

THE RINGING WORLD

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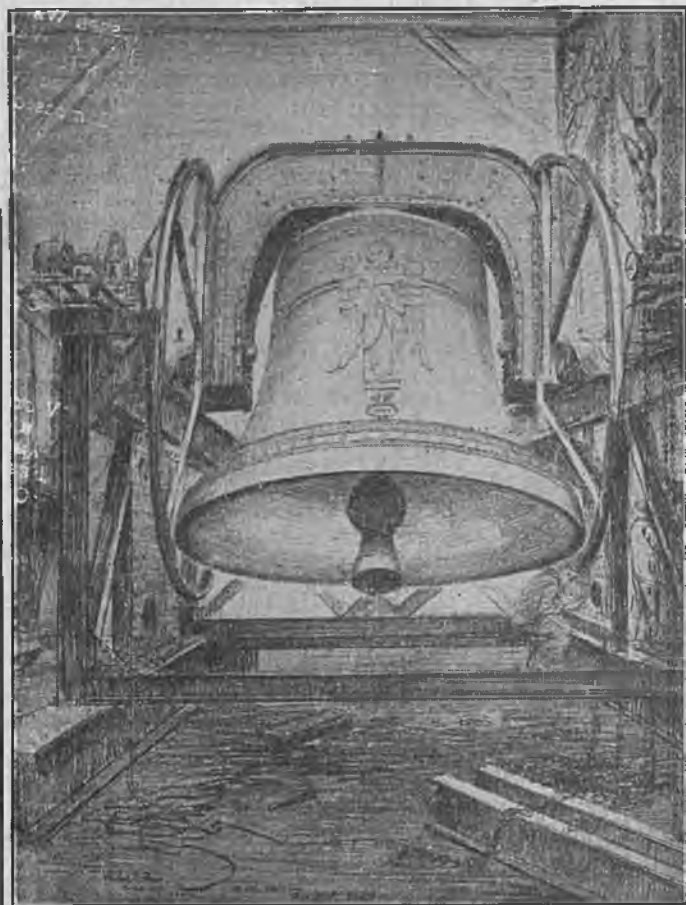
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MORE HISTORY.

The history of the three hundred years or so of change ringing is being gradually pieced together and no more valuable contribution to this end has been made than by the recently published volume by Mr. Ernest Morris. Hitherto what has been known of the past has been contained in a vast quantity of scattered facts, and it was to bring many of these together in some semblance of order that Mr. Morris set about the task and has achieved so large a measure of success. But despite this, there still remains a great deal of material hitherto untouched by the historian, and there may yet be, indeed there probably is, other information existent but as yet hidden by the 'dust of ages.' A recent investigation by Mr. J. Armiger Trollope has yielded evidence of this. An exploration of material in the British Museum and elsewhere has revealed some extremely interesting facts about old London ringing societies and ringers of the eighteenth century and, for the benefit of the Exercise, Mr. Trollope has written a series of articles for 'The Ringing World' which will throw a new light upon the relationship between these ancient organisations.

Mr. Trollope has built up, upon this freshly discovered information, what really amounts to a new history of probably the most interesting period of old London ringing societies, in which the central theme is the Ancient Society of College Youths. Setting out to re-investigate the claim of the society to continuity of existence since 1637, he explored new fields, dug up long since forgotten details, and pieced them together with the sole desire of writing an authentic story. The facts which he has adduced and the conclusions at which he has arrived will be of great interest to our readers, and they are of no little importance in settling once and for all a question which has been raised at various times and by more than one writer as to the unbroken existence of the original society.

In addition to the main question, many interesting sidelights on some of the leading figures in London ringing circles in those far off days illumine the articles, which form one of the most interesting series of historical sketches which have been penned in connection with ringing. To men like Mr. Trollope, who give their time and their talent to instructing ringers, the Exercise owes a great debt. When they write on technical subjects, as Mr. Trollope did in his series on 'Variation and Transposition,' they draw upon a knowledge accumulated only by years of patient study; when, as in this new series, and in the case of such writers as Jasper Snowdon, they give us 'original' history of some phase of ringing, it is the result of long and painstaking research. The Exercise is richer for their work and is under an obligation to them which cannot easily be repaid.

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TEN BELL PEALS.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

*G. RONALD EDWARDS Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 6
*LESTER L. GREY 2	*WILLIAM HORAN 7
*JAMES T. SMITH 3	*JOHN COOKE 8
THOMAS HAMMOND 4	EDWARD JENKINS 9
JOHN WILKINSON 5	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal of Cambridge Royal. Ring in honour of the birth of
a son to the Rector, Canon J. C. H. How.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 6, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART Treble	STANLEY ARMSTRONG 6
ALFRED KING 2	JACK M. CRIPPS 7
MRS. F. I. HAIRS 3	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD 8
FREDERICK C. J. TURNER 4	FRANK I. HAIRS 9
ALFRED W. GROVES 5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... Tenor

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS

BANBURY, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

*WILLIAM TANDY Treble	HARRY SEAR 6
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 2	WALTER F. JUDGE 7
REV. C. W. O. JENKYN 3	*JOHN SIMONS 8
*SIDNEY TAYLOR 4	*HERBERT INFREY 9
RICHARD A. POST 5	*ROBERT HIGHAM Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1931, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

*FREDERICK SHARPE Treble	JAMES W. WILKINS 6
MAURICE SMITH 2	ALBERT E. LOCK 7
MRS. A. E. LOCK 3	RICHARD WHITE 8
HUGH BALCOMBE 4	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. 9
FREDERICK MESSENGER 5	GORDON CAUDWELL Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON.

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, JUN.

* First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EARL SHILTON, LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 28, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. SIMON AND JUDE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS', IN EIGHT PARTS. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

GEORGE A. NEWTON Treble	T. KELHAM DEACON 5
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER 6
HAROLD J. POOLE 3	JOHN OLDBAM 7
LOUIS E. ALLEN 4	*FRANCIS R. DEACON Tenor

Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

* First peal on eight bells.

LEICESTER.—At St. Margaret's, for evening service, on Palm
Sunday, 1,007 Grandsire Caters: E. E. Tanser 1, A. Hewitt 2, Ernest
Morris (composer and conductor) 3, G. Straw 4, S. A. Johnson 5,
W. Tanser 6, L. Johnson 7, E. Cattell 8, J. Morris 9, J. Grant 10.

RAINFORD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(WIGAN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 28, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM BLACKLEDGE ... Treble	THOMAS ROTHWELL ... 5
JAMES WM. GROUNDS ... 2	JAMES L. WRIGHT ... 6
JOHN BOOTH ... 3	JAMES W. HALL ... 7
JAMES MARSH ... 4	JOSEPH RIDYARD ... Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE.

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

First peal in the method on the bells. Also first peal in the method for the ringer of treble, 5th and 7th. The band take this opportunity of thanking the local ringers for their kind hospitality after the peal.

TIVERTON, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, March 28, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

E. SHEPHERD ... Treble	REV. E. S. POWELL ... 5
E. W. BIFFIN ... 2	A. TRUMAN ... 6
J. ARBURY ... 3	A. G. BETTS ... 7
W. HOWE ... 4	G. LUXTON ... Tenor

Conducted by A. G. BETTS.

* First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman as conductor.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 28, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE CHAPPELL ... Treble	CHARLES H. PERRY ... 5
WILLIAM WILLIAMS ... 2	ERNEST STITCH ... 6
BENJAMIN J. TOBY ... 3	GWYN I. LEWIS ... 7
WALTER J. NORTON ... 4	ALFRED W. WRIGHT ... Tenor

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

First peal of Triples as conductor and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. J. W. Jones, wife of Mr. J. W. Jones, the highly esteemed hon. secretary of the above association, with whom much sympathy is felt in his bereavement.

SAXLINGHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Good Friday, April 3, 1931, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

WILLIAM E. BASON ... Treble	RICHARD BALDRY ... 5
WILLIAM L. DUFFIELD ... 2	GEORGE MAYERS ... 6
JOHN ALDIS ... 3	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... 7
LEONARD POINTZ ... 4	GEORGE POINTZ ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by WILLIAM E. BASON

Rung with half-muffled clappers.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 4, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

FREDERICK BORRETT ... Treble	HERBERT FULCHER ... 5
WILLIAM FLATT ... 2	GEORGE GOWER ... 6
CHARLES LOOME ... 3	RUSSELL RICHES ... 7
CECIL BARRETT ... 4	WALTER BARRETT ... Tenor

Composed by A. E. DURRANT.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

RYE, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on March 31st, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 51 mins.: E. Curd 1, J. Vincent (first quarter-peal 'inside') 2, G. Farr 3, F. Bryant 4, G. Hodson (conductor) 5, W. Sands 6, T. Lay 7, W. Henley 8 (cover 7.6.8). First quarter-peal as conductor.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 4, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 18 cwt. 10 lb.

