ringers would look at this new book with great interest. He was very happy to be associated in the presentation (applause).

Mr. T. W. Taffender proposed, and Mr. George seconded, that the gift be accepted with hearty thanks to the donors, Mr. Dawe and Mr. Young.

Mr. Joseph Waghorn, senr., in supporting the motion, as 'grandfather' of the society, said he had been a member for just over 60 years. He said the association not only accepted the generous and splendid gift, but would cherish it, and he hoped his own name would appear in it—he did not think he was too old (applause).

Mr. W. H. Fussell, on behalf of the older members, added thanks to the donors, and the Master also voiced the gratitude of the association.—The resolution was then put, and carried by acclamation, and acknowledged by Mr. Dawe.

The new peal book is a handsome volume bound in red leather, and inscribed, 'London County Association, late the St. James's Society (established 1824). Master, Thomas H. Taffender; hon. secretary, Arthur H. Keighley; treasurer, E. Alexander Young. The gift of Francis E. Dawe and E. Alexander Young, 1925. Peal Book, vol. 4.'

The Master announced that the offertory at the service amounted to 30s., and the Rector left its disposition to the members. It was suggested that it would be appropriate to ask the Rector to apply it to the fund for the choir boys' entertainment, and this was unanimously agreed to. — The Rector, in thanking the members, said it was a most excellent idea, and was thoroughly appreciated by him, as it would be by the choir boys.

MASTER RE-ELECTED.

The election of officers followed, and in vacating the chair Mr. Taffender thanked the members for their support during the year. He said he was honoured to see so many of the old members around him. He thanked the chaplain and Mrs. Bickford for the welcome they had given the association.

Mr. A. D. Barker proposed the re-election of Mr. Taffender, and referred, in eulogistic terms, to the work which Mr. Taffender had done for the association.—The motion was seconded in several places, and speeches in support were made by Mr. Dawe and Mr. George, and the resolution was then carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. Taffender returned to the chair, amid applause, and in acknowledging his re-election referred to the great assistance he had received from the hon. secretary. He added that there was more good-fellowship amongst the members than there used to be (hear, hear), and he thought the jealousy that used to exist among London ringers was dying out (applause). They were all working for one

and there was no reason why they should not do it with good feeling (applause).

Mr. Keighley was re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. E. A. Young, hon. treasurer. Messrs. F. E. Dawa and J. George were appointed trustees, Mr. R. Newman was re-appointed senior assistant secretary, and Mr. T. W. Taffender, junior assistant secretary.

Mr. Chorley was appointed senior steward, and, after a contest, Mr. T. Wyatt was elected junior steward.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chaplain and Mrs. Bickford for the arrangements made for the convenience of the members, for the service, for the tea, and for the use of the hall.—This was acknowledged by the Rector, who referred to the fact that they were indebted to the organist, who had given up another engagement in order to assist them at the service.

We understand that the group photograph was entirely successful. Orders should be sent to the hon. secretary.

A NEW ROYAL METHOD.

BRIGHTON VERSION OF LONDON SURPRISE.

As will be seen in the peal columns this week, a peal of Royal, the first in the method, has been rung at the Parish Church of St. Peter's, Brighton, and named 'London Surprise Royal (Brighton Version).'

The reason for giving the method this name is the fact that, so far as the author (Mr. George Baker) can find out, it is the nearest possible approach to what London Surprise Royal ought to be.

The method is true. It contains all the features of London Surprise Major, including central fifth's.

The mathematical progression is not what it should be, owing to the pivot bell alterations at the 5th and 37th changes, and to the fact that there are two slow 4th's places, instead of slow 8th's, one on either side of the treble's whole pull behind. With these slight differences, which are necessary to bring up the correct lead head, the method is London Surprise, pure and simple, and all the band taking part in the peal agree that it is the most difficult Royal method they have yet attempted.

Appended is a lead of the method—

123456789x
213547698x
12537496x8
2157394x68
251379x486
5231974x68
521379x486
2831974x68
52391476x8
532941678x
35921476x8
395241678x
932546187x
92345681x7
294365187x
24963581x7
4269385x17
4623958x71
643259x817
6342958x71
3624985x1
326489751x
2346985x1
243965871x
429368517x
49263815x7
946283517x
96482315x7
6984213x57
889412x375
8648213x57
846912x375
48619x2735
8416x97253
84619x2735
4816x97253
418x692735
1486x29375
41682x3957
146283x597

1426385x79

GUILDFORD.—At St. Nicolas' Church, for evensong, on the occasion of the 'Caleb Lovejoy' anniversary, 1,275 Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins.: R. Radford 1, F. Radford 2, E. A. Etheridge 3, Mrs. Hazelden 4, C. Hazelden 5, G. J. Nichols 6, W. W. Thorne 7, C. Tomsett (first quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters as conductor) 8, S. Radford 9, G. R. Gibbs 10.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE DR. A. B. CARPENTER. SURREY ASSOCIATION TABLET AT BEDDINGTON.

