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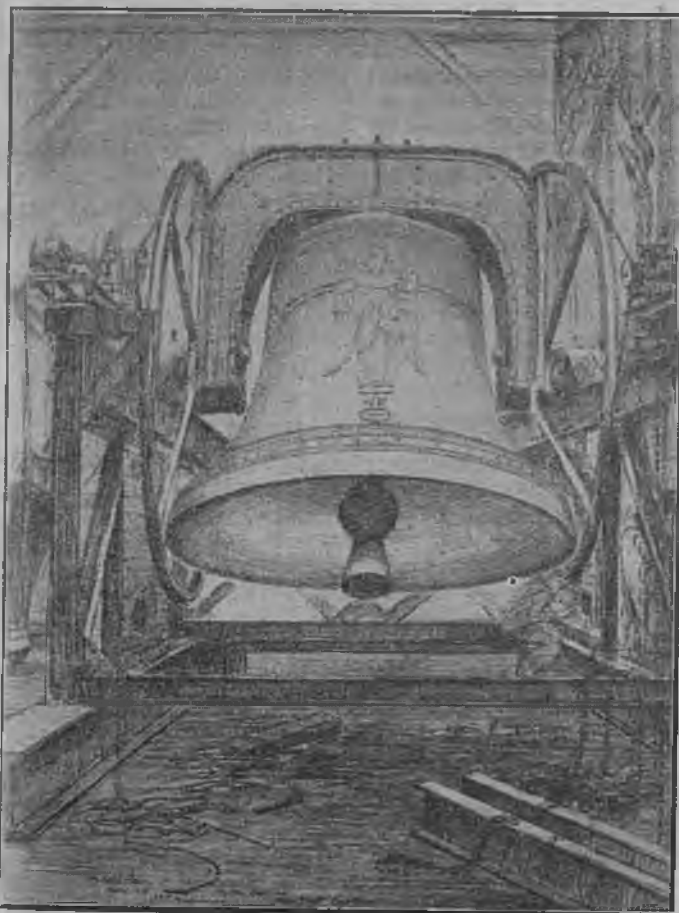
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AN IMPORTANT SUBJECT.

It is not surprising that the issue raised by our articles on the subject of five and six bell peals should have provoked both interest and discussion. The matter is important to all ringers, especially to those large numbers whose operations are almost entirely confined to ringing Doubles and Minor. It is only natural, in debating a question of this kind that many sides of the subject should be ventilated, and it is well that even at this late day—there were three months in which it might have been done between the publication and the adoption by the Council of the definitions which are now under review—all the phases of the matter should be discussed. In the digressions which have occurred, however, there is risk of the main issue being lost sight of. What the Exercise, through the Central Council, has got to decide is whether in the 'practical conditions required for peals' it is going to ask that the six-scores of Doubles and the 720's of Minor which go to the making up of a 'peal' shall each be true in themselves; that is, that in each the bells shall strike in all the possible orders before beginning the next extent. Mr. J. W. Parker, who is one of our greatest authorities, put the matter clearly and concisely in his letter last week, and the Exercise has to choose between peals in this form and peals in which any number of changes may be repeated (to the exclusion of an equal number of others) in any 120 or 720.

The present discussion originated from our remarks concerning Mr. Leslie Morris' arrangement of Doubles, which, we hold, are excluded from peals by the terms of the resolution passed by the Council. What happens in this 'arrangement' of Doubles is, in effect, that forty changes are rung and repeated, then forty others are rung and repeated, and, lastly, the remaining forty are rung and repeated. That is a totally different thing, if Mr. Morris will permit us to say so, to Mr. Pitman's arrangement, in which the bells strike in 120 different orders before beginning the next six-score, or to the Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in which the whole 720 different orders are gone through before the next 720 is begun. The Rev. H. Drake, in our last issue, tried to draw an analogy with two consecutive peals of Triples. We are quite sure that no one would hold that a band had rung two true peals of Triples if they rang a 1680 and repeated it, rang a different 1680 and repeated it and then a third different 1680 and repeated it. Yet this is what, in principle, the Exercise is urged to do, when it is asked to recognise Mr. Morris' arrangement of Doubles.

(Continued on page 818.)

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As to the definitions as they at present stand on the minute book of the Council, it is possibly arguable that they do not strictly cover either Pitman's or James' arrangements, viewed from the scientific construction of them. But the definitions with which the Council dealt at Hereford are set out under the heading of 'Practical ringing,' as distinct from the heading of 'The Science of ringing,' and are not therefore concerned with such matters as Q-sets and any niceties of distinction in the interpretation of the word 'changes.' Practical ringers look upon a 'change' as the order in which the bells strike in a particular row. Whether that view of the word is right or wrong scientifically, the ordinary man in the belfry means the actual order of the bells themselves and not the means of arriving at that order. Therefore, when he speaks of 720 changes on six bells, he means striking the bells in all the permutations possible. It is on the plain facts of practical ringing that this question, now reopened, has got to be settled, and it is for the ringers themselves to say, through their Central organisation, whether they desire that peals of Doubles and Minor shall be true in the various extents which go to make up the whole, or will be satisfied with something that would not be tolerated on higher numbers to meet the whim of any composer who happens upon some freak composition.

TEN BELL PEAL.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

*RONALD G. BECK Treble	JOSEPH T. DYKE 6
ALFRED E. REEVES 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT 7
MRS. R. J. WILKINS 3	WILLIAM A. CAVE 8
HENRY PRING 4	*SAMUEL J. HECTOR 9
ALBERT STOWELL 5	JOHN A. BURFORD Tenor

Composed by J. A. BURFORD. Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

* First peal of Cambridge Royal. Rung as a birthday compliment to the composer and the conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

WILLIAM COLLETT Treble	JACK HONEY 5
ALBERT E. LOCK 2	JOHN NOBES 6
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK 3	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 7
RICHARD POST 4	GORDON CAUDWELL Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by FRANCIS E. TAYLOR

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LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 18, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

JAMES S. HUTCHRY Treble	ERNEST CARTWRIGHT 5
DAVID S. COLLINS 2	JACK TOWELL 6
HARRY WHITTLE 3	JOHN SADDINGTON 7
CLARENCE BOLLARD 4	F. HORACE E. STUBBS ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by HARRY WHITTLE.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 18, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ERNEST CUTSFORD Treble	JOHN POTTER 5
GEORGE PINCOTT 2	WILLIAM PENNINGTON 6
SAMUEL JONES 3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY 7
TITOS BARLOW 4	JOHN NUTTALL Tenor

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 18, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE
AND LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE Treble	GEORGE R. PYE 5
*CHARLES T. COLES 2	JAMES BENNETT 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	HARRY KILBY 7
†ALBERT W. COLES 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by the Rev. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE

* 600th peal. † First Spliced peal. This composition contains 3,072 London, 576 Bristol, 608 Cambridge, 608 Superlative, and 320 Lincolnshire. It is the first peal rung in five Surprise Major methods, and it was accomplished at the first attempt. The Cambridge and Superlative were rung, as far as possible, in alternate courses.

MILFORD-ON-SEA, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1928, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES,

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILFRED ANDREWS (Central Committee) Treble	
*HARRY BARTON (Central Council Rep.) 2	
GEORGE PULLINGER (General Secretary) 3	
FREDERICK A. BURNETT (Central Committee) 4	
GEORGE PRESTON (District Secretary) 5	
WILLIAM T. TUCKER (District Secretary) 6	
EDWIN J. HARDING (Ex. District Secretary) 7	
GEORGE WILLIAMS (Master) Tenor	

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* 200th peal. This is the first peal on the bells, which were dedicated and opened on October 30th last. The two trebles were given by the Guild to the memory of their late vice-president, the Rev. C. E. Matthews. It was intended to be rung as an officers' peal, but Mr. Harding was called in at the last minute and filled the place of Mr. F. W. Rogers, who was unwell.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 21, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 5
CHARLES W. ROBERTS 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 6
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. ... 3	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

Rung on the occasion of the golden wedding of the parents of Mr. H. E. Audsley.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1928, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

MRS. C. H. HAZLEDEN Treble	JACK M. CRIPPS 5
FRANK BENNETT 2	ALFRED J. BULL 6
CHARLES H. HAZLEDEN 3	WALTER CHARMAN 7
KENNETH SNELLING 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

This composition contains 4-5-6 their full combination in 5-6 without the 3rd in 6th's or 2nd in 5-6.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1928, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Nicholas,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 12 lb. in D.

ARTHUR C. OTWAY Treble	GEORGE MARRINER 5
JOHN BEAMS 2	JOHN H. WHITE 6
ALFRED H. WINCH 3	ALBERT HARMAN 7
GEORGE A. COOKE 4	ARTHUR DEAN Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by A. H. WINCH.

Rung as a birthday compliment to A. C. Otway. First peal of Oxford by all except ringers of 7 and 8, and first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major by the Guild. The last peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major on these bells was on September 17th, 1829. On that occasion the band were all local.

SIX BELL PEAL.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's differently arranged. Tenor 7 cwt. in A flat.

CHARLES JENNINGS Treble	*FRANK HARPER 4
MISS KITTY WILLERS 2	EDWARD H. FINCH 5
*JOHN W. WARD 3	ALBERT E. AUSTIN Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. AUSTIN.

First peal in the method.

HANDBELL PEAL.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 18, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At 81, BEECH ROAD.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 12 in F.

HAROLD JACKSON 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY
FREDERICK PAGE 3-4	ALFRED BARNES 7-8

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

First peal of Stedman Triples in hand in the county and by the Guild.

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AN ABRIDGED SYSTEM OF PROOF.

BY 'MINORMANIA.'

[The following is the first portion of a short treatise on Method Proving, a subject thoroughly understood at present by comparatively few. A close study of these articles should help many more ringers to an understanding of this advanced side of the science.]

That it is a little away from the beaten track, is the only excuse I can offer for submitting an article which is likely to appeal to a limited number of readers. In extenuation, it might be noted that it follows what I have already written on the subject in 'A Beginner's Theory,' which was published in this journal during 1927, and it may, perhaps, be of some little use to those, who, in ever-growing numbers, are interested in methods, their construction, extension and proof.

THE ORTHODOX SYSTEM.

I should like first to review the system of proving methods (for peals with 'tenors together') upon which I enlarged in the articles mentioned. It is the shortest system at present practised that I have been able to trace, except that Mr. G. Baker has explained his method of dealing with operation (b). He uses a 'proving value' row for transposition purposes, as explained in his article on 'Reciprocal Proof' of September last, which does away with the collation of the rows. It is quicker and better than the old way, if not quite so apparent, but I wish to concentrate upon this collation for a reason which will appear. The orthodox operations, briefly, are these:—

(a) The rows of the first lead are marked 'even' and 'odd.'

(b) Rows of like nature (both odd, or both even), with the treble in the same place therein, are transposed back to rounds, two false heads resulting from every pair of rows so treated. The sum is a certain number of lead-heads, which are false against the first lead-head of the plain course—rounds. (See 'Proof' of October 28th, 1927.)