HERBERT GREENHALGH ... Treble	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 5
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 2	WILLIAM HORAN ... 6
ERNEST BENNETT ... 3	TITUS BARLOW ... 7
HERBERT DAVENPORT ... 4	EDWARD JENKINS ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST BENNETT.

First peal of Surprise as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the daughter of the treble ringer.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

OLIVER SIPPETTS ... Treble	ALFRED J. BULL ... 5
GEORGE OLLIVER ... 2	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 6
NELSON ELLIOTT ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON ... 4	ALAN R. PINK ... Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1931, in Five Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE DUBLIN SURPRISE MAJOR, 9600 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

RAYMOND OVERY ... Treble	*RAYMOND S. PHILPOIT ... 5
*WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 2	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 6
*GEORGE GILBERT ... 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 7
GEORGE W. STEERE ... 4	ALFRED H. POLLING ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES (adapted by GEORGE E. CLODE).

Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.

* First touch in the method. Longest peal on the bells, and longest in the method. W. J. Robinson's 100th peal.

RANMORE COMMON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1931, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

FREDERICK G. WOODISS ... Treble	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 5
*JOHN SPARROW ... 2	GEORGE E. CLODE ... 6
JOHN F. GALYER ... 3	DANIEL COOPER ... 7
ALAN R. PINK ... 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... Tenor

Composed by JAS. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN

* First peal in the method.

EPSOM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*FRANK OAKSHOTT ... Treble	†WILLIAM C. SMITH ... 5
MRS. C. HAZELDEN ... 2	ARTHUR H. SMITH ... 6
*WILLIAM ROBINSON ... 3	CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 7
†GEORGE READ ... 4	ALBERT HARMAN ... Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS.

Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

* First peal in the method. † First peal.

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SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WATTON-AT-STONE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*HERBERT BEADLE Treble	*W. MILTON 4
MISS NORA WELCH 2	T. H. TOWNSEND 5
SYDNEY CARTER 3	J. WELCH Tenor

Conducted by S. CARTER.

* First peal and first attempt. Ringers of 1 and 4 are from Watton, 3 Little Munden, 2 and 6 Bennington, 5 Chells Green. Ringer of treble was elected a member previous to starting.

SEALE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 25, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LADRENCE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt. (approx.).

ERNEST GARDNER Treble	CHARLES W. DENYER 4
*WILL H. VIGGERS 2	*REGINALD J. WHITFORD 5
WILLIAM DENYER 3	CHARLES NEWMAN Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. DENYER.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. Rung on the conductor's 20th birthday.

LLANELLY, BRECONSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 29, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.

Tenor 13 cwt.

J. BRINLEY JONES Treble	EDWARD H. STRADLING 4
GEORGE HAWKINS 2	GEORGE POPNELL 5
WILLIAM H. SAUNDERS 3	SYDNEY T. RACKHAM Tenor

Conducted by S. T. RACKHAM.

Mr. D. G. Cliff was unable to ring owing to illness, and the band are indebted to Mr. E. H. Stradling, who took the vacant rope at short notice.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Good Friday, April 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven varied callings.

Tenor 10 cwt.

REV. A. C. MOULE Treble	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 4
MISS KITTY WILLIERS 2	CHARLES ROBINSON 5
ARTHUR WILSON 3	FRANK WARRINGTON Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Rung with clappers fully muffled to the Greatest of All. 'Lest we forget.'

LIMPSFIELD CHART, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 4, 1931, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 changes each of College Exercise, Westminster, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Single Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G sharp.

H. F. HYLTON TIDY Treble	LEONARD A. TIDY 4
H. BERNARD WELLS 2	*DANIEL COOPER 5
HUGH R. THORPE 3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal in seven methods.

ALDWINCLE, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 6, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... Treble	ERIC J. SARGANT 3
WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... 2	CHARLES M. WHITNEY ... 4
BORLEY P. MORRIS Tenor	

Conducted by BORLEY P. MORRIS.

First peal on the bells for the Guild, and first on the bells for twelve years.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, March 29, 1931, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. BRAY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. J. BRAY 1-2	JACK BRAY 5-6
FRANK LORD 3-4	BERNARD GILLATT, JUN. ... 7-8

Composed by W. HUDSON.

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

First peal of Treble Bob 'in hand' by all.

ARMLEY, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

AND LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 31, 1931, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MRS. LEACH, KIRKSTALL AVENUE,

KIRKSTALL, LEEDS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

*MISS P. MARJORIE LEACH ... 1-2	JOHN W. MOORHOUSE ... 5-6
JOSEPH THACKRAY 3-4	*HENRY G. GRIMWOOD ... 7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JOHN W. MOORHOUSE

* First peal.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

TRING.—On Sunday evening, March 29th, for a Confirmation service held by the Lord Bishop of St. Albans, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples in 49 mins.: F. Keen 1, F. C. Reeve 2, H. Bishop 3, H. Bull 4, J. Puplett 5, C. Badrick 6, F. J. Reeve (conductor) 7, N. Brackley 8.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, March 29th, for divine service, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples (1,260 changes) in 41 mins.: C. R. Goodburn 1, F. A. Mitchell 2, G. A. Jones 3, J. Burles 4, H. Argent 5, G. R. Ambrose 6, F. M. Mitchell (conductor) 7, C. M. Mitchell 8. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells by the ringers of 1, 2, 5 and 8, and rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of 1 and 2. An attempt for a peal in the same method on the previous day was unsuccessful after 1½ hours owing to two bells shifting.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows', on March 29th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples: Mrs. E. H. King (first quarter-peal and first attempt) 1, E. H. King 2, W. J. Ellis (conductor) 3, H. Ellis 4, W. Dickinson 5, W. Bowden 6, J. G. Nash 7, E. A. Hull 8.—On January 18th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,344 changes): J. G. Nash (conductor) 1, J. Bird 2, F. G. Symonds 3, W. J. Ellis 4, W. Dickinson 5, M. Fensom 6, H. Ellis 7, E. A. Hull 8.

HARLOW COMMON.—On Sunday morning, March 29th, 1,248 Bob Major: S. Clark 1, F. Whitby 2, I. Cavill 3, E. Rochester (first quarter-peal) 4, L. Cordell 5, W. Wheeler 6, J. Cordell 7, H. Smale (conductor) 8. For evensong, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise: F. Whitby 1, G. Dent (conductor) 2, W. Morris 3, S. Clark 4, L. Cordell 5, I. Cavill 6, J. Cordell 7, H. Smale 8.

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THE STEDMAN TWINS.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF AN INSEPARABLE PAIR.

BY 'Quick Six.'

Of course you have all heard of the Stedman Twins, at any rate all who have rung peals of Stedman Triples have met them. They are a most delightful pair, so attached to one another, so obliging and, like all twins in devoted families, well-nigh inseparable. They are so much alike that when they are apart even their most intimate friends have a difficulty in distinguishing one from the other, for they answer to the same name—both being called 'Bob' for short.

To some, of course, the Twins, their habits and their idiosyncrasies are quite well known, but there are doubtless many who will be interested to learn why this devoted couple play so conspicuous a part in the peals of Stedman Triples that are most generally rung, and the object of this little sketch is to give ringers not otherwise familiar with them a closer acquaintance with the pair.

These bobbed twins, or, as they are also known, twin bobs, are, for all their modern appearances, not quite so young as they look. To be perfectly truthful they were born just about a hundred years ago, their father being a gentleman named William Hudson, of Sheffield.

Stedman Triples had been rung for considerably more than a century before the birth of the twins, but the compositions were, from the present-day standpoint, execrable things, although, to do the old composers justice, they were the product of a great deal of painstaking effort, and with the little material they had to work on reflect a great deal of credit upon them. These compositions contained a multitude of calls, some of them of the 'legitimate' order and some 'illegitimate,' but they produced a 5,040 containing as many changes strictly on Stedman's principle as the composers could work in.

To realise something of the problem which these old composers set out to solve, put yourself in their position. Remember they had no text books; no one had gone before them and left a legacy of results of investigations. They had got the method, bequeathed to them by Stedman, which lends itself to repetition probably as easily as any method under the sun, and they knew that there were 5,040 possible changes—and that is about all. Can you wonder that the initial efforts were, to modern eyes, crude and cumbersome affairs? George Stephenson's 'Rocket' could not be compared with a modern railway express engine.

But these old explorers, as they groped about in the darkness of ignorance, were always seeking to improve upon what had gone before; they aimed at eliminating the 'illegitimate' calls and reducing the number of Singles, and the system they worked upon was the plan of utilising courses of continuous bobbed sixes, that is to say, they kept the same bells dodging behind as long as possible in each course by calling bobs at consecutive sixes, and when it was necessary to change the pair behind they let one slip away and another come up by missing out a bob. As this is not intended to be really a technical article, there is no need to go into reasons which doubtless prompted the old composers to use this plan of bobbed courses 'plained' together in preference to the one using plain courses, bobbed together, except to say that it eliminated a great deal of the risk of repetition.