The annual meeting of the Surrey Association was held at Beddington on Saturday. Although the meeting had been previously fixed to take place at Croydon, the venue was specially altered in order that the memorial to the late Ringing Master might be unveiled. The original intention had been to provide one of a ring of bells at St. James' Church, Croydon, but owing to the war it was found impossible to carry this into effect, and the memorial, therefore, takes the form of a polished marble tablet fixed on the wall in the ringing chamber at Beddington, where the late Master had enjoyed so much of his ringing. The Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge (president of the Central Council) journeyed specially from Crowthorne in order to unveil the tablet, the ceremony taking place in the ringing chamber in the presence of the Rector of Beddington, his two churchwardens, and many members of the association. The tablet bears the following inscription:—

In thankful memory of ARTHUR BRISTOWE CARPENTER, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.S., a foundation member 1880, honorary secretary 1883-1892, and first Ringing Master 1912-13 of the Surrey Association of Change Ringers, by whom this tablet is erected.

In this tower on 8th February, 1913, he rang his last peal, Stedman Caters, and was called by the Great Physician to Higher Service, 15th October, 1913.

Following this, the Rector of Beddington unveiled a peal board recording a peal which was rung on the occasion of the death of Mr. Charles Gordon, who had been a ringer at the tower for over fifty years.

Subsequently a short service took place in the church, at which Canon Coleridge gave the address, in which he dwelt specially upon the high character of the late Dr. Carpenter, and his influence in the ringing Exercise.

Tea was provided in the Parish Hall, when a vote of thanks was passed to Canon Coleridge for coming to perform the unveiling. —Canon Coleridge, replying in characteristic terms, said it gave him great pleasure to accede to the request to come to Beddington, and urged the younger members of the association to follow the example set by their late Ringing Master, and strive to strike their bells in perfect time. He said he was sorry he could not remain to the business meeting, as he had a long journey to make on the Southern Railway.

Mr. James Drewett occupied the chair at the general meeting, when the officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, and the accounts of the branches and the general fund were passed. The next annual meeting was fixed to take place at Reigate. It was decided that in future the members should pay the full cost of the tea at the meetings, both branch and general, as the funds of the association were being depleted, and this would be one way of economising.

A vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, and for arranging for the service and to the churchwardens and organist, concluded the meeting.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. WESTERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The meeting of the Western District, held at Hemel Hempstead, was quite an enjoyable one. Members and friends attended from Apsley, Tring, Luton, Berkhamstead, Harpenden, Wigginton, and the local tower. The bells were raised soon after 3 p.m., and the methods rung were Grandsire Doubles (for the beginners), Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major. A short service, conducted by the curate, in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, was much appreciated.

Tea, generously provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Robson, was partaken in St. Mary's Hall, presided over by the Rev. H. B. Tyrerwhitt-Drake, Vicar of Wigginton, who subsequently took the chair at the business meeting.—The Curate welcomed the ringers, on behalf of the Vicar, who hoped the ringers would have a good time, though regretting his inability to be present.

Seven new members were elected, all from Apsley—a very promising sign. Northchurch was selected for the next place of meeting, the date to be left to the hon. secretary, but to be before Easter if possible.

It was decided to attempt a quarterly peal at Hemel Hempstead on February 20th, the band and conductor being duly arranged.

On the motion of the chairman, the usual votes of thanks were passed: To the Vicar for the use of the bells, and the splendid tea provided, and to the curate for the very nice service.

Before closing, the chairman reminded the members that the hon. secretary would be very pleased to receive subscriptions long since due. After this, the tower was again visited, and ringing indulged in until the bells were lowered at 7.45, thus bringing another very pleasant meeting to a close.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

REV. W. C. PEARSON'S ENVIALE COLLECTION OF BOOKS.—
STEDMAN AND THE 'TINTINNALOGIA.'