(c) These false heads are then examined for coursing bells in plain coursing positions. If there is none in a head it is ignored; if any has this peculiarity, it denotes that a 'tenors-together' false head will appear somewhere within the plain course. (See 'Coursing Order' of December 9th, 1927.)

(d) The lead-head of the plain course, which has the tenors in the positions indicated by the numbers of the 'coursing pair' in the false head, is then transposed by the false head. The result is a 'tenors-together' false head, and it is false against that particular lead (of the plain course) which has the tenors in the indicated places in its head. (See 'Coursing Order' of December 9th, 1927.)

(e) Having produced all of these tenors-together false heads, we proceed to turn them into false course heads (or course 'ends'). This is done by transposing the false head by a particular plain course lead-head (see 'Proving' of November 11th, 1927), and it is based upon the fact that any plain course lead-head can be brought 'round,' or to its course 'end,' if it is transposed by a certain particular one of its fellows.

We are then equipped with a 'proof scale' of our method, for application to peals with the tenors together.

Operations (a) and (c) are absolutely necessary before we can decide if a method has any false course ends, but one is inclined to feel cheated, after having produced at least sixteen false heads from sixteen rows under operation (b), if the method turns out a 'clean proof scale,' such as Bristol, Dublin, and others; or when all of the 'sections' except one are 'clean,' as is so often the case.

It is the purpose of this article to explain how these operations may be shuffled and condensed, with a view to cutting out any unnecessary work, and the abridged system may briefly be summarised thus:—

(A) Mark the rows of the first lead even and odd. This is (a), but reduced to the half lead in certain circumstances.

(B) Collate the rows and search for coursing pairs in plain coursing positions therein, ignoring those rows where they are not. This is (c) in an easier form, because the coursing bells should 'jump to the eye.' And, provided the half-section is symmetrical, only one pair of rows need be dealt with in the whole of that section. If the half-section is asymmetrical, two pairs should be sufficient to prove whether the section has a clean proof scale.

(C) Transpose those rows, which have bells in plain course positions, 'back' to a certain row (to be determined), instead of back to rounds in the orthodox way. This is the necessary part only of (b), cutting out all 'clean' sections, and embodying (e) in the one transposition.

(D) By the resultant rows (from the above) transpose certain plain course lead-heads (to be determined), and the false course ends are the results. This is a revision of (d).

When it is recalled that all regular methods have the same lead-heads in the plain course, we shall realise that standard tables may be applied to B. C. and D.

THE RELATIONSHIP OF ROWS.

Before enlarging upon these operations, I should like to examine the construction of a Treble Bob Major method, with particular reference to the relationship of the rows one to another, and the relationship held, each to the other, by the false heads which result from two rows. Rounds will be the lead-head (row No. 1), and row No. 32 (the hand stroke of the treble's whole pull at lead) will be the lead 'end'—

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

Nature.	Row No.	First (upper) half.	Second (lower) half.	Row No.	Nature
+	1.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 4 6 2 8 3 7 5	32.	—
—	2.	2 1(3)5 4 7 6(8)	4 1(6)8 2 7 3(5)	31.	+
—	3.	1 2 5 3 7 4 8 6	1 4 8 6 7 2 5 3	30.	+
+	4.	2 1(5)7 3 8 4(6)	4 1(3)7 6 5 2(3)	29.	—
—	5.	(2)5 1(7)8 3 6 4	(4)8 1(7)5 6 3 2	28.	+
—	6.	5 2 7 1 3 8 4 6	8 4 7 1 6 5 2 3	27.	+
+	7.	(5)2 1 7 8 3 6 4	(8)4 1 7 5 6 3 2	26.	—
+	8.	2 5 7 1 3 8 4 6	4 8 7 1 6 5 2 3	25.	—
—	9.	5 2(7)3 1 4 8(6)	8 4(7)6 1 2 5(3)	24.	+
+	10.	(5)7 2(3)4 1 6 8	(8)7 4(6)2 1 3 5	23.	—
+	11.	7 5 3 2 1 4 8 6	7 8 6 4 1 2 5 3	22.	—
—	12.	(7)3 5(2)4 1 6 8	(7)6 8(4)2 1 3 5	21.	+
+	13.	3 7 2 5(4)6 1(8)	6 7 4 8(2)3 1(5)	20.	—
—	14.	(3)2 7 4 5(6)8 1	(6)4 7 2 8(3)5 1	19.	+
—	15.	2 3 4 7 6 5 1 8	4 6 2 7 3 8 1 5	18.	+
+	16.	(2)4 3 6 7(5)8 1	(4)2 6 3 7(8)5 1	17.	—

If we divide a symmetrical method between rows 16-17, reverse the lower half and write them side by side, we shall find, working downwards in the halves, that the pairs changing from row to row (or, alternatively, the places made) are exactly similar. The bells which 'make places' are bracketed in the above example. This causes every row in the lower half to bear, to the lead 'end,' exactly the same relationship that is borne by the corresponding row (in the upper half) to the lead 'head.' In another way, the rows of the halves are identical, except that the bell numbers in the rows of one are replaced by the different numbers which comprise the row that heads the other half, i.e., the '4' (at 14628375) replacing the '2' (at 12345678) causes the '4' to appear in the rows of one half, wherever the '2' appears in corresponding rows of the other. And, naturally, vice versa.

Further, each row of the first half bears, to the lead-end, the same relationship as the corresponding row (of the second half) bears to the lead-head. This means that the lead-end, transposed by any row in the first half, will result in the corresponding row of the second half. And, similarly, but not quite so apparently, vice versa.

The corresponding rows of the halves being similarly related to both lead-head and lead-end, it follows that any two rows within the lead will bear, each to the other, the same relationship as the remaining pair of corresponding rows, whether two be chosen from the same half, or one from each half. In the 'straightforward' example below (rows taken from the same halves) the similarity of transposition is made apparent by the bracketed pair of bells which, change, the remainder in both pairs of rows lying still:—

Row.	First Half.	Row.	Second Half.
5.	2 5 1 7 8 3 6 4	28.	4 8 1 7 5 6 3 2
7.	(5)2 1 7 8 3 6 4	26.	(8)4 1 7 5 6 3 2

The 'cross' examples which follow (rows taken from opposite halves) will be quite clear if the bells, one above another, in the paired rows are observed, e.g., in rows 5-28 we have the '2' above the '4,' the '5' above the '8,' etc., and in rows 7-26 the same bells, still one above another, appear in different positions in the rows:—

Rows.	Rows.
5. 7. 25178364 52178364	5. 7. 25178364 52178364
28. 26. 48175632 84175632	26. 28. 84175632 48175632

Let us now agree upon what is done when we transpose 'back' to the lead-head. (For convenience, I shall use the term transpose 'back' upon occasion when properly it should be 'forward,' but it will save confusion if 'back' is standard to the operation which follows.) We take two rows of like nature, both odd, from the section with the treble in 5/6 in our London Major example, and transpose them both back to the lead-head (rounds):—

Row.	Row.
9. 5.2.7.3.1.4.8.6.	First read in the top row the separate figures of rounds, and in 'rounds order' (1-2-3-4-5-6-7 and 8), and under them, in row 22 and in the same order, we find these figures: 1-8-4-2-7-3-6-5.
22. 7.8.6.4.1.2.5.3.	Now reverse this, by

reading rounds in the bottom row, and above the figures we find 1-4-6-3-8-7-5-2. Then (1) 18427365 and (2) 14638752 are the resultant false heads, when this pair of like nature rows have been transposed back to their lead-head (rounds).

Here let me define two terms which, for want of better, I shall use. The 'HIDDEN FACTOR' is the row (be it rounds, another lead-head, or lead-end) to which we transpose 'back' a pair of rows; i.e., the figures we read in row 9 ('rounds' in this particular instance) to produce the false head in row 22 (18427365). Rounds, then, is the 'Hidden Factor' when transposing 'back' rows 9-22, and, oppositely, of course, in rows 22-9. The 'RESULTANT' is the row produced by the application of the 'Hidden Factor.' The Hidden Factor (rounds here) being applied to row 22, has given 14638752 from row 9 as the 'resultant.'

Now observe the relationship existing between the two false heads. Read, in 18427365, the positions occupied therein by rounds. You will find the figures 1-2-3-4-5-6-7 and 8 in these positions: 1-4-6-3-8-7-5 and 2; and 14638752 is the formation of the other false head. Reverse the procedure and we find that, in 14638752, rounds occupy the

positions of 18427365. It will be seen that, when related to the common factor of rounds, each false head produces the other. The row resulting from this observation of the positions held by rounds in another row, is what Mr. G. Baker terms the 'PROVING VALUE,' a term which I shall adopt herein. Thus, row 14638752 is the 'proving value' of row 18427365.

Now take the other pair of like nature rows with the treble in fifth's place:—

On the same lines as the example of rows 9-22, we get (3) 16724385 and (4) 14658237 as the false heads, and, again, the 'proving value' of each results in the other.

Then make a 'cross collation' (rows of opposite natures), but transpose them 'back' to the lead-end by using 1-4-6-2-8-3-7 and 5 as the Hidden Factor, instead of rounds as we did before, and the same four false heads will result:—

Rows. 9. — 52731486 Rows. 22. — 78641253
11. + 75321486 24. + 84761253

From the first pair we get false heads (4) 14658237 and (2) 14638752, and in the second case (3) 16724385 and (1) 18427365 are the resultants.

We have observed that heads 1-2 and 3-4 are related to each other by the positions held therein by rounds (i.e., by their proving values), but 1-3 and 2-4 also are related, in a similar but more complex way, by the positions held therein by the lead-end.

The foregoing means that all of the false heads relating to the first lead may be obtained from the rows of the first half, and without reference to the lower half of the lead other than to the lead-end row. If the pair of rows in the first half are of opposite natures (one odd and one even), transpose back with the lead-end as the Hidden Factor, as in rows 9-11 above. False heads (4) and (2) will result, and the proving value of these two heads will result in the remainder—(3) and (1).

But if the method is 'unorthodox' (I have copied the term) and produces rows of like nature, with the treble in the same place, in the first half (this is with particular reference to Major methods), the procedure is exactly reversed. The rows are transposed back with the lead-head (rounds) as the Hidden Factor, as we did with rows 9-22, and two of the necessary false heads will result. The remaining two will come from a 'proving value,' but with this difference: This 'proving value' must not be the result of reading the positions occupied by rounds (its usual form), but must come from the positions occupied, in the false heads, by the lead-end. This will not be at all apparent, a double transposition (as it were) being involved, because, in the lead-end row (14628375) the bell numbers, and the positions they occupy therein, do not coincide as they do at rounds. I shall not labour this here, as all of the foregoing is beside the actual point.

I have dealt with this subject rather fully, although it may seem irrelevant, because I wish to emphasise these points: (1) That the eight rows which comprise each section (four in each half with the treble in 1/2, 3/4, 5/8 and 7/8) are very closely related one to another. (2) That this relationship is bound on the one hand by the lead-head, and on the other by the lead-end. (3) That, within limits which will appear and which partly have to do with the symmetry of the half-sections, any one pair of rows is typical of the whole section, once we have taken into account the transposition of the bell numbers from the lead-head to lead-end.

THE ABRIDGED SYSTEM.