Well, some time round about 1830 Will Hudson, who was the 'big noise' in Sheffield in composition about that time, did two things which entitle him to a place in history. He produced his famous 'Sixty course-ends' of Stedman Triples and the first peal in which twin bobs were employed. It is true that he also utilised in this peal twenty-two calls which were known as 'Doubles,' but he had laid the foundation on which Lates and Thurstans, of Birmingham, worked to produce peals with bobs and two regular Singles only. And Hudson's sixty course-ends are the real secret of the whole business. How he found them, whether by luck or judgment, does not matter for our purpose; it is sufficient that he did find them, and probably as the result of immense labour and the burning of a good deal of midnight oil.

These sixty courses, if pricked to their extents, are the nearest possible approach to sixty true plain courses, that is to say sixty separate full courses without bobs. So beautifully adopted for the purpose are the relationships between these sixty courses, and so impossible does it appear to obtain any other effective set, that upon these sixty courses every subsequent twin-bob peal has been constructed. There is the authority of Sir Arthur Heywood for saying

that no matter what variation, reversal, or transposition is attempted by starting in different ways or in different parts, by change of observation bell or the use of singles, the sixty course-ends of a twin-bob peal having a fixed observation bell will always bear precisely the same relation to one another, as do the course-ends which Hudson discovered.

And now, what about his famous Twins? A peal of Stedman Triples consists, of course, of 840 sixes, divided, if one bell follows a fixed path undisturbed by bobs, into sixty courses. It is, however, impossible to obtain more than forty true plain courses, and in Hudson's sixty the repetitions occur at the 3rd, 5th, 7th and 12th sixes. If the observation bell is to remain undisturbed it is at these or at corresponding places, together with the 4th, 6th, 8th and 13th or corresponding sixes that the bobs must be called. The reader is not asked to analyse Hudson's sixty courses, although a study of them will well repay the trouble, but he can take it for granted that every 3rd six of a course has its repetition elsewhere in a 7th six, and every 7th six, consequently, its repetition elsewhere in a 3rd six. Similarly every 5th six of a course appears as the 12th six of some other course, and every 12th six, consequently, as the 5th six elsewhere. Thus there are 120 sixes that occur in duplicate, and 120 sixes which do not occur at all. Now comes an extraordinarily curious and interesting fact. If every one of the sixes which occur in duplicate are bobbed, instead of coming up plain, the 120 missing sixes appear in duplicate in place of the 120 which came up in the plain courses. Then comes the problem of how to get rid of the 120 duplicate plain sixes and substitute the 120 bobbed sixes. This proves to have a simple solution. If, instead of bobbing all the sixes which duplicate, only half of them are bobbed, the missing sixes will be substituted for the repeating ones. Thus every bobbed 3rd six entails plaining a 7th six, and vice versa; and every bobbed 5th six necessitates a plain 12th six, and vice versa; so that if you have, for example, 40 courses with the 3rd six bobbed, leaving 20 with this six plain, there must be 20 plain 7th sixes and 40 bobbed; or, if you have 30 bobbed and 30 plain 5th sixes, you must have 30 plain and 30 bobbed 12th sixes.

But here comes the 'snag.' Having bobbed away one of the 'regular' sixes to get hold of one of the missing sixes, the thread of Hudson's sixty courses is lost, and it is essential, for various reasons, that a quick return to them should be made. Here again, Hudson's marvellously adjusted plan of courses comes into play, for the thread which is broken by a bob at the 3rd six, is by a bob at the next six taken up again at the 4th six in another course; a bob at the sixth six restores the thread in a corresponding position elsewhere, when it has been broken by a bob at the fifth six; and so with a bob at 8 after a bob at 7; and a bob at 13 after a bob at 12.

Thus you will see the very important part played by the Stedman Twins in the scheme of peal composition (the wonderfully skillful odd bob peals by the late Mr. John Carter and Mr. Joseph W. Parker are not concerned in this article). The business of the twins is twofold—one of the pair brings in a six which could not otherwise be introduced: the other restores the thread of Hudson's sixty courses upon which the truth of the peal depends. If William Hudson had not discovered his sixty courses, probably someone after him would have done so, but his researches and discoveries revolutionised the composition of Stedman Triples, and his work deserves to be better known among ringers than it is. Thurstans is one of the names which will ever be on the lips of Stedman ringers, but let us not forget the man who made his famous masterpiece possible—William Hudson, 'father' of the Stedman Twins.

For the benefit of those who have not the figures by them, here are Hudson's 60 course-ends, and those who wish to go further into what is really a fascinating subject will find that if they are pricked with bobs at 3.4.5.6 throughout they give the 840 true six-ends:—

231456	234165	123564	154263	451362	345261
324156	321465	215364	512463	543162	432561
125346	136245	132654	461253	164352	246351
213546	312645	316254	642153	613452	423651
152436	462135	251634	256143	365142	563241
514236	641235	526134	521643	631542	652341
511326	163425	361524	145623	146532	264531
455126	614325	635124	416523	415632	625431
342516	243615	562314	265113	356412	354621
435216	426315	653214	624513	534612	536421

BIRKENHEAD.—At St. Mary's Church, on March 19th, for a Confirmation service, 1,320 of Minor, being 720 of Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Oxford Single, and 240 Plain Bob Minor by the following: Miss L. Chapman 1, Geo. Battle 2, Miss D. I. Leatham 3, G. R. Edwards 4, Jas. F. Smith 5, J. Cooke (conductor) 6. This is the first 720 of Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob for the ringer of the second, and his longest touch in four methods, and also the first 720 of Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and longest touch in any method for the ringer of the treble.—Also on Monday, March 23rd, 720 Plain Bob Minor: J. Gibson (first 720) 1, Miss L. Chapman 2, Miss M. Cooke 3, W. J. Battle 4, G. R. Edwards 5, J. F. Smith (conductor) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss L. Chapman.

DEDICATION OF MARKET DRAYTON BELLS.

RING OF EIGHT RECAST AND REHUNG.

Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, have just recast the ring of eight bells at Market Drayton, Shropshire, and rehung them in a new iron and steel frame. They have carried out the work with their customary skill, and not only is the 'go' all that can be desired, but Market Drayton possesses a ring of bells among the best for their weight in the country.

The dedication of the bells took place on Sunday week, the ceremony being performed by the Bishop of Stafford. The founders were represented at the service by Messrs. C. Harrison and J. P. Fidler.

After the Bishop had dedicated the bells, the local band of ringers rang a short touch, and after the morning service the same ringers rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, and further touches of the same method were rung up to mid-day.

In the afternoon there were visitors from Eccleston, Pulford, Farndon, Stanton-on-Hine Heath, and Hodnet, who with the local ringers rang touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Bob Major. The local ringers rang for the evening service. During the day the tower was thrown open to visitors, and many took the opportunity of inspecting the bells.

The bells and the inscriptions are as follow:—

Treble.—'Gloria in Excelsis Deo. Church Restoration commenced 1881, Geo. S. Cuthbert, Vicar; Frs. R. Twemlow, Geo. Lashmore, churchwardens, John Warner and Sons 1887. Vicar's wardens: Samuel Bennion 1875, John Lockett 1879, Benjamin S. Hawthorn 1885, John W. Wilson 1886, Richard H. Lea 1890, H. Robert Glennie 1898. People's wardens: John Pearce 1880, Thomas Hughes 1891, John Evans 1902, William Hy. Tyler 1907, John Robert Pearce 1918, Geo. Burton Lashmore 1925. John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough, 1931.'

2nd.—'God save the Queen. Victoria Jubilee, 1887. John Warner and Sons 1887. Omnia lant ad dei gloriam. Church Restoration completed by the restoration of the Tower 1887. Chas. J. Winsor, Vicar; Frederick Gouldbourn, Samuel J. Harding, churchwardens. To the Glory of God, repeat through the generosity of the Bellingrings and rehung in memory of Thomas Jones by his son, William Jones, 1931. John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough.'

3rd.—'When you me ring I sweetly sing. A.R. 1700. Recast and rehung to the Glory of God and in memory of Hubert Onions by his sisters, 1931.'

4th.—'Prosperity to all our Benefactors. To the Glory of God recast by members of St. Mary's Guild and rehung in memory of all women workers of this church, 1931.'

5th.—'Mr. John Bill. A.R. 1700. To the Glory of God recast in memory of Wilma Mary Garnault Bowles by her husband, Eustace Bowles, 1931.'