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Some weeks ago I gave in these notes a slight sketch of the various books on ringing that have been published from time to time. This brought me a very interesting letter from the Rev. W. C. Pearson, from which I take the following: He writes: 'You will, perhaps, be interested to know that the "Tintinnalogia" formerly belonging to Mr. Lukis is in my possession, and it is not quite so scarce as you suppose; as I have heard of two other copies, and doubtless there is also one in the British Museum. In his "Church Bells of Devon," Mr. Ellacombe says a 2nd edition was published in 1671, but I know of no copy being now in existence.'

'I have a nice, clean and perfect copy of Stedman's "Campanalogia" published in 1677, and I see you refer to one at St. Albans. P. Sadler, of Norwich, also has an imperfect copy. In 1677, J. White published "a Rich Cabinet with a variety of Inventions," in which is an article on ringing, cribbed more or less from Stedman's "Tintinnalogia." White also published the same article about 1700, under the title of "Tintinnalogia." I have an imperfect copy of this, and a good copy of the former.'

"The School of Recreation" was first published in 1684. You mention a copy dated 1701, and I have heard of another dated 1732. So apparently it went through three editions, but I have not been fortunate enough to pick up any of them at present. The "Campanalogia," by J. D. and C. M., went through five editions, 1702, 1705, 1733, 1753, 1766, the last corrected by J. Monk, and reprinted by H. Reeves. I have copies of all these five editions, and was glad to learn that J. D. is John Doleman. But what about C. M.? There was a Charles Marsh, a Union Scholar, in 1717, but I have no evidence that he was the man. I have copies of the 1788 "Clavis," one of the so-called 2nd edition, and three of the third. But I don't quite know what to say about these later editions. The letter-press is identical in all respects, and from the same type by the same printer, J. Raw, of Ipswich. But one little page says "Printed for R. S. Kirley, Paternoster Row," and the other "Printed for Youngman, Hurry, Rees, Orme, and Browne, by J. Raw, Ipswich." Both are without date, though one is said to have been printed in 1796. One of my copies has some advertisements attached, and on the head of the first page of this is the date, "December, 1819."

I have two copies of Shipway's book, 1816, one of which is in its original paper boards, with rough uncut edges. I have the 1st and 4th editions of Hubbard's book, 1845 and 1876. I have J. W. Snowden's copy of B. Thackrah's book, inside of which he has made the following note: "Amongst W. Harrison's papers I find the following note:

Gentlemen,

You are requested to attend the funeral of B. Thackrah on Sunday next at 2 o'clock. As many as can attend will oblige.

Yours, etc.,

R. S. Thackrah,

J. C. Spiking.

Dewsbury, Feb. 9/66.

J. W. S., August 8th, 1881. Is this the author of this book?"

I have two copies of Sottanstill's book, one of which was formerly J. W. Snowden's, and contains a photo of the author, published in 1867; and I have a copy of Baunister's, published in 1874. Also the "Bell News" reprints, and the later book by Snowden, etc., Powell's "Stedman Triples," and Thompson's "Grandsire." Also I have all the county volumes that have been published of bell inscriptions, etc., but possibly you are not interested in the archaeological side.

'I thought you might like to know where some of the old ringing books are.'

Mr. Pearson is to be congratulated—and envied. It is certain that there is no other collection that in any way approaches his in completeness and value. Especially was I interested to know what had become of Mr. Lukis' copy of the 'Tintinnalogia.' This is undoubtedly the rarest and most valuable of all ringing books. I was told that it had completely disappeared, that after being used for the 'Bell News' reprint it had gone, no one knew where. From another source I was informed that it had got into the British Museum. Recently, so I understand, a gentleman—not a ringer—picked up a copy of the 'Campanalogia' on a secondhand bookstall in Farringdon Road. That is the sort of luck that you read about, but which never comes your own way, though you may, as I do, turn over hundreds of old books during the course of a twelvemonth. Quite frequently, in the Charing Cross Road, I come across copies of the archaeological books on bells, but the prices are always very high.

The 'Tintinnalogia' is the book that Mr. Drake has lately tried to show was not written by Stedman. The tale he asks us to believe is as follows: 'Before 1666 there were several books on ringing, some printed and some not. In that year came the great fire of London, and burnt them all up, or practically all. The ringers of the day searched around in other towns for what fragments remained, col-

lected them, and printed them in one book. According to law, every book, before being published, had to be licensed, and the names of the printer and the person or persons responsible for what was in the book had to appear on the title page. The London ringers went down to Cambridge and asked Fabian Stedman if he would lend his name for that purpose, which he did; and that was all he had to do with it.'