OPERATION A.—The rows are marked even and odd, and it will depend entirely upon the reader as to whether he uses the whole or part of the lead. In certain circumstances only the half-lead is necessary, but some may prefer to deal only with rows of like nature, thus avoiding the lead-end transpositions which are necessary when dealing with rows of opposite natures. I shall deal with examples of full lead practice (rows of like nature), the easier way, and shall briefly touch upon the other method at the end.

OPERATION B.—Collate two rows, with the treble in the same place, from each section. (If the whole lead is used the rows must be of like nature, but if the half-lead only is used they may be of like or opposite natures—according to the method.) Then search for 'coursing pairs' of bells in plain coursing positions therein.

In an article on 'Coursing Order' of December 2nd, 1927, I enlarged upon the subject of coursing pairs appearing in fixed positions in the lead-heads of the plain course. Briefly, a summary which is standard to the plain course of all regular methods is thus:—

The 'POSITIONAL PAIRS' given below (i.e., pairs of places within any plain course lead-head) will be occupied, at one or another of the lead-heads of the plain course, by the 'COURSING PAIRS' of bells which are appended. It will be observed that the actual 'positional pairs' of Block Y are also 'coursing pairs' (the right way) in the same block, and (the wrong way) in Block Z. Similarly, the 'positional pairs' of Z are also 'coursing pairs' in Z, where they are the right way, but to be 'coursing pairs' in Y they must be reversed therein.

	Block 'Y'	Block 'Z'
Positional pairs of L.H. 12345678	2/3, 3/5, 5/7, 7/8.	2/4, 4/6, 6, 8.
Coursing pairs to be found therein	23, 35, 57, 78 42, 64, 86	24, 46, 68 32, 58, 75, 87

Then, rows of like nature being transposed back to the lead-head, if any coursing pair is found to be in similar positions to any positional pair in the two rows, we have, therein, bells which will be in 'plain coursing order' in the resultants. They are traced in this way:—

Observe, in row 5, the positional pairs (first 2/3, then 3/5, etc., and finally 6/8), at the same time

looking for any coursing pair (belonging to the same block) which may appear, in row 26, immediately under the positional pair being examined. The 2/3 in row 5 have, in row 26, the '86' under them. This, then, is one combination—'86 in 2/3.' The 3/5 have '64' under: another combination, '64 in 3/5.' But 5/7 have 47 under, and 47 are not a coursing pair. Then 7/8 have 75 under, but 75 should be 57 in order to be a coursing pair in the 7/8 Block (Y). The 2/4 have 82, which are not a coursing pair; 4/6 have 23, which are the wrong way for Block Z; and 6/8 have 35, which again are the wrong way for this Block.

Then, from the downward treatment of this pair of rows, we have two combinations of coursing pairs in plain course positions—'86 in 2/3, and 64 in 3/5.' The rows should now be treated in a reverse manner, i.e., positional pairs in row 26, giving coursing pairs in row 5; but when we remember that, in Blocks Y and Z, the positional and coursing pairs are interchangeable, this appears to be unnecessary. Having established that, downwards, the rows give 86 in 2/3, it is obvious that 8/6 below have 23 over; and, reversing both, we get 32 in 6/8 as a combination belonging to Block Z. Incidentally, once we have established that a coursing pair is the right way in a positional pair, and have formed a proper combination, it does not matter in the least how we write the combination itself. We may call it '23 in 6/8,' '32 in 8/6,' '23 in 8/6,' and so on, because our aim is a 'tenors-together' false head. Neither tenors nor positions can be wrong when the tenors are kept 'together,' or in 'plain coursing order'; so that, provided care is taken, in the downward treatment, to see that coursing pairs are 'right' in the positional places, and so long as the combination itself is not reversed, the actual figures of the pairs in the combination may be standardised to read all the same way.

Properly we have 86 in 2/3 and 64 in 3/5 from the downward, and (the reverse of these) 32 in 6/8 and 53 in 4/6 from the upward treatment.

I prefer to read them 'all the same way' (using for my standard the positional pairs) by reversing the figures which comprise the pairs where necessary, thus: (1) 68 in 2/3; (2) 46 in 3/5; (3) 23 in 6/8; and (4) 35 in 4/6. It is easier for the later stages, and the tenors cannot be wrong, but this revision must not take place until after the downward combinations are established.

(To be continued.)

CEFN COED BELLS RESTORED.

The dedication and reopening of the bells at St. John-the-Baptist's Church, Cefn Coed, South Wales, took place on Saturday, December 15th, when the following clergy took part: Ven. H. J. Church Jones (Archdeacon of Brecon), Rev. Lewis Davies, B.A. (Vicar of Cefn Coed), Rev. W. G. Wilkinson, M.A. (diocesan missionary), and Mr. J. Gould, L.L.R., Cefn Coed. The dedication was performed by the Ven. Archdeacon of Brecon, after which ringing on the bells took place for ten minutes by the St. John's Church ringers, assisted by Mr. S. Pannell, Merthyr Parish Church.

The service was then continued, and the sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Brecon, who took for his text 2 Chron. xxix. 27, and explained to a large congregation the objects of church bells. He said he hoped they would be the means of cheering the inhabitants of the parish of Cefn Coed in the industrial depression under which they were now suffering. The Ven. Archdeacon also spoke of the duty of bellringers as one of self-sacrifice and one of the noblest in church worship.

After the service, several visiting ringers attended. Owing to an unfortunate mistake, the service was advertised in 'The Ringing World' to commence at 3 o'clock, whereas the appointed time was 2.30 p.m., hence the visitors arrived late for the proceedings.

The incumbent (Rev. Lewis Davies) and churchwardens provided an excellent spread at the Church Hall for the visiting local ringers. The tables were in charge of Mrs. Davies and the Misses Davies, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. E. W. J. Read, Mrs. J. Gould, Mrs. J. Jenkins, Miss Mann, Miss Gough, and the caretaker (Mr. Isaac Reed) and Mrs. Reed.

The Ven. Archdeacon afterwards thanked the ladies for the good things provided, and expressed his pleasure that the kind invitation had been extended to him to perform the dedication ceremony. The bells were as nice a set as he had heard.

The Rev. Lewis Davies and Capt. J. F. Thomas, churchwarden, also spoke of the excellent work which had been done. Capt. Freeborn, representing Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, the founders who had returned and rehung the bells, acknowledged the compliments paid to his firm.

After the usual votes of thanks, the ringers returned to the belfry, and Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob Minor and Oxford Bob Minor were rung, conducted by Messrs. J. Coles (Merthyr), T. F. Raikham (Llanelli, Breconshire), W. Horsington (Abergavenny), Capt. Freeborn (Credenney), Messrs. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), and A. Hunt (Cefn Coed).

Ringing continued till late in the evening.

HISTORY TOLD IN BELL INSCRIPTIONS BIRMINGHAM RECTOR'S BROADCAST SERMON.

The address which was given by the Rector of Birmingham (Canon Guy Rogers) at the broadcast service at St. Martin's Parish Church on the occasion of the opening of the new ring of bells, has been widely commented on, and will, we are sure, be read with interest by those of our readers who did not hear it over the ether.

'We are celebrating to-day,' said the Rector, 'the return to the tower of St. Martin's, Birmingham, the twelve bells which have been recast at the famous Whitechapel Foundry. We were very lonely without them, and we welcome them back on behalf of the City of Birmingham after the fiery trial through which they have passed. If any of you have ever seen the recasting of a bell you will agree with me about the fiery trial. The old bell, broken up with hammers into small pieces, goes into a furnace, which reminds you of the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and comes out after many hours as a stream of liquid fire. Then it passes into the mould prepared for it, and after some days, when it has become rigid and cooled down, it comes out like one risen from the dead to a life of renewed usefulness and beauty. There is an inscription on the trable bell at Brixton, in the Isle of Wight, which actually records this fact, and in quaint language preaches a little sermon on it. It runs as follows:—

"In the year 1740, John Lord caused me to be fabricated in Portsmouth and placed in this tower. Sixty years I led the peal, then I was unfortunately broken. In the year 1800 I was cast in the furnace, refounded in London, and returned to my former station. Reader, thou also shalt know a resurrection: may it be unto eternal life."

'You must not think that all inscriptions on bells are as moral as this or contain as good a parable. In mediæval times, it is true, they were usually, in the strict sense of the word, religious. The form the inscription took was generally like this: "Pray for the soul of Robert Brittenham," as at Norwich Cathedral, or "Jesu, in honour of Thee, Sir John Sturmius had me made," as at Long Stratton, Norfolk. But with the Reformation, the history of inscriptions enters on a more varied, more human, and, I am afraid, a much less religious phase. There is, perhaps, more amusement than religious profit to be found, and more knowledge of human nature than knowledge of God, from these inscriptions.

'But for all that many of them are delightfully quaint, and if you have the human touch you will appreciate them. It is quite evident, for example, that beer and bellringing went very closely together, to judge from the inscription at Walsgrave, Warwickshire: "Ring tunably, and you shall have as much beer as is good for you." A certain note of vindictiveness is to be found in the inscription at Fising, Norfolk: "Cursed be all Church Robbers." Evidently, some very unpleasant experience prompted this short communion service.

'The stubborn attachment of the mass of the English people to the middle way of religion, as distinguished from Roman Catholicism and Nonconformity, comes out sometimes in most uncomplimentary, and even libellous, language, as in that inscription at Stanley St. Leonard:—

"Lord, by Thy might,
Keep us from Pope and Hypocrite."

'Horror of the Methodists, who had really saved the religious life of England in the 18th century, finds its way into more than one inscription. They were supposed to be guilty of the terrible sin of enthusiasm. An inscription at Welwyn, Hertfordshire, and at Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire, reads as follows: "Prosperity to the Church of England, and no Encouragement to Enthusiasm." Indeed, if we are to judge by some of the inscriptions on the bells, the Church of England was at a very low ebb. Not only was Methodist enthusiasm condemned, but the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ was shelved in favour of the pagan god, Apollo. Hornsey Church gives the following:—

"The Ringers' Art our graceful notes prolong;
Apollo listens and approves the song."

'And to complete the sad story with a touch of humour, we can trace the growing influence of commercial values even on the bells of our Parish Church. Holbeach, Lincolnshire, begins the work in a cheery way with the following:—

"God save the Church,
The Bells in the Steeple,
Likewise all the
Subscribing good people."

And Bath gives us the grand climax:—

"All ye of Bath who hear the sound,
Thank Lady Hoplon's hundred pound."

'But I must return to our own beloved bells of St. Martin's. I am glad to say that they have escaped such inscriptions as above. Neither the original peal of six, which dates back to 1629, nor the present peal of twelve, first hung in 1758, contains anything more unchristian than the names of churchwardens and quotations from the Psalms.

'The worst episode in their history that I can discover is that on a certain Sunday early in the year 1744, when Charles Wesley was preaching in the Bull Ring (and when the mob was busy throwing dirt and stones at him), the bells of St. Martin's were rung in the hope of drowning his voice. How times have changed, thank God! Now our bells ring at St. Martin's to do honour to Methodist minis-

ters when they come to preach in our church, and on the wall of the south transept there is a memorial tablet to the first president of the Methodist Conference who succeeded John Wesley. It was transferred three years ago from another church, which was being pulled down, and placed here at the unanimous wish of the Methodists of Birmingham. So grows the Christian Spirit of Unity in our midst. 'God bless these bells of ours, which start on a new chapter in their history to-day.