6th.—'Feare God. Honour the King. Abra. Rvdhall, 1700. To the Glory of God recast in memory of Mary Katherine Wilkinson by John S. Wilkinson, and rehung by other benefactors, 1931.'

7th.—'T. Mears, of London, fecit 1819. John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough, 1931. To the Glory of God and in memory of her husband, Dan MacCabe, Liverpool, died 1925, and her son, Harry MacCabe, died 1917, this bell was recast and rehung by Jessie MacCabe, 1931.'

Tenor.—'I to the Church the living call and to the grave do summon all. Rev. R. Price, Vicar, 1700. C. and G. Mears, Founders, London, 1846. Revd. J. Lee, Vicar; C. Poole, J. Haslem, churchwardens, 1846. John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough, 1931. To the Glory of God and in memory of John Alberic Everard Upton and Joseph Annesley Everard Upton. This bell was recast by their parents 1931. This peal of eight bells was recast and rehung in 1931: William Benjamin Dowell Lee, Vicar; George Francis Palin, George Charles Roberts, churchwardens; William Weatherby, captain of ringers.'

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Monday, March 23rd, at Heston, Middlesex, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.: W. F. Ellingham 1, W. Bolwell 2, H. C. Chandler 3, W. H. Stevens 4, W. Lewis 5, E. R. Gladman 6, C. S. Bird (conductor) 7, F. Cattermole 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mrs. Carter, wife of Mr. S. Carter, who was interred the same day. Mrs. Carter at one time was a chorister and Sunday School worker, while for many years Mr. Carter was leader of the local band of ringers, churchwarden, and treasurer of the Middlesex County Association (South and West District).

On Tuesday, March 31st, at Heston, Middlesex, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.: H. C. Chandler 1, W. Lewis 2, W. F. Ellingham 3, W. H. Stevens 4, H. C. Cooper 5, C. S. Bird (conductor) 6, E. R. Gladman 7, F. Cattermole 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Lady Becker, wife of Sir Frederick Becker, of Sutton Hall, Heston, who was interred the same day. Sir Frederick was a generous contributor to the funds when the bells were increased to the octave in 1908.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

SUPPORT FOR CENTRAL COUNCIL.

A quarterly meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held on Saturday, March 28th, at King's Norton, which was originally a royal borough and known as the King's North Town. It belonged to the Crown from the time of the Conquest up to the reign of Henry III., and again from the reign of Edward IV. onwards until October, 1804, when it passed by purchase into private possession. The ancient Manor Court survived till 1876, when it was discontinued. It is interesting to note that from 1845 to the extinction of the Court, one John Suckling Pritchett held the office of bailiff, and his namesake is now Presiding Ringing Master of the Guild. King's Norton was originally in Worcestershire, but came into Warwickshire when the Birmingham Extension Act of 1911 was passed, and it became part of the city.

Up to the year 1846 the church was a chapel of ease to the mother church of Bromsgrove. Very little remains of the original building, the church having been completely restored and reopened in 1872. It stands on a high eminence, and its tower and spire are a landmark for miles around. The tower originally contained a peal of eight bells, which were recast by Taylor and Co. in 1924, with tenor about 17 cwt. In 1927 two trebles were added from the same foundry, the gift of Mr. F. B. Yates, who for several years was a churchwarden, and at the present time is an active and regular Sunday service ringer.

The Guild's form of service was conducted by the Rector, who also gave an interesting and instructive address. This was followed by tea at the Saracens Head, an old 16th century coaching house that was de-licensed some little time ago, and was presented as a free gift to the church by the brewery company. The building is in perfect condition, and is a great acquisition to the parish.

At the business meeting, presided over by Alderman J. S. Pritchett, sympathy was extended to Mr. J. E. Groves, who has not been well for some time, and the secretary was instructed to write him with the Guild's best wishes for a speedy recovery to good health. Mr. James George also wrote stating that he was making sure, if slow, progress, and that he was looking forward to meeting his ringing friends again shortly.

The Chairman stated he was sure they would all regret to hear of the death of Mrs. Goldsmith, the mother of the Editor of 'The Ringing World.' She was a dear lady of a genial disposition, and he moved 'That the secretary be instructed to send a letter to Mr. J. S. Goldsmith expressing the sympathy of the Guild with him and his family in their bereavement.' This was seconded by Mr. Walker and carried unanimously.

The question of loyalty to the Central Council was discussed at some length, and it was unanimously decided on the proposition of the chairman, seconded by Mr. A. Walker, 'That the Guild be affiliated to the Central Council of Church Bellingrings, and loyally abide by the rules and decisions thereof.'

Mr. Ernest Morris' new book, 'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' was also referred to, and on the proposition of the librarian Mr. G. F. Swann, seconded by Mr. Walker, it was unanimously agreed that the Guild purchase a copy for its library. Several members present who already have copies expressed their appreciation of its value.

The Chairman stated that two copies were already in the Birmingham Library, one in the lending department and the other in the Reference Library, also that he hoped to get a copy into the Coventry Library.

Mr. J. Holman, of Sheffield, and Mr. G. R. Newton, of Liverpool, were duly elected life members, and Mr. E. Sibley's election previous to starting for a handbell peal was also ratified.

On the proposition of Mr. A. P. Smith, seconded by Mr. W. C. Dowding, it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Coleshill on Saturday, July 4th, if the necessary arrangements can be made.

Mr. A. P. Smith, in a humorous speech, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, his address in church, and for the use of that building, in which he had been on many previous occasions under somewhat different management. He congratulated the Vicar and parish on having such a fine place in which to carry on its work. He also thanked the ladies for their services in providing such a nice tea.—This was seconded by the chairman and carried with applause.

This completed the business, and a return was made to the belfry, where further ringing took place.

WEDDING BELLS.

At St. John-the-Baptist Church, Womersley, on Saturday, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss O. Voller, daughter of Mr. G. Voller, captain of the Womersley band, 720 of Grandsire Doubles: A. Rooke 1, W. Enticknap 2, L. Hunter (conductor) 3, G. Voller 4, R. Skinner 5, F. Rooke 6. Thanks are due to Mr. Hunter for standing in and conducting at short notice.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.**SUCCESSFUL BANK HOLIDAY MEETING.**

A meeting of the North-Western District was held at St. Martin's, Dorking, on Easter Monday, and despite the unsettled weather proved a great attraction, members and friends attending from Ashstead, Banstead, Beddington, Benhilton, Brockley, Buckland, Cambridge, Carshalton, Chelsea, Croydon (St. John's and St. Peter's), Dorking, Epsom (St. Martin's), Guildford (Cathedral and St. Nicolas'), London, Mitcham (Parish Church), Newdigate, Putney, Reigate, Walton-on-Thames and Wandsworth. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and the bells were kept doing until service time.

A short and enjoyable service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. E. J. Newill), and the curate kindly presided at the organ. Tea followed at the Commercial Hotel, and 45 members and friends sat down to a very enjoyable meal, though perhaps a trifle congested in some parts of the room.

The District Ringing Master (Mr. A. W. Clark) presided at the business meeting, which was short and of a routine nature.

The Secretary reported the death of a member, Mr. R. J. Loveland, of St. John's, Croydon, since the last meeting, and the members endorsed his action in sending a wreath and the sympathy of the association to his relatives.

Only one new member was elected, viz., Miss I. Shorter, of Cambridge.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and conducting the service, and to the curate for playing the organ, also to the steepiekeeper for having everything in readiness. Several touches were then rung on handbells, and much appreciated by those present, before a move was again made to the tower for further ringing, which continued until nine o'clock, when the bells were lowered in peal and a very enjoyable meeting terminated. Methods practised during the afternoon and evening ranged from rounds and Grandsire Triples to London and Bristol Surprise Major.

The next district meeting will be held at Beddington on Saturday, May 16th.

CHEPSTOW.—On Saturday, March 28th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), rung after an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples had failed owing to a shift course: E. H. Luff 1, E. H. Stradling 2, G. Hawkins 3, A. Hawkins 4, G. Popnell 5, S. T. Rackham 6, J. Phillips (conductor) 7, H. Sims 8. The thanks of the band are tendered to Mr. H. Sims, of Chepstow, who rang at short notice instead of Mr. D. G. Clift, who was indisposed.

FORMER LADY RINGER MARRIED.

An extremely pretty wedding took place at St. Ann's Church, Bagshot, Surrey, on Saturday, when a large congregation assembled to witness the marriage of Mr. Hugh Black, of Camberley, son of Mrs. Black, of Austruther, Scotland, and Miss Alice Kathleen Corbett, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Corbett, of Bagshot. Mr. Corbett has been secretary of the local ringers for many years, and Miss Corbett was one of a party of young girls who, in war time, took the place of the men in the belfry. She became quite a competent ringer, although she did not follow up the art after the reconstruction of the band.