Now you will see that this tale rests on several pretty cool assumptions, any one of which failing the whole thing comes to naught. If there were no books before 1666, then there is an end of the matter; and we may be quite sure that there were no such books. First, because neither in writing nor in tradition is there the slightest trace of any such thing; and second, because the writer of the 'Tintinnalogia' distinctly states that his reason for writing that book was that the rules of ringing existed only in oral instruction. 'I thought it,' he says in his preface which takes the form of a dedication to the noble Society of Colledge-Youths. 'I thought it worth a Dayes labour to write something on this Art or Science, that the Rules thereof might not be lost or obscured to some, as the Chronicles before William the Conqueror, being given only by Tradition from Father to Son.' Oh, but, says Mr. Drake, this is not really the proper preface to the 'Tintinnalogia.' It really belongs to an older book, and the later men simply reprinted it as it stood. You are to believe that in the eighteenth century there were ringers clever enough to write elaborate and careful treatises on ringing, and yet so stupid that they could not write a proper preface, but must needs borrow one, which, placed where they placed it, simply told a lie.

Well, having collected these fragments of the books which never existed, our mythical London ringers go all the way to Cambridge to get Stedman's help. Why to Stedman? Because, says Mr. Drake, he was a Government official, and had influence. Was he so, indeed? I cannot, of course, prove that Stedman was not a Government official, or even a Cabinet Minister, but if it were so, it is strange that not a hint of it should have come down to us, but has been revealed to Mr. Drake alone in these latter years.

Tradition says that Stedman was a Cambridge printer, and from his writings we gather that like the average printer of the time he was a man of considerable literary attainment—a studious man, and a thinker, rather than a man of action. In any case, why should the London men go to Cambridge? Why not apply for a license in their own names? But, says Mr. Drake, Stedman could not have written the book because his Principle does not appear in it. Is it not more likely that it did not appear because he had not yet composed it? Mr. Drake says the book is evidently a composite production. I say that it is most certainly the work of one man, and that a man who possessed the kind of brain which is very rare in any class of society, and practically non-existent among ringers. Stedman was of the sort of thinker that you will find in the older universities, and seldom elsewhere, the sort of man who, when he has the advantages of proper training, writes on such things as philosophy, higher mathematics, and such abstract things. I am not surprised that the Norwich men, who knew his 'Campanalogia' well, thought that he was a University don. The Exercise has had all along a succession of brilliant and clever men, but never another like Stedman. If Shipway or Jasper Snowden had lived in the eighteenth century, either, no doubt, could have written an excellent text book on Plain Changes and Early Cross Peals. Probably it would have been quite as useful a book as the 'Tintinnalogia,' but it certainly would not have been the same. It will take better arguments than Mr. Drake's before we shall consent to displace Fabian Stedman from his position as our earliest and, in some respects, our greatest author.

Some time ago, Mr. Drake made another excursion into historical writing. When his facts were challenged his explanation was that part was somehow written by his pen without his intention, part was a joke he had omitted to label, and part was a 'theory.' Will he tell us to which of these three categories this latest of his belongings?

FIFTY YEARS' SERVICE.

At Heptonstall, Yorks, on Sunday, Feb. 7th, to commemorate the completion of 50 years of faithful service by Mr. J. Robertshaw, and also to celebrate the renovation of the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from 'Shipway'), for afternoon service, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from 'The Clavis'), for evening service, in 47 mins.: W. Spencer 1, A. Ingham 2, J. Robertshaw 3, T. Robertshaw 4, J. A. Robertshaw 5, L. Greenwood 6, F. Robertshaw (conductor) 7, R. Nowell 8.

RINGING AT 81.

At St. Mary's Church, Eastbourne, in honour of the 81st birthday of Mr. T. Lewis, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: G. M. Hobbs 1, E. Gower 2, F. G. Waymark 3, C. Lewis 4, E. Bray 5, T. Lewis 6, B. Hobbs (conductor) 7, E. Savage 8. Also a 504 Stedman Triples.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY. SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT ROTHERHAM.