'In ancient days bells were supposed to have many strange and magic properties. They were rung to drive away storms, and pestilences and evil spirits. Bishop Latimer once reminded the people of England that no general ringing of bells could drive the Devil out of England. Sometimes I wish it could.

'But if we can claim no such miraculous powers to-day for our bells, we may associate them very definitely with the presence of God in human life. They ring out their message in a brave attempt to surround all the changes and chances of human life with the peace and harmony, the faith and confidence which comes from realising the presence of God. It is only one part of their function—though a very early one—to invite people to church. No well-instructed bellringer will ever allow that his beloved church bells exist only for that. He is right, though I think sometimes he may make the mistake of thinking that in the fascinating work of ringing Bob Major or Stedman Cinques or those other methods in which he delights, he may exhaust all the possibilities of his bells. That would be wrong.

'To ring the bells as the symbol of the divine accompaniment to human life, to ring them so as to proclaim the love and sympathy of God with all the joys and sorrows of humanity, to ring them so as to let the whole world know that the Presence of God is to be found in the market place equally as in the church, to ring them so as to make men feel in their hearts a song or prayer—that is the highest, the best work of all.'

YORK MINSTER BELLS.

'THE WIRELESS EFFECT.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your issue of the 14th instant there appears a letter under the above heading, signed by Messrs. C. H. Kippen and F. E. Darby. With your permission I should like to ask these gentlemen what is meant exactly by 'nasal twang,' as it is the first time I have seen it used in connection with bells.

In my opinion there can be no true comparison drawn between two peals of bells differing so greatly in weight as York Minster bells and those at St. Martin's, Birmingham. York has a 60 cwt. tenor and other bells in proportion (consequently much greater resonance), and St. Martin's has a 35 cwt. tenor.

York Minster bells have yet to be heard to the best advantage over the 'Wireless,' as the B.B.C. have not yet found the ideal spot for placing the microphone.

Congratulations from the York Minster ringers to the St. Martin's Guild on the splendid success of their new peal.—Yours, etc.,

G. HORNER.

York Minster.

A GRAND PEAL.

Dear Sir,—It is quite obvious that some ringers have ears, and hear, others ears and cannot hear. This is apparent in a good many bellfries to-day.

I would strongly advise Mr. Kippen and Mr. Darby to have ear treatment, or, better still, let them hear another wonderful peal by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Lincoln twelve, tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb., the finest peal for their weight in the country, and then go and hear York again.

I am sure they will appreciate the glorious tones of this grand peal without the fear of hearing any 'nasal twang.' Nasty head noises, I should imagine.—Yours faithfully,

IMP.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUGGESTED WEDNESDAY GUILD.

At the annual meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association at Newcastle in October, it was decided to try the experiment of a Wednesday meeting for those unable to get to the usual Saturday meetings, and the large attendance at Chester-le-Street on Wednesday, December 12th, shows that a real need has been met.

Members were present from Durham and Newcastle Cathedrals, Gosforth, Jesmond, North and South Shields, Houghton-le-Spring and the local tower, and the bells were kept going from 3 to 8 o'clock in Bob Minor, Grandaire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich, all the touches being brought round.

The president of the association, Mr. E. F. Ferry, presided over an excellent tea at the Lambton Arms, supported by the Rector and the curate of Chester-le-Street, and the vice-presidents of the Northern and Western Districts. After the loyal toast, Mr. J. F. Bird proposed a vote of thanks for the use of the bells, and the Rector (Dr. F. H. Jackson) responded.

It was suggested that a Wednesday Guild of the association should be formed, and the Chairman promised to bring the matter up at the pre-Lent meeting of the association at Blaydon.

FORTY YEARS OF PEAL RINGING.

WORCESTERSHIRE VETERAN'S PERFORMANCES.

Mr. Robert G. Knowles, the well-known Worcestershire ringer, has just celebrated the fortieth anniversary of his first peal. He went to reside at Hanley Castle in 1883, and rang his first peal at the Parish Church of St. Mary on December 8th, 1888. It was Grandsire Doubles, and was the first peal on the bells, and first by all the band. During the succeeding ten years he rang only six peals, and some idea of the difficulties which had to be overcome in those days may be realised from the fact that he had no way of getting to peals of more than six bells except by walking to Worcester, ten miles away, and this was occasionally undertaken.

On returning to his native village of Madresfield, in 1899, better opportunities occurred for ringing, for there was a new peal of eight at Malvern Link and a progressive band. Having also learned to ride a bicycle, he found a better means of travel, though in those days, with a solid tyre, and on a dark night with an oil lamp (in or out), cycling was no joke. Only those who have had the experience of riding such a machine along country lanes and occasionally running into a flock of sheep, or, worse still, of having a cat mixed with the front wheel and frame, can fully appreciate the joys of cycling under such conditions. In the period from 1898 to 1908, Mr. Knowles rang only 19 peals, but though it thus took twenty years to ring twenty-five peals, he made many acquaintances and friendships which will never be forgotten. During the next ten years he made great advancement, though the last four years, being war years, he rang only five peals out of the total of thirty-six for the decade.

In the last ten years he made greater strides, thanks to the better means of travel, etc. Some of his earlier pupils had themselves become conductors, and in their turn were instructing others, many of whom Mr. Knowles has been very pleased to help through their first peal. The number of peals in the last decade was one hundred and forty-eight, making a total of two hundred and nine peals, which have all been rung in Worcestershire and the neighbouring counties.

Mr. Knowles, having a wish to ring a peal on the fortieth anniversary of his first peal, and on the same bells, arrangements were made, but through unforeseen circumstances the attempt had to be abandoned at the end of the second 720.

It is interesting to recall that a peal of Minor was rung on these bells on December 8th, 1913, this being Mr. Knowles' 50th peal, and on the 25th anniversary of his first.

The parish has two churches, each with a peal of six bells. At the same time that ringing was taking place at the Parish Church a junior band attempted a peal in seven methods at St. Gabriel's, but this came to an untimely end in the fifth 720. Afterwards the two

bands met at the Swan Hotel, where a tea was provided, and good wishes were extended to Mr. Knowles for many more years of activity. The band at the Parish Church was: J. Bayliss 1, W. Halford 2, E. Gibbs 3, J. R. Newman 4, C. Camm 5, R. G. Knowles (conductor) 6. At St. Gabriel's: W. Halford 1, W. Niblett 2, F. Hawkes 3, S. T. Holt (conductor) 4, W. Lewis 5, C. Tansell 6.

The following is the list of Mr. Knowles' peals:—

	Rung.	Conducted.
Grandsire Doubles	6	6
Grandsire Triples	31	8
Grandsire Caters	5	—
Plain Bob Minor	1	—
Plain Bob Major	14	1
Plain Bob Royal	1	—
Stedman Triples	12	1
Stedman Caters	4	—
Cambridge Surprise Minor	3	—
Cambridge Surprise Major	16	—
Cambridge Surprise Royal	3	—
Kent Treble Bob Major	8	—
Kent Treble Bob Royal	1	—
Oxford Treble Bob Major	4	—
Worcester Treble Bob Major	1	—
Oxford Bob Triples	4	—
3 Minor Methods	1	—
7 Minor Methods	76	17
10 Minor Methods	1	—
14 Minor Methods	1	—
7 Treble Bob Methods	2	1
7 Surprise Methods	2	1
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	4	1
New Cambridge Surprise Major	1	—
London Surprise Minor	1	—
London Surprise Major	1	—
Bristol Surprise Major	1	—
Yorkshire Surprise Major	1	—
Little Bob Major	1	—
Doubles in three methods	2	2
Total	209	38

EXETER.—On November 20th, at St. Sidwell's Church, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Royal: W. Drake 1, E. Shephard (conductor) 2, W. Howe 3, A. Mousley 4, T. Bartlett 5, W. Reekes 6, A. Truman 7, E. Sargent 8, W. Richardson 9, G. Betts 10.

John Taylor & Co.

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■■■■■

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

On this day 1820, Thomas Thurstans conducted the first peal of Stedman Chiques in Birmingham, 6,600, which constituted the record length in the method. At that time St. Martin's Society was in a very flourishing condition, and not only had many excellent composers among its members, but also a number of first-class ringers—as they have had almost without a break for over a hundred and fifty years.

Eighty years ago to-morrow—December 28th, 1848—the College Youths rang the first peal of Double Norwich in the county of Surrey. It was composed and conducted by John Cox, and was rung at Newington.

A peal of 12,000 of Bob Major was rung at Bromsgrove on December 28th, 1788, and on the same date in 1790 a peal of 10,080 in the same method was rung at Leeds.

New Year's Eve is the 40th anniversary of the famous record, 15,041 Stedman Caters, at Appleton, where, as most ringers know, the record was 'recaptured' in 1922 with the still 'longest ever'—21,363.

The Oxford Guild also made another record on the last day of the year, 12,096 Double Norwich Major, at Maidenhead, in 1892.

James Barham, the celebrated old Kent ringer, rang his one hundredth peal on January 1st, 1793. The total ages of the band taking part was 582 years.

The first peal of Kent Treble Bob in Lincolnshire was rung on New Year's Day, 1848.

A peal of Double Oxford Bob Royal was rung for the first time on January 2nd, 1909, at Wednesbury.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year

to all readers of 'The Ringing World.'

SUFFOLK GUILD.

To the Editor.

Sir,—'Another Suffolkian,' in his letter in to-day's 'Ringing World' states that there has not been a district meeting of the Guild at Newmarket. I attended one on May 29th, 1926, when a very few came, and ringing was, I believe, confined to St. Mary's. There was another meeting at Mildenhall the previous autumn, when a heavy storm stopped many from coming.—Yours faithfully,

R. COPEMAN.

Cambridge,
December 21st, 1928.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE PAICE.

With sincere regret we have to record the passing of Mr. George Paice, a member of the Edmonton band; which took place on December 13th.

Deceased, who was in his 64th year, was a well-known member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, the Middlesex, Hertford and Sussex County Associations. A native of East Meon, Hampshire, where he commenced his ringing career, he moved to Crawley, in Sussex, where he soon was ringing Surprise methods under the leadership of Mr. James Parker.

At that time the company were famous for their Surprise peal performances, and included such other well-known men in their day as Fred Rice, John Rice, Fred Dench, William Ward, Bob Jordan and others. Some of this company afterwards migrated to London and Mr. Paice settled in Edmonton, where he joined the All Saints' company, with whom he rang numerous peals in various Surprise Major methods, usually at the heavy end. He was a safe ringer.

His connection with the Edmonton company extended over about 30 years. He was always punctual and regular, and he loved the old bells, the care of which he undertook, together with the office of tower secretary, for many years.