Saturday's ceremony was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Canon Stuart), and the singing was led by the choir. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of cream satin, with old Brussels lace train, and was attended by six bridesmaids, attired in mauve crepe-de-chine and carrying baskets of violets. There was also a tiny page in Highland costume, and he and the youngest bridesmaid acted as train bearers. The happy couple left the church to the strains of Mendelssohn's 'Wedding March' and the pealing of the bells rung by the local ringers. The reception at the Parish Hall was attended by a large number of guests, and Mr. and Mrs. Black left by car for their honeymoon to the strains of the bells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples being rung by A. E. Clarke (Bagshot) (first quarter-peal) 1, W. Viggers (Aldershot) 2, C. W. Denyer (Aldershot) 3, H. J. Chaffey (Ottershaw) 4, F. Nye (Bagshot) (conductor) 5, J. S. Goldsmith (Woking) 6, H. Hunt (Bagshot) 7, H. Hunt, sen. (Yorktown) 8.

THRAPSTON WEDDING BELLS.

The wedding took place on Easter Eve, April 4th, at Thrapston Parish Church, of Miss K. Nickerson and Mr. E. Lingard. The bride, herself an hon. member of the Ladies' Guild, is the only daughter of Mr. James M. Nickerson, the captain of the Thrapston belfry, and the popular secretary of the Thrapston Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild. As the newly-married pair left the church, the bells were rung in 'matrimonial order' by ringers from the neighbouring towers, and, later, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) was rung in 45 mins.: E. E. Whitmore 1, W. Copperwheat 2, W. J. Whitmore 3, F. Kirk 4, H. William Cheney 5, F. Stubbs 6, C. M. Whitney 7, G. W. Jeffs (conductor) 8. The band were afterwards entertained to tea at the home of the bride, and their congratulations and best wishes were expressed by one of the members.

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PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED.

PICTURES OF CHURCH TOWERS FOR
PUBLICATION IN 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The Editor of 'The Ringing World' will be glad to receive photographs of churches, with a view to their future publication when suitable occasion arises.

The photographs should be accompanied by brief particulars of the bells, with their inscriptions and dates if possible, and any other interesting information about them.

Pictures should, for preference, be photographic postcards, and, where there is any choice, the tower should be a feature.

Obviously, of course, all the pictures cannot be published at once, the object of getting a collection being that the photographs may be ready at hand for use when fitting opportunity occurs.

Will each tower secretary be good enough to send a photograph of his own tower? It should be forwarded in an envelope for protection, and addressed to The Editor, 'The Ringing World,' Woking, Surrey, and the sender should enclose his name and address.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The peal of ten bells of Solihull Parish Church, near Birmingham, are being removed by Messrs. John Taylor and Company to their foundry at Loughborough for recasting.

Five ringers have been elected to the new Parochial Church Council of Over, Cambs—Messrs. A. J. Ginn, F. Warrington, C. Robinson, H. Robinson and G. Whybrow. A bell fund has been opened, but unfortunately the clock and organ have gone wrong, and must be attended to first. Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, is, we understand, repairing the clock.

We understand a move is being made at All Saints', Longstanton, to provide a memorial to the late Rev. H. B. Woolley.

The good wishes of the Exercise will go out to Mr. W. T. Cockerill, the genial hon. secretary of the College Youths, who will be 72 on Monday.

An interesting peal was rung at Kettering exactly 200 years ago next Sunday. It was the result of a challenge to the local ringers, who in 1729 had rung a peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hrs. 18 mins. Some unbeliever evidently questioned whether all the peal had been rung in this space of time, so with one exception, that of the tenor-man, the same band set about proving not only could it be done in the time occupied in 1729, but also in a good deal less.

The peal board which recorded the first peal also has the following added: 'Since it was asserted our first performance could not be rung in less than 3 hours and a half, for an experiment, and before skilful judges, on ye 12th of April, 1731, ye whole peal of 5,040 was completed at 30 changes each minute, in 2 hours and 48 minutes, by the persons underwritten: Tho. Howard, 1; Tho. Woodford, 2; John Law, 3; G. Eayre, 4; Hen. Parker, 5; Rob. Booth, 6; Jno. Carley, 7; Jona Barlow, 8.'

Sunday is also the anniversary of the famous peal of 18,027 Stedman Caters rung in 12 hrs. 18 mins. at Loughborough on April 12th, 1909.

The anniversary of another long peal occurs on Monday, that of the 14,000 Kent Treble Bob Royal, rung at Ashton-under-Lyne in 1914.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

In the particulars of the arrangements made for the Central Council meeting at Liverpool, published last week, the name and address of Mr. Claude I. Davies, of Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree, Liverpool, who is acting as secretary of the local reception committee, was omitted. Members requiring tickets for luncheon, which will be provided by the Lancashire Association, and those who desire to take part in the proposed Masonic peal, should apply to him.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED.

On the morning of Easter Day, at St. Olave's Church, Hart Street, City of London, a tablet recording a peal of Grandsire Triples rung on St. Olaf's Day, July 19th, 1930, by members of the Kent County Association, was, at the invitation of the conductor (Mr. F. W. Thornton), unveiled and dedicated by the Rector, Prebendary Tom Wellard, B.A., B.D. At the conclusion of the interesting ceremony several touches of Grandsire were rung enabling four of the young local band to make their initial effort in Triples on working bells.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS, 1750-1788.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

MR. J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE has just completed some original research into the history of an interesting period of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the result of his investigations, bringing to light a great deal of hitherto unpublished information, is to appear in our columns in a series of articles, of which the following is the first.

I. INTRODUCTION.

The Ancient Society of College Youths claims to be the oldest ringing society with an unbroken corporate existence since 1637. This claim has generally been allowed by the Exercise; but now and then, at very wide intervals, we come across doubts expressed and statements made that at a particular time there was a definite breach and that the present society is not the real successor of the society founded by my Lord Brereton and his aristocratic companions in the reign of Charles I. A year or two ago, when collecting materials for some historical notes on ringing, I came across one of these statements, and I promised to try and find out the truth and see what evidence there is behind these rumours.

Sixty or seventy years ago there were a number of men who started an interest in the archæology of bells. By a vast expenditure of time, patience and learning, they got together an immense amount of information relating to bell inscriptions, bell lore and legend, and bell founders. Some of them added inquiries into the history of early bell ringing and bell ringers. Two of the best known of these men were the Rev. C. W. Lukis, Rector of Wath, near Ripon, and the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, Rector of Clyst St. George, near Exeter. It was these two men, I believe, who first published any doubts of the continuity of the College Youths.

Writing in 1855, Mr. Lukis says: 'There is in London a society of College Youths, but it is said not to be descended from the ancient society, which became extinct in 1788' (Note 1).

Mr. Ellacombe, in 1872, in 'Bells of the Church,' says: 'It would be pleasant if we could reject the hypothesis of the ancient society's extinction; but the probability, it cannot be denied, is in this direction.'

I know of no other published statement on the subject.

Neither Lukis nor Ellacombe could have had any information from anyone who had personal knowledge of the matter, and by 1872, at any rate, all memory of it had faded out of the Exercise. It is, therefore, certain that both got their information from Osborn and from Osborn alone.

Edward John Osborn was a London ringer, a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths about 1840, who formed the intention of writing a history of change ringing, and collected a large quantity of information about the early societies. He wrote an account of most of the London companies, but his book was never completed and never published. After his death his widow presented his manuscripts and the material he had collected to the British Museum, where they now are. This was on February 12th, 1853.

The books which Lukis and Ellacombe and such like wrote were for antiquarians. They were expensive, with a limited number of copies, and, as a rule, published by subscription. They were little likely to be read by ringers, and these statements attracted no attention and passed almost unnoticed. But Ellacombe (Note 2) was

on friendly terms with the College Youths of his day and no doubt brought the matter to their notice. Their reply, in so many words, was that Osborn was a liar, who, because he had quarrelled with the society, made up this tale out of spite. Their actual words are as follows:— 'Some years ago a gentleman named Osborne, on leaving the society, deposited a manuscript history in the British Museum, in which he tries to make out that the Company became extinct once or twice since its formation. The documents of the society prove the contrary, and that its continuity is a matter beyond doubt.'

This is the concluding paragraph of 'An Historical Account of the rise and progress of the Ancient Society of College Youths, compiled from the Company's records' (Note 3), but I do not think the writer knew very much about the society's real history. That short paragraph has three mistakes. Osborn did not deposit any-



MR. J. A. TROLLOPE.

thing in the British Museum either on leaving the society or at any other time; his statements of fact are amply corroborated by the Company's peal books; and his name is incorrectly spelt.

In a letter dated June 17th, 1761, addressed to Mr. Lukis, Samuel Austin, then secretary of the society, refers to the former gentleman's statement, and says: 'Now this is a mistake of which I trust I shall be able to satisfy you.' He proceeds to give long extracts from the society's name and peal books, and argues that, as they cover the whole of the years in question, there could have been no breach of continuity. Apparently this is what is meant when the society says that their documents 'prove the contrary and its continuity is a matter beyond doubt.'