On Saturday, Feb. 6th, members of the above society, to the number of 50, from Anston, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Dore, Eckington, Handsforth, Norton, Raymarsh, Sheffield Cathedral, All Saints', St. Marie's and Rannmoor, Sheffield, Tickhill, Wath and Worksop, paid a visit to Rotherham. The very representative gathering took full advantage of the time the bells were available for ringing, from 2.30 to 8.30 p.m., some very good ringing from Bob Minor to London Surprise and Cambridge Royal showing that the 'hand' of the bell founder has made a great improvement on the original maiden peal of ten. Visitors were left to make their own arrangements for tea, with the result that the bells were continually kept going, and it is hoped that, where refreshment facilities are ample, other towers will follow the example of Rotherham.

Mr. G. Lewis (president of the society) occupied the chair at the business meeting, which was held in the spacious ringing chamber, and astounded the majority of those present when he announced the very sudden death of Mr. William Lomas, a much-respected member of the society, and whose connection with Sheffield Cathedral extended over 50 years.

It was decided to accept the invitation of St. Marie's to hold the annual meeting there in May, and, if possible, in conjunction with Sheffield Cathedral.

A review of certain alterations to the rules was given to the hon. secretary, confirmation of which will be sought at the annual meeting.

The members present unanimously agreed to accept the invitation of the Yorkshire Association (Southern Division) to hold a joint meeting in June in co-operation with the Barnsley and District and Doncaster and District Societies, and the place selected will be advertised in due course.

Rotherham, being easy of access, resulted in a very successful meeting, and a suitable vote of thanks was accorded for the very efficient arrangements made for ringing.

ODD AND EVEN PEALS OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. John Carter's letter in your recent issue regarding my five-part peal of Stedman is, to say the least, surprising. It is most remarkable, considering his knowledge of what has been done in the method, for him to now claim a composition which was published over 18 years ago.

Reference to the 'Bell News' of August 17th, 1907, will show that it contains the identical composition called by Mr. Hibbert, with some remarks beginning as follows: 'The following peal of Stedman Triples, although not a good one for ringing purposes will, I venture to believe, be of interest to all students of Stedman. Its most noticeable feature is that, although produced with forty singles only, the observation bell is undisturbed throughout, which quality has, I think, only been previously obtained on Mr. Lancashire's plan.'

Then there is a description of how the courses are built up with truth, and the various means of joining them.

This was passed without comment by the Exercise, and I know that Mr. Carter's attention was drawn to the peal by a mutual friend. One can hardly believe that I am now being asked to withdraw my name after this lapse of time.

Although the scope for composition with these courses is very limited, I should not think of claiming all the peals got from them, yet, according to Mr. Carter, all the peals he mentions as being in his book should be credited to me, and I am sure, realising the misapprehension under which he has written, he will be the first to acknowledge me as the discoverer of this plan.

It is pleasing to note that this plan helped Mr. Carter to get the odd and even peal with two singles. This is of entirely different construction, for it may be safely said that a peal of Stedman Triples with the 7th undisturbed and two singles only, has not been, and is never likely to be, discovered.—Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH W. PARKER.

NEWBURY RINGER'S DEATH.

At Newbury, Berks, on Saturday, January 23rd, the death took place of Mr. William A. Dormer, formerly of Reading. Deceased was a regular ringer at St. Nicholas' Church for the past six years. He died on Monday evening, January 25th, at the early age of 35 years. A touch of 350 Grandsire Triples was rung at Newbury by W. Adkins, jun., 1, C. Poole 2, C. Pearce 3, W. H. Dymont 4, E. Smith 5, E. Cracker 6, H. W. Curtis (conductor) 7, T. Thorne 8. The bells were rung fully muffled as a token of respect.

The funeral took place on Thursday, January 29th, at St. Giles', Reading, and the Newbury ringers again rang a 350 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by H. W. Curtis, with the bells half-muffled.

DEATH OF SHEFFIELD'S OLDEST RINGER.

LAST LINK SEVERED WITH DISTANT PAST.

Sheffield has suffered a profound loss by the death of its oldest ringer, in the person of William Lomas, which took place with dramatic suddenness on Friday, Feb. 5th, after a very brief illness.

Deceased was at his usual post and took part in the service ringing at the Cathedral on the previous Sunday, but, not feeling well the following day, he decided to have a few days' rest. He, however, was not confined to his bed until Thursday, when pneumonia set in, and the end came swiftly but peacefully the following morning.

The interment took place at Burngreave Cemetery on Wednesday, Feb. 10th, which would have been his 71st birthday.