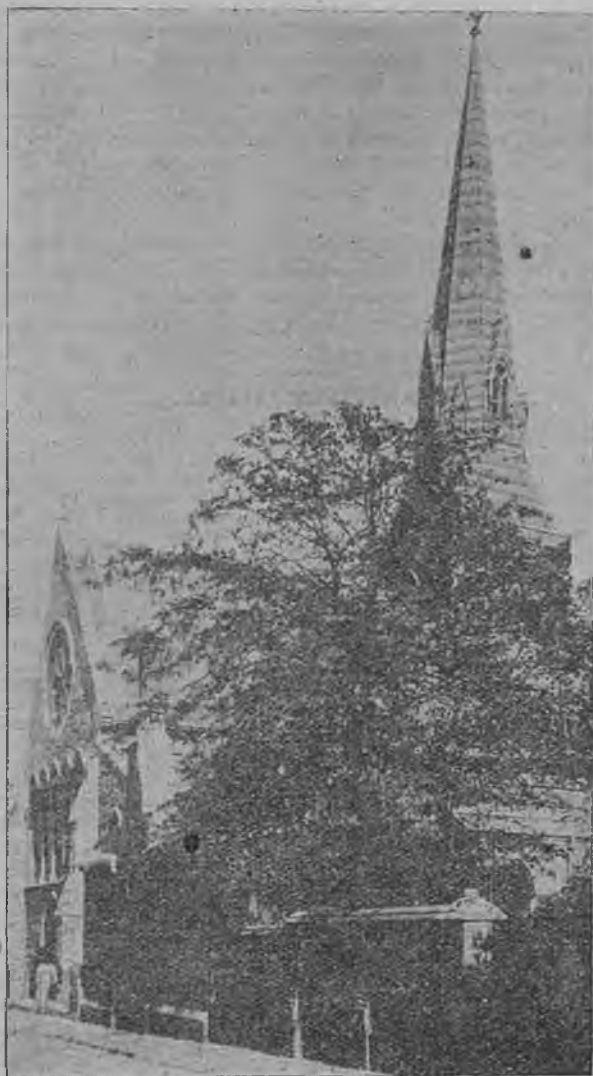
He was laid to rest on Tuesday, December 18th. The first part of the service was at Edmonton Parish Church, after which the ringers followed to Edmonton Cemetery, where, amid many manifestations of sympathy, the interment took place, within sound of the bells he loved so well.

ANOTHER PEAL OF TEN FOR LEICESTER.

DEDICATION OF TWO TREBLES AT ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE'S CHURCH.

For fifty years the above church had only one bell, although the tower was obviously built for a complete peal. Then, in 1902, the late Mr. S. T. Bunning gave a ring of eight bells with a tenor of 21 cwt. At that time, 'Simpson tuning' was a new thing, and St. John's was a specimen ring on that principle. The fundamentals were not drowned by the harmonics, and it was, and is now, considered a model of scientific tuning.

The eight were put in to commemorate the reign of Queen Victoria and as a memorial to her late Majesty. They were opened on what should have been the Coronation Day of King Edward VII., and the first peal was rung on August 23rd following, being Lates' one-part of Stedman Triples. Many peals have been rung since, and the one desire of the steeplekeeper (Mr. W. Willson) was to make the bells into a ring of ten. He was for many years the late Mr. S. T.



CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE, LEICESTER.

Bunning's estate agent and secretary, and in memory of the original donor two trebles have now been added by the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Willson.

The iron frame has been reconstructed, and the ten are on one level. Messrs. Taylor and Co. have made a perfect match to the eight, which also came from the famous Loughborough foundry.

On Sunday, December 16th, the Lord Bishop of Leicester dedicated the new bells at the morning service, after which the ten were rung in Stedman Caters and Treble Ten.

(Continued in next column.)

SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR.

FIVE METHODS RUNG IN A PEAL.

Spliced Surprise Major ringing has been carried a step further by the success of members of the Middlesex County Association in ringing a peal in five methods, the Rev. H. Law James having added Lincolnshire Surprise to London Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative. 5,184. BY REV. H. LAW JAMES.

23456 M. W. H.

Methods.

64352	—	—	London, Cambridge or Superlative, London.
62453	2	—	London, Bristol, London, Lincolnshire.
42356	—	—	London, Cambridge or Superlative, London.
32654	—	—	London, Cambridge, London.
42563	—	2	London, Cambridge or Superlative, Bristol, London.
36524	—	—	London, Cambridge or Superlative, London.
34625	2	—	London, Bristol, London, Lincolnshire.
64523	—	—	London, Cambridge or Superlative, London.
54326	—	—	London, Cambridge, London.

Repeat the 2nd part three times, then repeat the whole.

The course containing the Lincolnshire method is rung as follows:—

12345678 London.

16423857	—	Change to Bristol.
12643857	—	Change to London.
14266735	—	Change to Lincolnshire.
12635478	—	

The other courses are rung as in the peal published in 'The Ringing World' on June 3rd, 1927, but it should be noted that Superlative must not be rung in the last course of each part.

This peal was rung for the first time at St. Mary's, Willesden, on Tuesday, December 18th, conducted by Mr. William Eye. It was rung at the first attempt, after two practices, and is the first peal of Major to be rung in five Surprise methods. The thanks of the band are due to the Rev. H. Law James for the infinite trouble taken to arrange the composition.

A LANCASHIRE RINGER'S FLIGHT.

MANCHESTER BRANCH ORGANISING HELP.

The Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association make an earnest appeal to the members of the Exercise on behalf of Mr. J. Lowe, of Walkden, a member of the Pendleton tower, who has been stricken with paralysis for the past fourteen months, and will not be able to work again. Mr. Lowe is a collier, but owing to shortage of employment and ill-health the savings of past years have disappeared. He has been a member of the Lancashire Association for a number of years, and always keen on the advancement of the art. It is hoped that members of the Exercise will kindly help in trying to relieve a very urgent and deserving case. All contributions will be duly acknowledged, and can be sent to Mr. W. W. Wolstonecroft, 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, branch president, or to Mr. J. Hall, 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester, branch secretary.

ST. MARTIN'S BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It was with very great pleasure I read of the account of the dedication of St. Martin's bells, which, according to reading, reflect great credit on the Whitechapel firm. I may say it was my intention to be present, but illness prevented. In the report on page 793 I note the chairman took the opportunity of informing the company of the presence among them of Messrs. F. E. Dawe (a very old friend of mine) and T. Miller, who were probably the only two men living who could claim to have rung with the three old celebrities, Haley, Johnson and Cox. May I say I have had the pleasure of ringing with the three on more than one occasion, especially John Cox, who during my early career was our conductor in most peals with the Royal Cumberland Youths, of which I have been a member since January, 1871. The last time I had the pleasure of ringing with Mr. Johnson, sen., was soon after the then long peal of Stedman Cinques, 9,238 changes, in 6 hrs. 48 mins., on February 28th, 1881, conducted by Mr. W. Hallsworth, and rung on the 72nd birthday of Mr. H. Johnson, who rang the 6th, and who also composed the peal.

My brother and I were in Birmingham on holiday, and a peal of Stedman Cinques was arranged. We rung nearly halfway, when Mr. Hallsworth had to give up (he was ringing the 11th). It appears the 11th had been going rather indifferently in the latter part of the long peal, hence the sudden stop. The Birmingham ringers gave both my brother and myself a very cordial reception on that occasion. Many of them have now passed over to the other side.—Yours truly,

Whitstable, Kent.

HENRY A. HOPKINS

(Continued from previous column.)

The new treble is inscribed:—

'To the glory of God, and in memory of Samuel T. Bunning, the donor of the original peal, these two trebles were given by William and Ada Willson, to complete the ten, December, 1928.'

'Ring in the Christ that is to be.'

On the second bell is: 'Lord, for Thy tender mercies sake.' The new ten will be a valuable asset to the ringers of Leicester.

SAFFRON WALDEN IMPROVED PEAL. DEDICATION OF FOUR NEW TREBLES.

A large number of ringers assembled at Saffron Walden on Saturday week, when the Bishop of Colchester dedicated the four recast trebles of the peal of twelve bells. It will be remembered that the peal was augmented from eight to twelve bells in 1914.

The service, which was choral, was preceded by touches of Double Norwich and Stedman Triples. After the Bishop had dedicated the bells, the local society rang a few rounds, and, at the conclusion of the service, a short touch of Stedman Cinques, after which the bells were kept going until late in the evening. The methods rung included Stedman Cinques, Kent Treble Bob Maximus, Cambridge Royal and the Major Surprise methods.

The visitors were entertained to tea in the Parish Room, when the Vicar, Rev. L. Hughes, D.D., presided, being supported by Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Essex Association, Revs. F. T. Fogerty and D. Beard (curates), Messrs. P. L. Allen and H. Potter, churchwardens, T. A. Burrett, secretary, and W. H. Scott, treasurer of the Parochial Church Council, and Mr. A. E. Pitstow, Master of the Saffron Walden Society, with about 60 visitors.

The Vicar, in a short speech, congratulated the ringers on their successful efforts in raising the money for the recasting of the bells, and referred to the loss the society had sustained by the death last June of its Master, Mr. Frederick Pitstow, whose one great aim had been to see these four bells recast.

Mr. C. H. Howard said the peal was now in tune, and he thanked the ringers for their hospitality, which he had always received whenever he had visited Saffron Walden.

Mr. F. J. Pitstow, on behalf of the Saffron Walden ringers, thanked the Vicar for his support to their efforts, and also thanked Miss Gibson, who gave one bell in 1914, and has now defrayed the cost of recasting it.

The contract was placed in the hands of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, who have given great satisfaction to all, the bells being in tune and blending perfectly with the old eight.

The weights of the recast bells are: Treble, 4 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.; 2nd, 5 cwt. 0 qr. 16 lb.; 3rd, 5 cwt. 1 qr.; 4th, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb.

The inscriptions are as before with the following added: 'Recast 1928, Mears and Stainbank, London.'

INCIDENTS FROM THEIR HISTORY.

Saffron Walden has a long ringing history. A peal of bells and a company of ringers existed at the church as long ago as 1623, when a bequest was left by a townsman named Thomas Turner for the ringers, and it has been paid annually ever since. Twice in the history of the church there have been two companies of ringers, Seniors and Juniors. The first occasion was at the period when Holt's Original was rung, as we mentioned in a paragraph in our last issue. These performances in 1753 and 1754 seem to have created some trouble, for there is no trace of another peal being rung for nearly 20 years, namely, in 1771. The second occasion was in the last century, in the early part of which there was an excellent company at the tower, for peals of Bob Major, Treble Bob and Double Norwich (1817) were rung, the last named being only the third in the method. Superlative was practised, but a peal was not rung, although a place was left on the board to record it. The first peal of Superlative in Essex was rung by the company of a generation ago.

In the church accounts there are many references to payments in connection with the bells. One of the earliest is under the date 1623-1624: 'Pd. to Wm. Parkin for worke about the Bells, and for grease for the bells xxs. vjd.'

In 1627 £viii was 'paide for casting of the bell' and viiij. liij. for xxij pounds of pewter to put into the bell.