There is in existence a considerable amount of material for writing an account of what took place, and I have been at some trouble to find it and sort it out. Having done so, I am not quite of the same opinion as Lukis and Ellacombe. It is certain that there was a technical

(Continued on page 234.)

THE LADIES' GUILD.

BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH ATTENDS NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DISTRICT MEETING.

A meeting of the Northamptonshire District of the Ladies' Guild, at Cranford, on Saturday, March 28th, proved a notable occasion, the members having the pleasure of welcoming the Bishop of Peterborough (Dr. Claude Blagden). A large number assembled at St. John's Church for the Guild service at four o'clock, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. R. C. Thursfield. The address, given by the Bishop, was most thoroughly appreciated, as was his interest in the Guild.

Tea was afterwards served in the school, when there were present, in addition to the Bishop, the churchwardens of the parish, the Rev. R. C. Thursfield, the Rev. E. J. Atkins (Rector of Isham), Miss Steel (president of the Ladies' Guild), Mrs. G. W. Fletcher (general secretary), Miss Atkins (vice-president, Northamptonshire District), Mr. F. Wilford (Master of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild) and Mrs. Wilford, Mr. E. G. Black (general secretary, Peterborough Diocesan Guild), Mr. G. W. Fletcher, Mr. E. M. Atkins, and ringers from a wide area.

The Hon. Secretary of the Northamptonshire District (Miss S. Thursfield) expressed, on behalf of the members, their appreciation of the Bishop's kindness in coming to the meeting.—The Rev. R. C. Thursfield welcomed the Bishop to Cranford, and his lordship briefly replied.

At the business meeting of the Ladies' Guild the chair was taken by the president. The Hon. Secretary said how extremely pleased all the members were to be able to welcome Mrs. Fletcher once again to the district.

Two new ringing members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at East Haddon.

The bells were rung in various Minor methods during the afternoon and evening, including touches by a band of members of the Guild.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS—(Continued from previous page.)

breach of continuity, but I think that sufficient corporate continuity can be proved to justify the society's claim that they are essentially the same society, which was founded in 1637.

The facts, briefly stated, are as follows. After the death of Annable in 1756 a number of the members broke away from the society, and, joining with others from the Eastern Scholars, formed a new company. This company prospered exceedingly and rang some of the best peals credited to the College Youths. The old society also prospered and rang some notable performances. So that for thirty-two years, from 1756 to 1788, there were two societies of College Youths who did not ring together or meet each other at social or business gatherings.

In 1787 the old society was apparently strong and prosperous, and then suddenly and almost without warning it collapsed and expired. Some of its members joined the new society, some joined the Cumberlands, and some gave up ringing altogether. The peal book, etc., passed into the possession of the Cumberland Society. Thereupon the new company moved its quarters to the old society's meeting place and took the name of Ancient Society of College Youths, and has continued to the present day.

This is the story I am going to tell in detail. My authorities are—the records of the College Youths, Cumberlands, Eastern Scholars and London Youths; Osborn's MSS.; some peal boards; the 'Clavis'; and Shipway's book. Nearly all is contemporary evidence.

Perhaps it may be necessary to say that my account is written entirely without bias either way. I am concerned neither to prove the society's continuity, nor to disprove it. All I have tried to do is to set down the truth of what really occurred.

NOTE 1. 'The Wiltshire Magazine,' 1855.

NOTE 2. Ellacombe was elected a member of the College Youths in 1861. He was 'well acquainted with the late Mr. Osborn' (see 'Notes and Queries,' July 10th, 1869).

NOTE 3. This is from the College Youths' official handbook, 1894 ed. The 1928 also contains an account of the society. That must be regarded in many respects as idealised legend rather than sober history.

ERITH AND DARTFORD LITTLE BOB.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the correspondence which has recently appeared in your paper regarding the above methods, may I be allowed to say a few words?

In 1924 or 1925 I passed to Mr. E. Barnett, sen., through Mr. James Bennett, two Little methods for Major, Royal or Maximus. Each of these methods had three pull dodging above fourth's place, and produced the same lead-ends. The only difference between these two methods was that one commenced with the bells above fourth's place dodging, whereas the other started with the bells hunting.

During my residence in Norwich I also gave these methods to some of my ringing friends in Norfolk and Suffolk, and maybe it was from one of these ringers that Mr. Golden obtained the figures.

These methods were first rung by the Kent County Association, conducted by Mr. E. Barnett, sen., under the titles of Dartford Little Bob and Erith Little Bob respectively. I therefore fail to see any reason why they should now be allowed to be rung under any other names. (Perhaps the Central Council Analysis Committee will be good enough to amend their table accordingly.)

Having now settled the correct titles of these methods, I come to the point raised by Messrs. Golden and Lewis, and that is 'Double.' How on earth they can be by any rule at present in existence make these 'double' methods I fail to see, as the tieble only hunts to fourth's place. If they are so keen on ringing a double method, why not ring the proper thing, which, in my opinion, for what it is worth, is 'Double Oxford'?—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE H. CROSS.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION MEETING.

The annual meeting was held at St. Saviour's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, March 21st. Ringing took place at intervals between 2.30 and 4.30 p.m.

At the service, which followed, the Vicar, the Rev. Claude Williams, M.A., gave an excellent address.

Through his kindness, the members sat down to a splendid tea at the Church House, South Street, the Vicar presiding, supported by Mr. C. M. Taylor, churchwarden, and Mr. A. Cain. The Master of the Association, Mr. J. T. Rickman, was present, and Mr. A. A. Hughes, of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, and Mr. W. D. Smith among others. The Vicar gave a warm welcome to the members, close on seventy attending, representing the following towers: Brighton (St. Peter's, St. Nicholas' and the Church of the Good Shepherd), Hastings (All Saints' and St. Clement's), St. Leonards (Christ Church), Hecne, Mayfield, Southover, Lindfield, Battle, Shoreham, Uckfield, Heathfield, Eastbourne (All Saints', St. Mary's and St. Saviour's).

Mr. Rickman thanked the Vicar for the use of the bells, for his splendid address at the service, and also for the excellent tea. The Vicar, in responding, thanked the company present for their kind expressions, and wished the Sussex County Association every success.

At the business meeting, which followed, the Vicar occupied the chair.

The following members were elected: Messrs. W. T. Bradfield, A. J. Clift, S. C. Driver, E. A. Easton, C. A. Levitt, F. H. J. Pilbeam, G. F. Piper, G. S. Piper, F. Tollett, J. D. White, J. R. Wise and Mrs. G. Levitt, all of All Saints', Hastings. The election of Mr. J. Bromley, Horsmonden, Kent, as a non-resident life member, and Mr. J. Powell as a yearly member, was also confirmed.

At the election of officers which followed, Mr. G. W. Stokes, of St. Saviour's, Eastbourne, was re-elected as hon. secretary, and Messrs. W. Franks, A. R. Miles and W. Booth were re-elected to the committee. Mr. A. C. Pankhurst was elected to serve on the Committee of Advice.

Mr. A. A. Hughes proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding. The bells of St. Saviour's, All Saints', and of the Parish Church were rung until 8 p.m.

RINGERS TRY GAS FITTING.

A quarterly meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was held at Highworth on Saturday, March 21st, with a small attendance. Swindon Branch, with a membership of fifty, and an average of twelve at meetings! It is not good enough. Even the gas in the belfry was, like the local ringers, missing, so after a few amateurs had tried their hand at gas fitting, a member of the party visited the gasworks to see what could be done. As this gentleman had lost his hat on the previous Saturday at a ringers' dinner, perhaps he thought a little light on the subject would be an advantage. After a visit of the gasman, who said the pipes would have to be cleaned out, Mr. Bond, of Burford, came to the rescue with a packet of candles, with the aid of which a touch of Stedman was managed. It is hoped, therefore, that the visit to Highworth has done a little good in 'belfry reform' if nothing else.

A meeting at Brinkworth was arranged for April 18th and Rodbourne Cheney for May 16th. Due notice will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

JUST PUBLISHED**THE HISTORY AND ART OF
CHANGE RINGING****By ERNEST MORRIS**

Gen. Hon. Sec. Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers, Member of the Leicestershire Archæological Society, The Ancient Society of College Youths, etc. With a Foreword by Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge, M.A., Vicar of Crowthorne, Berks, President (1921-1930) of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. Demy 8vo., 691 pages, 122 illustrations. At all Libraries and Bookshops, 25s. net.