The coffin was borne to the grave by six of his fellow ringers at the Cathedral (Messrs. J. Thorpe, H. Thorpe, F. Ward, S. F. Palmer, G. Holmes and J. Holman), and at the conclusion of the service a course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the graveside on the hand-bells by Messrs. C. Harrison, G. Lewis, P. Johnson and W. Bugar.

The service was conducted by the Rev. B. F. Sheppard, M. A. (precentor), hon. member of the Cathedral company, assisted by the Rev. W. F. Sykes, curate.

In addition to the family mourners and the members of the Cathedral company, there were also present Messrs. P. Johnson, hon. secretary of the Yorkshire Association; F. Willey, vice-president; G. Lewis, president of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Society; C. Harrison, hon. secretary; R. Harrison, H. Hurst (St. Marie's), W. Biggin, T. Lee (Norton), etc.

A large number of beautiful wreaths were sent by friends, including one from the Cathedral company, the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Society, and the employees of Messrs. W. Turner and Sons, with whom deceased had been employed for a great many years.

A peal of Sledman Cinques, with the bells half-muffled, was attempted in the evening, but owing to a miscall the bells were run round, after two hours' ringing.

Being of a somewhat retiring disposition, Mr. Lomas was never one of the great men in the limelight, and his great knowledge of ringing was not generally known to others than those with whom he came into immediate contact.

He was a member of the old school, being a grandson of the late William Booth, one of the pioneers of Sheffield ringing fame, whilst his father was also one of the old Sheffield stalwarts. The family connection with ringing dates back 120 years.

Although not an ardent peal ringer, he was a great advocate of Stedman Cinques, of which he had rung some thirty peals, many of which were his own composition.

Always a safe conductor, he followed the late Charles Henry Hattersley as leader of the Cathedral company, and it was not until quite recently that he was compelled, through advancing years, to give way to the younger generation.

In addition to his services as a ringer he was a staunch Churchman, and a devout attendant at the Sunday services.

Thus passes away the last link with the old founders of Sheffield ringing history, who, although gone, will never be forgotten.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL BAND'S SECRETARY.

RETIREMENT OF MR. A. A. ANDREWS.

Owing to advancing years, Mr. A. A. Andrews, of Canterbury, has given up the secretaryship of the Cathedral company, a position which he has held since 1882. Mr. Andrews is a native of Canterbury, having been born in St. Dunstan's parish in 1851, and has resided at his present address in New Street, St. Dunstan's, for 52 years. As a lad of 14 he was apprenticed to Mr. Henry Ovenden, builder of St. Dunstan's—he was already in the church choir—and as Mr. Ovenden was then secretary of the old Cathedral band of ringers, Mr. Andrews found among his early duties the care of the bells and ropes. He continued this work until 1869, when, through the death of Mr. Samuel White, a vacancy occurred in the Cathedral band, and he was enrolled as a regular member.

Mr. Andrews' record in connection with change ringing and church work generally is a remarkable one. He has taken part in the New Year peal in the belfry of Canterbury Cathedral for 53 years without a break, he has rung in the peals for the enthronement of four Archbishops—Taft, Benson, Temple and Davidson—and served under five Deans—Alford, Payne-Smith, Farrar, Wace and Bell. In addition, he has sung in St. Dunstan's Church choir for 60 years.

BIRTHDAY COMPLIMENT.

At Llangollen, Denbighshire, on Saturday, February 13th, Thursta's quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) was rung in 44 mins.: S. Meadows 1, E. V. Rodenhurst 2, T. Cathall 3, W. Cathall 4, W. S. Higginson 5, A. J. Hughes 6, T. R. Butler (conductor) 7, T. Davies 8. Rung for the North Wales Association as a compliment to Mr. Thomas Cathall, of Wrexham, on the eve of his 60th birthday, after a peal attempt had been unsuccessful, owing to an interruption.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

We regret that, owing to the demands upon the space available for Sunday Service Touches, we are unable to undertake to insert anything less than a quarter-peal on eight bells and upwards, and 720 of Doubles or Minor. Many correspondents send us quite short touches for publication and they must not be disappointed if we are unable to find room for them.

LONDON.—At St. Saviour's, Southwark, before evensong, on Sunday, February 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Walden (churchwarden) 1, H. Langdon 2, C. Bray 3, G. Radford 4, E. D. Lillywhite (conductor) 5, C. F. Winney 6, H. R. Newton 7, W. H. Seabrook 8. First quarter by the ringers of the 1st, 3rd and 4th.