In 1629 there were a number of payts to Miles Graye the bell founder, including £xv for casting the 'greate Bell'; xvs. vjd. for 'mettall for the same bell' and xvij. vjd. more to him for casting of brasses. There was also a shilling given to his man for 'fetching the waytes and carrying them back,' and another shilling to Mr. Cole the Attorney for making the covenant between the town and the bell Founder.

Apparently the 'greate bell' was either unsatisfactory or soon cracked, for in 1634 there is another entry: 'Payd to Miles Graye for the casting of our great Bell ye 23rd October, now waying but 27 ct. xx lbs. at 10/- pr ct. £13 11 00. There is ½ ct. and 15 lbs. remaining of mettall, which was left of the old bell'—evidence that the original tenor was a heavier bell.

In 1653 the 5th was recast and the rest rehung by John Heddon.

There are records of a great many payments to the ringers for ringing on public occasions and to various publicans for 'bread and beere' for the ringers. These occasions included a visit of King Charles to Audliend to hunt, in 1635; the day the Lord Protector was proclaimed in 1658; Gunpowder Treason Day; when Parliament began to sit in 1660; when Charles II. was voted King, and when he was proclaimed; on Coronation Day (1662); for the defeats of the Dutch (1665 and 1666) and the making of peace; for the coming of King William and his crowning; when the rebels in the West were routed; 'on ye good news from Ireland' (the battle of the Boyne) and on many other occasions of public or local importance.

There are entries relating to the recasting of the tenor from 1709 to 1711 and again in 1720. Six of the back eight bells of the present twelve were cast and hung in 1792 and 1793, the 6th and 7th being recasts since that time.

A RINGERS' CHAPEL.

There is at Lincoln Cathedral, where the ring of twelve bells has recently been opened, a Ringers' Chapel. It is situate at the south-west corner of the west front. In it is a list of the members of the company from 1614 to 1725, together with those of recent date whom the Dean and Chapter have thought fit to honour by recording their names. This chapel had its own vestments and music books, and above on the southern pinnacle of the west front appears a statue of St. Hugh.

The Society of Ringers of St. Hugh of Lincoln was founded on October 18th, 1612, 'for the Ringing of St. Hugh's and Our Lady Bells,' and it was also designated 'the Companie of Ringers of our Blessed Virgin Marie of Lincoln.'

Every opportunity was given to the visitors on Saturday week to ring on the bells, and among the touches were a course of Stedman Cinques, 324 Stedman Caters, a course of Cambridge Royal, 288 Cambridge Maximus, brought round by omitting 2nd's place at the 6th lead-end, 120 Grandsire Doubles on the front five, and 60 Grandsire Doubles on 34567.

5,003 GRANDSIRE CATERS.

BY ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

The following peal of Grandsire Caters is published by Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, to take the place of the false peal, No. 43, on page 55 of the C.C. Collection of Peals, Section I.:

23456

62354	1-4.8
25384	8 in 3
32564	9 in 3
53264	9 in 3
36254	8 in 3
23654	9 in 3
42356	9 in 3.8

Five times repeated, calling the first course of each part, and the 6th course of the 3rd and 6th parts 9 in 3.8, produces:—

23456

43625	1.8-89
64325	9 in 3
42365	8 in 3
34265	9 in 3
23465	9 in 3
63425	1.8
32465	8 in 3
43265	9 in 3
24365	9 in 3

46325	8 in 3
62345	8 in 3

Round with bobs at 2, 9 and 10.

Contains the 5th and 6th the extent behind the 9th.

PEALS OF MINOR AND DOUBLES— WHAT DOES '720 CHANGES' MEAN?

To the Editor.

Sir,—Some weeks ago Mr. Trollope came to see me, and we discussed the Minor and Doubles question, and you kindly published a letter signed by us both concluding with a statement that the question needed further consideration. After his departure I gave the matter further consideration, and you published another letter from me, giving briefly the result of that consideration. Now 'Minor-mania' complains that I do not explain things simply enough, so I intend to meet his view very thoroughly on this question, because it is a very important matter.

Ever since the early days of change ringing, ringers have been accustomed to say that there are '720 changes on six bells.'

What does that mean? Mr. Trollope says that it means that a ringer actually makes 720 different changes when ringing the extent on six bells.

Now the statement looks at first sight as if it might mean that; but it might equally mean that a ringer strikes his bell 120 times in each place, and that the other five bells are in a different position for every one of these. Let us examine these two meanings.

On two bells we can only make one change, and this produces two changes—1-2 and 2-1. Add another bell and call it 3.

We can put 3 in front of 12,	312.
between 1 and 2,	132.
after 1 and 2,	123.
in front of 21,	321.
between 2 and 1,	231.
after 21,	213.

This makes six possible positions of the three bells, or, as we call them, six changes. Now add another bell, and call it 4, and we can put it into four positions with each of these six—4312, 3412, 3142, 3124—with 312, and the same with all the others.

Continue, adding 5, and we can put it into five positions in each of the 24, which makes 120, and then add another bell, call it 6, and it can be put in six positions with each of the 120, thus, 612345, 162345, 126345, 123645, 123465, 123456, etc., and that makes 720 different positions in which the six bells can strike, and if we mean that a ringer can strike his bell 120 blows in each of the six positions, and that the other five bells shall never strike in the same order each of these times, the statement that there are 720 changes on six bells is true.

Now consider the other statement, and imagine a ringer ringing the treble through 720 changes. He can change with the 2nd, the 3rd the 4th, the 5th or the 6th; that is to say, he can make five changes and no more. Every other change he makes is a repetition of one or other of these five, and if we mean that a ringer makes 720 different changes in ringing a 720, the statement is undoubtedly false.

The words '720 changes on six bells' either mean that the bells actually strike in 720 different orders, or they are nonsense.

It follows that the 720 with a violated Q set is true and complete, although it is not a round block.

Also all peals of Caters round at hand are not round blocks.

Finally, look at Stedman:—

23145

32415

23451

24315

42351

43215

34251

Is this six true and complete,
or is it not?

Yours truly,

H. LAW JAMES.

COUNCIL'S DECISIONS SHOULD BE ACCEPTED.

Dear Sir,—Referring to your articles and the correspondence in your columns upon the validity of combined six-scores and 720's upon 5 and 6 bells respectively, there is no rule laid down in the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association rules that refers to qualifications of a peal or a composition.

All peals rung for this association are accepted from the conductors as a fit performance to be inserted in the records. (The compositions have to be given with each peal, and these are proved by the experts of this association.) But to disqualify a peal of Doubles because it is 'Morris' arrangement, or a peal of Minor because it is Rev. E. B. James', is not within the scope of this association. I feel quite sure that all other association rules have no power to prevent these peals either.

Now what can be done to ensure a perfect understanding upon the matter? Other more or less important rulings of the Central Council are just as difficult, and are rendered more difficult by the following—

About 1921 the associations were asked to give the Central Council powers to enforce their rules and decisions, and 75 to 80 per cent. of the associations replied in the negative.

At Hereford the president of the Central Council made it quite clear to all members of that Council that they attended the meetings

(Continued in next column.)

BENJAMIN ANNABLE AND THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—As the proud possessor of one of the newly-published histories of the Ancient Society of College Youths, I have studied it with interest. I should like to point out that there is one statement printed in it which hardly seems to be borne out by facts; or, at any rate, the statement made and the facts recorded elsewhere about Annable are hardly consistent.

The College Youths' history tells us that at St. Sepulchre's Church, Snow Hill, a peal of Plain Bob Triples was achieved by the Society on the 7th January, 1689-90, in 3½ hrs., composed and conducted by Benjamin Annable. Snowdon, in his history of the Grandsire method, tells us that Annable died on February 1st, 1756, and quotes the 'Clavis' as recording that at the time of his death Annable was between 60 and 70 years of age.

It is quite obvious that if Annable was 70 years of age at his death in 1756, he could not possibly have composed and conducted a peal of Bob Triples in 1689.

If he did call the peal in 1689 or 1690, then he must have been nearer 90 years old when he died, but as there would have been contemporaries of his alive when the 'Clavis' was published in 1788, it is hardly likely a mistake of twenty years in Annable's age would have been made.

Again, Annable, as we see from the society's own records, was Master in 1746. It is not impossible, but I imagine it is hardly likely that he would have been appointed to office at the age of 80 or thereabouts.

One is therefore almost driven to the conclusion that Annable did not call the peal in 1689-90, if, indeed, a 'peal,' as we know it today, ever was rung at that distant date. That question is never likely to be definitely cleared up now, but it ought to be possible to establish the age at which Annable died and the question, whether or not he was old enough to have taken part in what is claimed as the first peal ever rung. Will our historians help us?—Yours truly,

COLLEGIAN.

FIRST 720's.

At St. Mary's Church, Burnham-on-Crouch, on Thursday, November 29th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: D. Patten (first 720) 1, L. Hook 2, S. Bigmore 3, W. Gridley 4, H. Barker 5, H. Stebbings (first 720 as conductor) 6.

At Sandiacre, on Sunday, November 18th, for evening service, 720 Whitley Surprise Minor in 26 mins.: W. Halford 1, W. Thornley 2, J. Hall 3, R. Drage 4, R. Cox 5, H. Turner 6.—On Sunday, December 2nd, for evening service, a 720 of Northumberland Surprise in 26 mins. First 720 in these methods by all.

At Christ Church, Port Sunlight, Cheshire, on Monday, December 3rd, 720 Bob Minor: Stewart Bailey 1, J. Gorst 2, W. J. Battle 3, G. Ronald Edwards 4, Ralph G. Edwards 5, J. F. Smith (conductor) 6. This is the first 720 in any method by the ringer of the treble, who is only 12 years of age.

SURPRISE PEAL ATTEMPT AT BOURN, CAMBS.

On Saturday, December 1st, an attempt for a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was made at Bourn, as a farewell to the Vicar (Rev. J. W. Joyce), who is leaving for Norfolk. After an hour and thirty-five minutes' good ringing, a trip occurred which put an end to what might have been a good peal. The band was: P. G. Gleaves 1, Miss K. Willers 2, Miss C. Fields 3, J. Ward 4, F. Harper 5, T. R. Dennis 6, F. Warrington (conductor) 7, H. Fields 8. The Vicar thanked the band for their good wishes, and hoped they would come again, and it was decided to make an attempt on December 22nd.

(Continued from previous column.)

of the Central Council to please themselves which way they voted, and were not tied to vote in the way the respective associations had decided.

Is there no way in which we can have a common principle? Surely, ringing, with all its intricacies, necessitates a higher body to control matters which may be of a controversial nature.

The Central Council with its traditions should be the controlling body, but it appears to be hopeless to expect that we shall have definite rulings until the associations accept the Central Council's decisions as their own rules, and so, upon the other hand, should the Central Council be assisted in their deliberations by the associations' representatives voicing the associations' opinions, not the representatives' own opinion. Otherwise, why should the associations defray the expenses of their representatives attending the Central Council meetings?

I am an association official and a member of the Central Council. Can I really serve both under the above existing conditions?—Yours faithfully,

EDGAR GUISE.

£800,000 CHURCH DESTROYED.**HOME OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST CARILLON.**

The great church on Riverside, New York, erected largely through the generosity of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, jun., at a cost of about £800,000, was destroyed by fire on Friday night.