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SECRETARIES' DERELICTION OF DUTY.**'CALLED OVER THE COALS.'**

The ten secretaries who took part in the peal at Beddington on March 21st learnt years ago that it is impossible to please everyone, so that they will not be surprised to hear that there is a critic even of their innocent proceedings. A correspondent signing himself 'W. S.' has two 'bones of contention.' 'It is not appreciated,' he writes, 'that C. T. Coles is general secretary of the Middlesex County Association. He is a joint secretary.'

A little while ago we heard something about 'tunnel vision' in regard to ringing. There would seem to be some people who have not got even that limited outlook. If Mr. Coles is not a 'general' secretary of the Middlesex Association, even though he may share the duties jointly with Mr. Hollier, then no ringer has ever qualified for such a title.

Then, says 'W. S.', 'the peal was rung on a meeting day. . . Have not the Guild officers asked and appealed for loyal support at meetings? If you must have peals to encourage the forward work of the Guild, why not put meeting attendances first and the peal ringing second? Before accusing others of non-support at meetings, peal ringers should put their own house in order first.'

Now, all you secretaries who came from Guilds and associations where meetings were being held that day, just sit up and take notice of this! It does not matter that you were general secretaries and the meetings were district meetings, for which district secretaries, and not you, were responsible; it does not matter that this event was unique; that you came from ten different areas as wide apart as Leeds and Portsmouth, Cardiff and Gravesend, and that the selection of a convenient date for all of you was no easy thing, or that the peal was arranged before the district meetings; in fact, nothing matters but that some of you failed to be present at district meetings in your own associations. Fie on you!

'W. S.' does not actually say so, but rather obviously the secretary of the Guildford Diocesan Guild is the chief offender, as the Guildford District is mentioned by him in another connection. We have interviewed the secretary of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, and he says he must, of course, plead guilty. He was caught red-handed, so he cannot put up an alibi. He can only plead in extenuation that in the last twelve months he has attended nearly twenty district meetings of his own Guild, and 'umpteenth meetings of other people's guilds; that he had not previously rung a peal this year on anybody's meeting day, and that, if he is permitted to escape this time, under the 'First Offenders' Act, he won't do it again—when anyone is looking.

By the way, we understand that the secretary of the Midland Counties Association has applied for membership of the Secretaries' Association, and has forwarded a life subscription, which, there being no auditors to look after the accounts, the president proposes to spend next time he has a summer holiday.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**THE NOMINATION MEETING.**

Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the nomination meeting of the Leeds and District Society could not be held at Armley, and a continuous run for over twenty years came to an end. The meeting was held instead at Holbeck Parish Church, and was very well attended, members being present from Armley, Batley, Bramley, Burley, Drighlington, Hunslet, Headingley St. Chad's, Headingley St. Michael's, Lindley, Rothwell, Ripon, Pudsey, Leeds Parish Church, Sharow, and the local company.

Two new members were elected, and it was decided (after a vote) to hold the annual meeting at Burley on April 25th.

The nominations provided some surprises. All towers are requested to send representatives to the annual meeting at Burley to cast their votes on the many important questions which will be brought forward, one of which specially concerns the older members of the society, whose more frequent presence at the meetings would be welcome.

In an able speech Mr. Barton proposed: 'That the best thanks of our society be accorded the Vicar of Holbeck for the use of the bells, and to the local company for the arrangements,' and Mr. L. Morris replied on behalf of the ringers.

An invitation was given to all the members who would like to learn Surprise ringing to communicate with Mr. George Slack, of Burley, who was desirous of starting a class at Burley Parish Church.

The attention of members was drawn to the new book, written by Mr. Ernest Morris, on 'The history and art of change ringing.'

WHITNASH, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Thursday, March 26th, for practice by a visiting band, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor in 25 mins.: C. Wildsmith (first 720 of Minor) 1, H. C. Burt 2, A. W. Bond 3, W. Harrison 4, H. Huxley (first 720 of Minor 'inside') 5, W. A. Stote (conductor) 6. The above, with Mr. E. H. Adams, of Warwick, practise on Tuesday evenings at Lillington Parish Church, and in the course of twelve months have raised their standard of Minor ringing from Plain Bob to London Surprise.

EASTER DAY RINGING.

DEPTFORD.—For evening service, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 40 mins.: J. R. Colby 1, J. J. Lamb 2, W. A. Martin 3, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 4, F. W. Thornton 5, C. Elliott 6, F. W. Richardson 7, A. Bennington 8. Composed by E. E. Richards, of St. Alfega, Greenwich.

ABERAVON, GLAM.—On Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 43 mins.: G. Chappel 1, W. Williams 2, W. J. Nurlon 3, F. E. Stone 4, C. Mathers 5, A. J. Pitman 6, E. Stith (conductor) 7, J. Weathersby 8.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.—For early Communion service, 720 Oxford Delight; for 11 o'clock service, 720 Duke of York: W. Williams, S. Carter (conductor), J. Williams, A. Phillips, A. Woolston, W. H. Lawrence. For evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: W. Williams, J. Williams, S. Head, A. Phillips, S. Carter, W. H. Lawrence (conductor).

SEVENOAKS.—On Easter Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: H. J. Ford 1, E. L. Taylor 2, P. G. Turley 3, W. G. Tarley 4, S. Comber 5, E. H. Lewis (of Brasted) 6, H. D. Ford (first as conductor) 7, F. Paige 8.

EGERTON, KENT.—On Easter Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: W. Missing 1, D. Homewood 2, L. Homewood 3, A. Waddington (conductor) 4, A. Missing 5, C. Rains 6. First quarter-peal on the bells by a resident band. First quarter-peal by ringers of 1, 2 and 3.

LONDON.—At St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Easter Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 44 mins.: T. Benney 1, H. Alford 2, W. J. Norton 3, J. S. Hawkins (conductor) 4, E. Brett 5, T. Langdon 6, R. W. Green 7, T. Joyce 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. T. Joyce and R. W. Green.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.—On Easter Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,295 changes) in 53 mins.: A. Bishop 1, Miss C. Sparshott 2, R. O. Street 3, E. V. Hinton 4, Mrs. E. Williams 5, K. Derham 6, G. Seragg 7, F. Sparshott 8, G. Preston (conductor) 9, W. Fowler 10.

OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE.—On Easter Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 44 mins.: J. Hughes 1, R. Edwards 2, W. B. Kynaston 3, H. T. Hughes 4, R. Kynaston 5, G. Williams 6, R. T. Evans (conductor) 7, T. Marshall 8. Rung also as a birthday compliment to the conductor and H. T. Hughes.

NOTICES.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—A meeting will be held at Bishopwearmouth Parish Church, Sunderland, on Wednesday, April 15th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5. Glad to see visitors.—G. Siddle, Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Youghreave on Saturday, April 18th. Church of All Saints (8 bells, tenor 27 cwt.) available afternoon and evening. Tea will be arranged. Visitors welcome. Subscriptions due. Method for special attention: Double Norwich.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., Leamwood, Dore.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday, April 18th. The bells (10) will be ready at 3 p.m.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Welton (5) on Saturday, April 18th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me?—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Midsomer Norton and Frome Deanery.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Compton Dando on Saturday, April 18th, and not 11th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business at 5 p.m. Please let me know how many of your ringers want tea.—G. M. Hasell, 11, Council Houses, Timsbury.

HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Hastings, on Saturday, April 25th. Tower open at 3 p.m.—A. Edmies, Hon. Sec.