PORTISHEAD.—On February 7th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: Miss B. Stadden (first quarter-peal) 1, Miss G. Stadden (first inside) 2, Miss Stokes 3, Miss A. Stokes (conductor) 4, J. Nisbet 5, — Colburn 6, W. Gillingham 7, J. Thomas 8.

SHREWSBURY.—On Sunday, January 24th, at St. Chad's Church (on the back eight), a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins., for evening service: J. Griffiths 1, J. E. Lilley 2, C. Leo 3, Jim Evans 4, W. B. Kynaston 5, R. R. Pole 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, John Evans 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. E. Lilley.

HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, January 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: C. J. Tricker, jun., 1, F. G. Goddard 2, W. F. Ellington 3, J. B. Kent 4, S. Stillwell 5, J. Milner (conductor) 6, C. J. Tricker, sen., 7, C. Gash 8.

FULHAM.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, January 10th, for evening service, 1,260 Bob Royal: J. W. Driver (conductor) 1, W. H. Wood 2, W. H. Hollier 3, R. Thompson 4, A. Cutmore 5, H. Belcher 6, F. Skerington 7, A. Harding 8, H. Folkard 9, A. W. Coles 10.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday, January 3rd, for morning service, at the Church of St. Leonard, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 minutes: H. W. Smith 1, Miss E. E. Harcastle 2, Miss E. Chapman 3, E. E. Bish 4, J. Lee 5, J. L. Watkin 6, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 7, S. Gardner 8.

MITCHAM.—On Sunday, Jan. 3rd, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Tourle 1, Miss E. Chapman 2, Miss E. Harcastle 3, Miss F. E. Orr (conductor) 4, S. King 5, A. Calver 6, W. S. Smith 7, J. Lott 8.

MUFFLED BELLS.

At Christ Church, Southgate, Middlesex, on Tuesday, January 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes), in 58 mins.: A. R. Glascock 1, E. G. Tomlinson 2, N. A. Tomlinson 3, D. Link 4, H. J. Eldred 5, J. E. Miller 6, S. Wade 7, H. Miller 8, J. Armstrong (conductor) 9, A. G. Crane 10. This was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to Miss Dorothy Ethel Barker, interred at Southgate on this date, who was one of the donors of the two trebles added to the peal at Southgate in the year 1920. She was the daughter of the late churchwarden, Mr. A. R. Barker.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

OVER, CAMBS.—On Monday, February 1st, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob: C. Robinson 1, W. Ginn, jun., (first inside) 2, B. Wayman 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6. — On Monday, February 8th, a 720 Cambridge Surprise: W. Ginn 1, F. C. Ginn 2, B. Wayman 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6. This is the first 720 in a Surprise method by the Over society, on the bells, and by the ringers of the 1st, 3rd and 5th.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD.—On February 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins.: S. Polthwick 1, R. Hicks 2, E. Pardon (conductor) 3, H. Hill 4, B. Phillips 5, C. Robins 6, F. Davis 7, W. Richings 8. Tenor 30 cwt. First quarter by ringers of 1st, 2nd, 6th, and first quarter as conductor. All the above belong to the Stow band of ringers except B. Phillips, of Bourton-on-the-Water.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—On Friday evening, February 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original was rung at the Parish Church (St. John's): J. Blackmore 1, W. Popham 2, L. Tanner 3, J. R. Jones 4, H. Minifie 5, E. Parker (conductor) 6, W. Pittman 7, F. Stuckey 8.

BRAUGHING, HERTS.—On Wednesday, Feb. 3rd, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,344 changes), in 55 mins.: A. Drage 1, H. Drage 2, A. Clark 3, W. Clemence 4, H. Wright 5, A. Barley (first quarter-peal with a bob bell) 6, W. Smith 7, W. K. North (conductor) 8. First quarter in the method by all.

FULMER, BUCKS.—On Monday, January 25th, 720 of London Surprise Minor: J. Harrison 1, Miss P. Moss 2, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 3, F. Corke 4, H. Wingrove 5, C. C. Mayne 6. The first 720 in the method by all, also believed to be the first rung in South Bucks.

NOTICES.

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

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, Commercial Road, Woking.