This is the church that was to have contained the world's greatest carillon which was made at the Croydon Bell Foundry. It was the largest bells of this instrument, which were the object of so much interest on the occasion of the 'All England' gathering at Croydon last March, the bass bell being 18½ tons.

The carillon was to be composed of the former 55 bells made for the Park Avenue Church, with four larger and five smaller bells, making a total of 64.

The fire was one of the most spectacular ever seen in New York. Fanned by an icy wind, the flames fed upon a forest of timber scaffolding, and spread to the framework of the 400ft. tower. The woodwork, says a New York message, disappeared like matchwood, while a pillar of fire shot hundreds of feet into the air. The water froze as it was pumped on the burning building, and a hundred thousand people watched the vain efforts of the firemen to subdue the blaze. The church was reduced to a mere skeleton of twisted steel.

Apparently the carillon had not yet been installed, and so, presumably, the bells have been saved.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**A NEW DISTRICT RINGING MASTER.**

The annual general meeting of the North-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, December 8th. There was a record attendance of ringers present from the towers at Bishop's Stortford, Saffron Walden, Stansted, Sawbridge, Harlow Town, Harlow Common, Cambridge, Hunsdon, Roydon, Royston, Ickleton, Barley, Melbourne, and Braintree. Touches in various standard methods were rung at St. Michael's Church, and at a special service the Vicar gave an inspiring address. In the evening a tea was held in St. Michael's Parish Hall, the catering being in the able hands of Mr. F. Glasscock. The Vicar presided, and after tea Mr. C. H. Howard (Braintree), the Master of the association, proposed a vote of thanks to him for presiding at the tea, for lending the bells, and for the excellent address he had given them. He said it was the first time the Vicar of the parish had honoured them by taking the chair. The late Vicar, the Rev. Canon H. T. Lane, similarly lent the bells and conducted the service, but owing to his advanced age he had never been able to attend the tea.

Mr. F. J. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), secretary, seconded, and the vote of thanks was unanimously accorded.

The Vicar responded, and thanked the ringers. He said he came to Bishop's Stortford a perfect stranger, but he had received a warm welcome. One of the first things he found was necessary was the rebanging and retuning of the bells. He made an appeal, and the response of the town was grand. The £400 wanted simply came in, and it was extremely encouraging. They had a strong team of ringers, twenty including young members, and next year there would be at least four lady members (applause). He looked upon them as real friends, and he thanked them for their assistance and for the attendance of so many from other places.

The business meeting followed, when the chair was taken by Mr. Howard. The first business was the appointment of a Master for the division. Mr. F. Bird (Bishop's Stortford) proposed the election of Mr. G. Dent (Harlow Common).—This was seconded by Mr. W. T. Prior and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dent, in thanking the members, said he would have preferred to see a younger man in the office, but he would do his best (applause).

The hon. secretary (Mr. Beeston) was thanked for his work during the last four years, and was again re-elected on the proposition of Mr. F. Dench, seconded by Mr. Perrin.

The Rev. W. McCarthy was proposed as an honorary member by Mr. Beeston, seconded by Mr. Wacey, and the following were elected as ringing members on the motion of Mr. F. Bird, seconded by Mr. W. Prior (Stansted), viz.: The Rev. F. W. Lane, Messrs. Marfeet, Ansell, Wacey, and Dalling.

It was decided that the next meeting of the district should be held at Rowdon. This concluded the meeting, and the visitors, including three lady ringers, again repaired to St. Michael's tower and rang touches until 9 p.m.

RUDHALL'S FOUNDRY.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Ringers with an antiquarian, historical or archaeological turn of mind will be very sorry to hear that another of the fast vanishing links with the past has lately disappeared in the widening of Oxhode (provincially pronounced 'Oxbody') Lane, in the City of Gloucester. Rudhall's foundry has been pulled down. Many members of the Central Council will remember our visit to the old premises at the time of the Council meeting in Gloucester, and it is a pleasure now to think that we were enabled, through the kindness of Messrs. Badham and Co., then the owners, to view the extremely interesting remains of one of the most notable centres of campanological industry, and the birthplace of many of our finest bells.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Kemerton, Tewkesbury.

COVENTRY BELLS.**RINGING HISTORY RECALLED.**

Bells and ringers have a sympathetic publicist in 'Spectator,' who weekly writes most interesting and knowledgeable notes in the 'Coventry Standard.' Years ago, 'Spectator' had a personal acquaintance with the practical side of ringing, and his early interest in the cult has brought from his pen numerous articles in praise and support of bells and bellringing.

'Anno domini,' he said in a recent issue, kept him away from the 'coming-of-age' celebration of the Warwickshire Guild at Coventry, but he would have liked to be present to tell the members of the Guild why Coventry came to be called 'the ringing town,' now, alas, now longer possible.

'I should not have gone back,' he wrote, 'hundreds of years—to the time when each of the great churches possessed chimes, so arranged to play that every hour was heralded with the harmony of bells. Nor should I have recalled that peals were rung on every conceivable occasion, day or night, at the coming of Kings and Bishops, and what not.'

'Neither would my talk have included allusions to the time, not quite so remote, when single bells were rung at Holy Trinity and Bablake Churches at five o'clock in the morning; at Bablake at half-past five; at Trinity at six o'clock; and again at Trinity at six, seven, and eight o'clock in the evening—three curfews, as it were, whereas there is now only a very irregular one.

'I should, in fact, have gone back no further than my own time in the ringing chambers of the City.

'Let us imagine that it is Monday before 1885, when St. Michael's bells were removed for the great restoration; since then they have never been rung in peal. First there was the six o'clock morning bell at St. Michael's, following the playing of the chimes, and accepted by all the factories and works as the clocking-in bell. "I ring at six, to let men know, When to and from their work to go."

'At nine o'clock in the morning there was a service in St. Michael's, and instead of one bell being tanged in a monotony which would be miserable if it were continued for a minute, there was always a sweet little chime. Two or three ringers would assemble and chime two or three bells each, and the little crosses they did were delightful.

'I once saw Mr. Horsfall, the keeper of the campanile, and Mr. T. Eburne, chime the back six bells, so that—to avoid technical descriptions—they spoke in this order: 5, 8, 6, 9, 7, 10. This meant that Mr. Horsfall was moving approximately 3½ tons of metal, and Mr. Eburne nearly 2 tons. I helped Mr. Horsfall "drop in" the tenor when it declined to "come to."

'Then at nine o'clock the chimes would play the old "Whimsy Worton" air.

'The first service at Bablake in those days was at eleven o'clock, and the call to church would be made, almost always, by the full peal, for Jerry Johnson had plenty of helpers. For the first service at Holy Trinity, at half-past eleven, old Dick Jones would scarcely ever be left alone to chime three bells; other ringers would be there, and quite often the chime would be of six.

'At twelve and three the chimes would play again, and at a quarter-past four the call for Evensong at St. Michael's would begin, when some of Mr. Horsfall's helpers would again be there. At six o'clock, after the chimes were finished, the evening bell would be rung, for the closing down of the factories and works; and at seven the ringers would ascend the tower for the usual practice. The ten bells would be raised in beautiful order, and if there were no meeting in St. Mary's Hall the practice would go on till half-past eight. It would stop at eight if the hall were engaged. At eight o'clock the curfew would be rung from Holy Trinity campanile; at nine, after the chimes had played, the curfew would be rung at St. Michael's, and after that, except for the mechanical processes, the towers would be silent.

'Coventry was christened the ringing town centuries ago. Down to 1885 it kept up its reputation in the way I have described, and there was no public grumbling, nor adverse criticism, in those days.

'Because all the bell-doings were regularity itself. Between the times mentioned not a bell note was heard from either of the campaniles except for deaths or funerals; people knew what to expect and when to expect it, and, believe me, they loved the bells.

'I do not suppose that the people of to-day would be enamoured if there were a recurrence of these things, for this is a noisy age. In any case, there is not likely to be a recurrence; all the circumstances are against it.'

The article went on to speak in high praise of the recital given on the Cathedral chime by Mr. Harry Withers. 'It was as masterly a recital as could be imagined or desired. It was full of sympathy and human expression.' 'Spectator' went on to ask whether Coventry could not have a city carillonneur, and added that the music of the bells 'is so uplifting that we should all be the better for hearing it.'

SPLICED MINOR METHODS.

On handbells at 52, Lammas Park Road, Ealing, on Thursday, December 13th, 720 Spliced Amersham Alliance and Little Bob Minor by the following: J. Arniger Trollope 1-2, Ernest C. S. Turner 3-4, Wilfred G. Wilson (conductor) 5-6.

This is the first time since 1885 that the second of the two published on page 745 of 'The Ringing World,' dated November 23rd, 1928.

QUAINT BELFRY RULES. KENDAL'S PAINTED VERSES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The following rules were agreed to by the Kendal, Westmorland, ringers in 1788, and were painted on the belfry walls in the same year. For fear of losing them by decay on the damp walls they were repainted on canvas in the year 1833, but after a time the canvas also rotted and fell to pieces. To the late Mr. Thomas Jennings is due the credit of having made a careful copy of the lines in 1860. They are as follows:—

ORDERS.

Agreed on By the Society of Ringers, and subscribed to by the Church Wardens of Kendal for the Better regulation and encouragement of the Art of Ringing.

From Easter Sunday until New Mayor's Day,
At Ten the Ringers shall appear always;
11th Afternoon by Halfpast Two again.
This Rule unalter'd ever shall remain.

From New Mayor's Day Still Ten shall be the Hour
For Forenoon Service, as expressed before;
The Afternoon Service from thence must alter'd be
Until the Clock commence the Hour of Three;

Whoe'er till Bells are raised is absent hence,
The Forfeit for the fault is just Fourpence;
If he neglect till service it be o'er,
For every peal he forfeit two pence more.

He who the whole day does himself absent,
Without of Two or more he gains consent,
One Shilling Forfeit he must Pay, as fee,
For th' use and service of Society.

On Parish Days the Ringers shall appear
When they the tolling of the Bells do hear;
All absentees for every peal that's past,
In Twopence fine most surely will be cast,

And 'tis agreed that on such Parish Days.
The Seventh Bells warning shall the absent raise
Within one quarter of an hour, if not,
No more's allowed, and equal fine's his lot.

Whoe'er presumes a Bell to pull off here
Without consent, or does get drunk or swear,
Sixpence for each offence he sure shall stake,
Ere he his peace with us for it shall make;

Likewise he fourpence Pays besides all that,
Who here appears with either Spurs or hat,
The Youth who the Ringing Art's inclined.
Shall ever with us heartily welcome find,

If he with us the Jolly Boy revere,
Who sometimes soothes and mitigates our cares,
No Miser here with us can claim a part,
Nor be companion in our Noble art,

Which Nurtures Health, of Life the Chiefest Bliss,
With which the world compared a Banble is,
He who to Pay these Forfeits is not Free,
If yearly ringer or a Deputy,
It is resolved the fine from wages due,
Shall be deducted with exactness true,

And Furthermore, if anyone beside,
Refuse by these our orders to abide,
From out the Belfry he shall be expelled,
And as an Alien evermore be held.