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.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 23rd, Southwark Cathedral on the 16th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st, all at 7.30 p.m., and at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 30th, at 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 11th, at the Parish Church, Cefn Coed. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. The tea will be supplied by the generosity of the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Belle Vue, Brecon.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, April 11th. Bells available from 10 a.m.: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Matthew's (5), Rushmere (6), Bramford (6). Service 4.30 (with sermon by Rev. C. S. Scott, Incumbent of All Hallows, and District Secretary). Tea at Co-operative Hall 1s. each, at 5. Meeting to follow.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, April 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Newcastle, Saturday, April 11th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Tea at 5. Everybody welcome.—W. J. Davidson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Chief Fire Station, Newcastle.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held at St. Laurence's Hall, Abbey Street, Reading, at 3 p.m., Saturday, April 11th (p.v.). Will branch secretaries notify me before that date the number of annual reports required for their respective branches? —Richard T. Hibbert, Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Glastonbury, on Saturday, April 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Hoghton on Saturday, April 11th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea, at 1s. 3d. a head.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Daybrook on Saturday, April 11th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. The reports for 1930 are now ready.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., 23, Shaw Street, Ilkeston.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting at Clerkenwell on Saturday, April 11th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, at 1s. each, at 5, followed by business. Ringing at Clerkenwell from 2.45 and after the meeting; at St. Giles', Cripplegate, 3 to 4 p.m., and at St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill, 7 to 9 p.m.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4; W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4, Hon. Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A district meeting will be held at Tichborne on Saturday, April 11th. Service at St. Andrew's Church 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting at the Tichborne Arms 4.30. Bells of Cheriton and Tichborne available 2.30. Please let me know how many will come.—George Noice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 6, Cathedral View, Highcliffe, Winchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —A meeting will be held at Farnworth (Widnes) on Saturday, April 11th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, and meeting to follow.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —The quarterly meeting will be held at Melksham on Saturday, April 11th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Guild service 4.40. Tea 5. Lecture and short business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Thames Ditton on Saturday, April 11th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. Hancock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Chobham Road, Ottershaw, Chertsey.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Biggleswade on Saturday, April 11th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Tea at 5.30. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Saturday, April 11th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. A good attendance requested.—James Grounds, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northwich Branch. —A meeting will be held at Middlewich on Saturday, April 11th. Bells ready at 3.30. All ringers welcome.—H. Parker, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bowdon and Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bowdon on Saturday, April 11th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—T. Wilde, Hon. Sec., 36, Dowson Road, Hyde.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Kintbury on Saturday, April 11th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., at 1s. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify Mr. Godson, The Dundas Arms, Kintbury, near Newbury, not later than Wednesday, April 15th, for tea.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Birling on Saturday, April 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.45. Tea (free) and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Please notify me early.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — Quarterly meeting at Bramley, April 18th. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Visitors welcomed. Numbers to me by April 15th, please.—D. L. Board, Wolverton Rectory, Basingstoke.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, April 18th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.45, with address by the Vicar, Rev. John Goodacre. Tea (1s.), in Institute, at 5.30. Please send word by Tuesday, April 14th. — H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Great Holland.—Dedication by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford of the new ring of eight erected to the memory of Miss Emma Barron, founder of the Barron Bell Trust, on Saturday, April 18th, at 3 p.m. Kirby-le-Soken Station ten minutes' walk by the fields. Frequent bus service from Clacton-on-Sea. Tea in the Village Hall, provided at a small charge, to all who give notice to Mr. W. J. Nevard, The Myrtles, Great Bentley, Colchester, by the first post Tuesday, April 14th. All ringing friends will be welcomed.—C. H. Howard, Master.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, EVESHAM. — The restored and augmented peal of 8 bells will be open to ringers on Saturday, April 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea provided, 9d. per head, for all who let me know by Wednesday, April 15th. All ringers welcome. Good bus services from Evesham.—F. J. Johnson, 29, Hinton, Evesham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford, on Saturday, April 18th. Bells of the Cathedral from 2.30 p.m., and S. Nicolas' from 3 p.m. Service in the Cathedral 4.30.; preacher, Bishop Golding-Bird. Tea and meeting in Holy Trinity Parish Hall. Numbers for tea must reach me not later than Tuesday, April 14th. — J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover, Hockering Gardens, Woking.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District. — The annual meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, April 18th. The peal at the Parish Church (10) available from 4 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., and at All Saints' (8) from 2.30 p.m. onward. Service at 4.30 p.m. in the Parish Church, with sermon by the Rev. A. G. Shipley, Vicar of All Saints'. Tea will be served in Wordsworth's Café, Beartfair, at 5 p.m., at 1s. 6d. per head. Those requiring same are requested to notify Mr. W. Pearson, 53, Northgate, Pontefract, not later than Thursday, April 16th. Business meeting to follow. All ringers will be cordially welcomed.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch. — A meeting of the Wirral branch will be held at Woodchurch on Saturday, April 18th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Six bell tower. — Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Hawkhurst on Saturday, April 18th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome. — A. J. Battin, Hon. Sec., Heronden Hall Gardens, Tenterden.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Blagden on Saturday, April 18th. Bells open 2.30. Divine service 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting.—L. G. Tanner, Local Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH AND SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILDS.—A combined practice by these guilds will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, April 18th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Those requiring tea inform Mr. G. Preston, 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on April 18th, when the bells will be ready during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5. Address by the Vicar. Tea and meeting after. All will be heartily welcome. — W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Forest Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Ruardean on Saturday, April 18th. Bells (8), recently rehung, available 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting, at 5 p.m., will be held at Bell Hotel. All ringers who intend having tea must let the secretary know by Wednesday, April 15th, to make arrangements. — Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD. — Southern District.—Members and friends meet at St. Mary's, Lambeth, on Saturday, April 18th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock. Business, following Evensong, 7.30. Social hour. Handbells. Postcards, stating intention, appreciated by J. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Market Drayton (8 bells) on Saturday, April 18th. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me know on or before the 15th inst.?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Marlborough Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the branch will be held on Saturday, April 18th, at Aldbourne. Bells available 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30. Visitors kindly notify the secretary, Cyril Hussey, Hon. Sec., Green Farm, East Grafton, Marlborough.

DEVON GUILD. — N.E. Branch. — Quarterly meeting at Bickleigh on Saturday, April 18th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea (1s.) 5.15 p.m. Those who require tea should notify me not later than Tuesday, April 14th. — Fitzwilliam Carter, Withleigh Vicarage, Tiverton.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held in Birmingham on Saturday, April 18th. The bells of St. Chad's, Bath Street, will be available from 3 to 4.30 p.m., and Bishop Ryder's, Gem Street, from 3 to 5 p.m. and after tea until 7 p.m. A meat tea will be served in Bishop Ryder's School at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head to those who notify me by Thursday, the 16th. Unless I receive this notice tea cannot be guaranteed. The business meeting will follow the tea and reports will be ready for distribution.—Miss D. E. Lewis, Gen. Hon. Sec., Firholm, King Edward Road, Nuneaton.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Southampton District will be held at East Tytherley on Saturday, April 18th. Bells (8) and Lockerley (6) from 2.30. Service at 4.15. Tea, at Star Inn, at 5 o'clock. Those requiring tea please inform me by April 14th.—W. T. Tucker, Dis. Sec., 71, High Street, Eastleigh.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Chiddingstone on Saturday, April 18th, at 3 p.m. Will all requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, April 15th? All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Exeter Branch. — A meeting will be held at Exminster on April 18th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, at 5, 1s. each. Bands and visitors attending please notify me by April 10th.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, St. Thomas, Exeter.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Chesterfield District of the above association will be held at Cresswell on Saturday, April 18th. Will those requiring tea notify L. W. Bacon, Thanet House, Elmlton Road, Cresswell, by Thursday, April 16th? Bells open early.—J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division. — The annual meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Saturday, April 25th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, 5, in the Church Hall, 1s. 3d. Will secretaries please notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday previous to meeting how many may be expected from their towers? Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.).—A. D. Stone, Hon. Div. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Ashton Parish Church (12 bells) on Saturday, April 25th. Bells 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. Members make their own arrangements for tea. Good accommodation near by.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—N. and E. District.—Next meeting at Pinner on Saturday, April 25th. Bells from 3. Tea, at 5.30, 1s. each. Please do let me know if you are coming.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Brading on Saturday, April 25th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., in the Parish Hall followed by business meeting. All ringers welcomed. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me on or before Wednesday, the 22nd inst?—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., Collingwood, 23, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.O.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —A meeting will be held at Leesfield, Oldham, on Saturday, April 25th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. A peal board will be unveiled by the Vicar at this service. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. — William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A by-meeting will be held at All Saints', Whitstable, on Saturday, April 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Will all those members intending to be present kindly notify Mr. G. C. Smith, Whittenham, Vale View Road, Whitstable, not later than Thursday, April 23rd?—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary Cray on Saturday, April 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea, generously provided by the local ringers, will be reserved only for those members notifying me not later than Monday, April 20th.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

DEVON GUILD.—Aylesbeare Deanery Branch. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 25th, at East Budleigh. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 4.30. Numbers for tea to be sent by Monday, April 20th, to Mrs. Powell, Hon. Sec., Clyst St. George, near Exeter.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Cliffe-at-Hoo on Saturday, April 25th. Further details next week.—Stanley J. T. Sherlock, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Totham on Saturday, April 25th. Bells (6) 2.30. A short service in church at 4.30, to be followed by tea and meeting. Will all those who intend to be present please let me know by first post on Thursday, April 23rd? Members are asked to turn up in large numbers and make this meeting a great success.—A. E. Coombes, Hon. Sec., 8, Council Houses, Galleywood, Chelmsford.

BROADWOODKELLY, DEVON.—The re-dedication by the Bishop of Exeter of the recast and augmented ring of 6 bells in a new frame and with new fittings by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, will take place on Saturday, May 2nd, at 3.30 p.m., followed by tea (1s. per head). Ringing before and after tea. Concert 7.30 p.m. Notifications for tea should be sent to the Rev. E. W. Perry, The Rectory, Broadwoodkelly, Winkleigh, Devon, beforehand.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. John W. Jones returns very sincere thanks for kind thoughts and sympathy shown to him in his recent bereavement.

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