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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 38th Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 6th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2/-, to other members and friends, 6/6 each. Every full member should be clear on the books not later than Saturday, February 27th. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3 to 5 o'clock, the Cathedral (10) from 4 to 5.30.—A. Paddon Smith, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. James', Waterfoot, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) ready at 3.30. Meeting at 7. Subscriptions are now due; reports to hand.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Nelson, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Hon. Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Standish Parish Church, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells available from 3 o'clock, meeting at 5.30. A good attendance requested.—James Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Vale of White Horse Branch.—A meeting will be held at Stanford-in-the-Vale on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Service 3.30, followed by tea and meeting. Ringing before and after meeting.—G. A. Webley, Hon. Sec., Southampton Street, Faringdon.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Measham, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells available from 2.30. Requests for tea (1/- per head) to be sent to the Rev. J. R. King, Measham Vicarage, as early as possible. All ringers welcome.—R. H. Dove, Hon. Dist. Sec., 128, Station Street, Burton-on-Trent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea, provided by the Vicar, at 5.15, at the Corner House.—A. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Bromyard.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at Angmering, on Saturday, February 20th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea 5 o'clock, kindly provided by the Vicar and Churchwardens.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not made 20 attendances in the past year to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st (6 p.m.), for service; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Dunster, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Towers open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.45. Tea in the Memorial Hall at 5 p.m., business meeting to follow.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., Park Street, Minehead.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. Subscriptions are now due.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dist. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at Kelvedon, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. The bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. The ringers' service will be held in the church at 4.15 p.m., tea and meeting afterwards. Members are reminded that their subscriptions for 1926 are now due. A hearty welcome given to all ringers.—W. H. Dyson, Dist. Sec., High Street, Braintree, Essex.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford, on Feb. 27th, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be open for ringing: All Saints' before tea, both after. Service at 5, address by the Vicar of All Saints'. Tea at Farrow's Restaurant, Fore Street, 1/-, business after. All will be heartily welcomed, members or otherwise.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—A meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27th, at St. Alkmund's Church, Derby. Bells available 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. Draper, Local Sec., 25, Western Road, Derby.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Kingsdown, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and short business meeting.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 10, Lilymead Avenue, Knowle, Bristol.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Sandiacre on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Tower open 2.30. Tea 1s. 3d. each. Will those requiring tea advise Mr. J. Hall, 19, Steven's Road, Sandiacre, by Feb. 25th? All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting will be held at Hythe on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Subscriptions can be paid after meeting.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges' Road, Ashford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Eaton Socon on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Next quarterly meeting at Freshwater, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., provided by the President in Parish Hall for those who notify me before Tuesday, 23rd.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dist. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.W.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Sapcote on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea will be provided. A good meeting is hoped for. All friends are welcome.—W. Cope, Local Hon. Sec., Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) ready early. Tea only provided for those who notify me before the 24th inst.—Harold Walker, Hon. Sec., 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Berkeley on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. G. Phillips, Branch Hon. Sec., Lynch, Berkeley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Forest Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Lydney, on Feb. 27th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. till 9 p.m. Tea at 4.30 at the Feathers Hotel, Lydney. All ringers who intend to be present must let the Hon. Sec. know by Thursday, Feb. 25th, at the latest.—Oliver Thomas, 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Gloucestershire.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—A meeting will be held at All Souls' Church (not St. John's, Farnworth), on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Upper Street, Islington, on Saturday, March 6th. Bells available from 3 to 8 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Tea at the Holly Bush Hotel at 6 p.m., usual terms to those who advise me by March 3rd.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E. 17.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, March 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Two framed peal cards will be unveiled at 6.30 p.m. Business meeting after unveiling. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand. A good attendance is requested. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Tormorden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—In accordance with Rule 7, all nominations for general hon. officers, viz., president, treasurer, secretary, must reach me on or before March 8th.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

RIPON.—At the Cathedral, on Monday, January 25th, on the occasion of the enthronement of Dr. Edward Arthur Burroughs as Bishop of Ripon, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by members of the Cleveland and N. Yorkshire Association. T. Inglesby 1, J. Langshaw 2, E. Metcalfe 3, W. Dixon 4, F. Tingle 5, R. Duffield 6, T. Metcalfe (conductor) 7, J. Humbold 8.

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SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO CARDIFF RINGER.

Ringers generally, and those who have visited Cardiff in particular, will regret to hear that Mr. Fred Chamberlain, the popular leader of St. John's ringers, has met with a serious accident, and is now lying in Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Whilst following his employment he was knocked over on the railway by a train, the engine and coaches of which all passed over him. His injuries are to the head, a dislocated shoulder, a smashed front portion of foot, the toes of which have already been amputated. He is, however, progressing as favourably as can be expected.

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