The Kendal ringers also had an old jug for beer about the same year, with the following verse written on it:—

If you love me doe not lend me,
Ease me often and keep me Clenly.
Fill me full or not at all,
If it be strong and not with small.

EDWIN JENNINGS.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

SWANSEA.—At St. Mary's Church, on Saturday, November 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 45 mins., with 6, 7, 8 covering (for the dedication service of the Swansea Tug H: A. Edwards 1, F. Curtis 2, J. S. Williams (conductor) 3, A. Llewellyn 4, D. J. Williams 5, H. A. Curtis 6, A. Richards 7, G. N. Williams 8.

OVER, CAMBS.—On Monday, November 12th, at the Parish Church, 720 York Surprise: C. Robinson 1, F. C. Ginn 2, B. Wayman 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6. First 720 of York on the bells by all the band except the conductor.

GUILDFORD.—At St. Nicolas' Church, for confirmation service held by the Bishop of Guildford on December 5th, 1,119 Stedman Caters: F. Radford 1, C. Hazledene 2, C. Burdock 3, E. Etheridge 4, Mrs. C. Hazledene 5, Wm. Thorne 6, G. Tomsett 7, E. Radford 8, S. Radford (conductor) 9, R. Radford 10.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

GLEMSFORD, SUFFOLK.—On December 16th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob for matins and 720 Kent Treble Bob for evensong: W. J. R. nolds 1, W. G. Good 2, E. W. Ambrose 3, A. A. Fitch 4, P. L. Johnson 5, T. E. Slater 6. Conducted by P. L. Johnson and T. E. Slater respectively.

AYSGARTH.—On December 16th, for evening service at the Parish Church, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins.: T. Percival 1, W. Percival, junr. 2, T. Latimer 3, H. Horner 4, W. Percival 5, J. Thompson (conductor) 6.

COLD HIGHAM, NORTHANTS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, December 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: A. Roberts 1, F. Wilford (conductor) 2, C. Bayliss 3, H. Bates 4, J. Roberts 5, J. Howes 6. A new treble has been put in here by Messrs. Gillett and Johnson, and was dedicated on Saturday, December 15th, by Bishop Lang, Archdeacon of Northampton.

ACCRINGTON.—At the Church of St. James, on Sunday, December 16th, 720 Bob Minor: J. Beattie 1, A. Stanton (first 720) 2, Q. Bowen 3, J. Hindle 4, A. Scholes 5, J. Houdsworth (conductor) 6. Rung as a farewell to Mr. C. Bowen, of Bucknall, Staffs, on leaving Accrington for home again.

DALSTON.—At St. Mark's Church, on Sunday, November 11th, for evensong, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Meads 1, A. L. Bennett 2, F. T. Coles (conductor) 3, W. Pye 4, W. J. Nudds 5, J. T. Kentish 6, J. Bennett 7, A. Randall 8. Longest length by ringers of treble and tenor, both members of the local band.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, November 11th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): J. Lawrence 1, G. Davies 2, K. Salter 3, H. Hucker (first quarter-peal) 4, T. J. Salter (conductor) 5, J. Woodberry 6, C. H. Woodberry 7, A. Wright 8.

HARWICH.—On Sunday, November 11th (Armistice Day), with the bells half-muffled, 504 Grandsire Triples.—On Sunday, November 18th, for evening service, 1,008 Bob Major: J. Alderton 1, C. Rampin 2, C. Ellis 3, E. Scarfe 4, F. Rampin 5, A. Alderton 6, F. Chaplin 7, B. Elmer 8.

MARKET DRAYTON.—On Sunday, November 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: H. Walker 1, T. Tudor 2, A. M. Hickman 3, W. Lysons 4, E. V. Rodenhurst 5, S. Hughes 6, W. Weatherby (conductor) 7, G. Hall 8.

MARGATE, KENT.—On Sunday, November 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins.: G. Enderby 1, W. Truster 2, J. Hiscock 3, J. Blytheman 4, F. Reeves 5, A. Saxby 6, E. Burgess (conductor) 7, H. Lade 8.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Sunday, November 11th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, rung half-muffled, in 50 mins.: J. Evans 1, D. Kimber 2, H. Stratford 3, F. G. Biggs 4, A. G. Jones 5, F. D. Boreham 6, R. Biggs (conductor) 7, V. Evans 8.

OVERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE.—In memory of the fallen, 720 Bob Minor was rung with bells half-muffled for evensong on November 11th: W. Bosworth 1, L. Freeman 2, W. Branker 3, P. W. Grice 4, J. W. Cotton (conductor) 5, W. E. Clayfield 6.

PULBOROUGH, ESSEX.—On Sunday, November 11th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Holden 1, S. Greenfield 2, S. Picton 3, C. Smart, sen., 4, H. C. Greenfield 5, P. H. Doick 6, A. C. Greenfield (conductor) 7, A. V. Corden 8.

MARGATE, KENT.—On Sunday, November 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins.: G. Enderby 1, W. Truster 2, J. Hiscock 3, J. Blytheman 4, F. Reeves 5, A. Saxby 6, E. Burgess (conductor) 7, H. Lade 8.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS.—On Sunday, November 11th, at St. Peter's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 49 mins.: W. Waterhouse 1, S. Helliwell 2, Frank Blackith 3, Fred Blackith (conductor) 4, J. Guy 5, F. Jackson 6, Hy. Blackith 7, E. Redshaw 8.

WORKSOP.—On Sunday, November 4th, for evening service, at the Priory Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 45 mins.: Miss Ethel Winrow 1, B. Smith 2, E. Jordan 3, A. Johnson 4, S. Walker 5, G. Hardwick (conductor) 6, J. T. Wilson 7, S. Eadland 8.

WORSLEY.—At St. Mark's Church, on Sunday, October 28th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 47 mins.: J. Howarth 1, P. Grundy (longest length in the method as conductor) 2, C. Gudgeon 3, W. Jones 4, J. H. Ridyard 5, J. Ridyard 6, P. H. Derbyshire 7, S. Harrison 8. Rung as farewell to S. Harrison, who is leaving the district to take up an appointment in Welshpool, North Wales, the band wishing him every success.

LEINTWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, October 28th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 44 mins.: P. Lockley 1, W. J. Beniams (conductor) 2, *W. Topley 3, W. H. Davies 4, O. H. Cartwright 5, *H. Carfield 6. * First quarter-peal.

PORTSMOUTH.—At St. Thomas' Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes): C. Shepherd 1, J. Cassidy 2, Mrs. F. A. Burnett 3, E. Martin 4, F. A. Burnett 5, E. Warner 6, P. Cook 7, F. W. Burnett (conductor) 8.

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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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Bristol Branch. — The next meeting will be held on Dec. 29th at Brislington. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea in Church Room 5 p.m. Will all members make an effort to attend, advising G. Way, 1a, Seymour Road, Bishopston, Bristol?

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Stockton-on-Tees on Tuesday, January 1st. Bells (10) available from 2 p.m. Members and other ringers attending, who require tea, please notify me by the morning of the 31st inst. All ringers are welcome.—J. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 71, Surtees Street, Darlington.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at South Shields on Wednesday, Jan. 2nd. Bells of St. Hilda's available after 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, for those informing Mr. Robson, 28, Charlotte Street, South Shields, by Dec. 29th.—Frank Ainsley, Dis. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. (Established 1637.) — The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on January 3rd, 17th and 31st, *Headquarters or St. Giles', Cripplegate, on the 8th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 10th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 22nd, Southwark Cathedral on the 24th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — A meeting will be held at Nelson on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Reports and new diagrams to hand.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District. — The annual meeting of the above district will be held on Saturday, Jan. 5th, at St. Mary's Church, Nottingham. Bells (10) available from 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6.45 p.m. A good attendance is desired.—Fredk. W. Bailey, Local Hon. Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District. — The annual meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year will be held on Saturday, Jan. 5th, at St. Andrew's, Derby. Bells available 2 o'clock. Please be prepared with a nominee for secretary. — Charles Draper.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Wigan Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock. A good attendance is requested.—James Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Devizes on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (St. John's 8, St. Mary's 6, St. James' 6) ready 3 p.m. Service at St. John's 4.30. Tea in Parish Room 5. Business meeting follows tea.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yatton on Jan. 5th. Bells available 2.30. Evensong 4. Tea and meeting 5.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton, Bath.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Next meeting will be held at Eckington, Jan. 5th. Bells ready early. Tea at Camm's School at 5 p.m. to all who let Mr. P. Jervis, 7, Littlemoor, Eckington, know as early as possible.—R. Harrison, Sec.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Fenton on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Tea 5.30 p.m., for all who notify Mr. C. Thorley, 12, Heron Street, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, before Jan. 3rd.—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for January: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, 6th, at 10 a.m.; Monday, 14th, at 6.30 p.m., and 28th at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, 22nd, at 8 p.m. Quarterly meeting on Monday, 14th; meeting commences at 8 p.m., and all members are requested to make a special effort to attend.—S. C. Moye, Gen. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Wokingham on Saturday, Jan. 12th. All Saints' bells available 2.30 to 3.30 (by notice). St. Paul's bells 2.30 to 4. Service in St. Paul's Church 4 p.m. Preacher: Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.A., M.C. Tea at 4.45, followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome. Ringing at both churches after meeting. Tea, 6d. to branch members, 1s. to visitors. Those attending please inform me by Jan. 8th.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Merrel, California, Wokingham.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Penn on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells available from 3. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. E. Hartill, Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Please send word by Tuesday, Jan. 8th.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District. — The next meeting of this district will be held at Ightham on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions for 1929 can be paid at this meeting. Kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 8th.—C. H. Sone, Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILD.—The 8th annual dinner will be held on Saturday, January 19th, at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, commence 6 p.m. Chairman the Rev. R. H. Whitford, M.A. Most of the city church bells will be available during the afternoon, and special service ringing is being arranged on Sunday 20th. Tickets 5/6 each, from Messrs. Cave, Knight, Way, Jefferies, Miss E. Smith, all Bristol Guild Secretaries and Mr. Albert Walker, Birmingham, or direct from the Hon. Sec., Edgar Guise, 39, Tankards Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

BIRTH.

MITCHELL.—At 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend, on Dec. 18th, to Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Mitchell, the gift of a son.

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FOLKINGHAM, Lincs.—On Wednesday, November 14th, at St. Andrew's Church, 720 Grandsire Doubles: N. Sharpe 1, H. Gibbard 2, L. Pell 3, W. Gibbard (first 720) 4, C. T. M. Bradley (conductor) 5, J. H. Musson 6.—Also 720 of Oxford Bob: Mrs. P. Humphrey 1, A. R. King (first 720 in the method) 2, L. Pell (first 720 in the method) 3, H. Gibbard 4, C. T. M. Bradley (conductor) 5, J. H. Musson 6.

HARWICH, ESSEX.—At St. Nicholas' Church, on Friday, November 9th, on the election of Mr. J. A. Saunders as Mayor of the borough, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): C. Ramplin 1, S. Taylor 2, C. Ellis 3, A. Alderton 4, G. Thompson (conductor) 5, J. Scarfe 6, F. Chaplin 7, F. Watling 8.

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