

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 237. Vol. IX.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1st, 1915.

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

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM SNOWDON.

The Exercise has sustained a heavy loss by the death of Mr. William Snowdon, but, although with his demise there remains in ringing circles no representative of a family that for more than forty years has done so much for the progress of the Art, the name will for ever be associated with the great advance in ringing which has marked this period. The work commenced by Jasper Snowdon, to whom the Exercise owes more than to any other single man, was carried on by his brother, William, and without question the vast increase of knowledge and its application to practical ringing which we have seen in the last thirty years is due in no small degree to the zealous investigation and enthusiastic work which Jasper Snowdon undertook. His untimely end might have robbed us of a further store of knowledge had not William undertaken to complete what Jasper had begun, and for this reason, if for no other, the Exercise is under an inestimable debt to him who has now been called to rest.

But while it was in the quietude of the study that William Snowdon rendered his most valuable service to ringers at large, he did a vast deal more for those of his native county. For more than 35 years after its foundation, the Yorkshire Association had a Snowdon in its presidential chair. For the first ten years it was occupied by the immortal Jasper, who had been the mainspring of its formation, and upon his death the office devolved upon his brother, who retained it, and with it the esteem and love of the members, for over a quarter of a century. Mr. William Snowdon relinquished the position only with advancing years and because he desired to devote more time to completing his brother's writings. The same painstaking and conscientious labour that he put into his literary work he bestowed upon guiding the destinies of the great association over which he presided. During his term of office the organisation nearly trebled in membership, and only those who were intimately associated with him, have any real idea of the care with which he watched over its growth.

No ringer had a greater and truer conception of his duty than had Mr. Snowdon. Reared under its influence, he was ever a devoted son of the Church, and his example was as high as any that a ringer could aspire to emulate. In the tower of Leeds Parish Church, with which he was so long associated, in the county of Yorkshire, where he was so well known and esteemed, and in the wider sphere of the whole ringing Exercise which his work has benefited, William Snowdon will be mourned. His forte was not prowess in the tower, and the amount of peal ringing which he did was very small, but how many peal ringers his work, following upon the foundations laid by his brother, has created can never be known.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

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

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

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

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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BIRMINGHAM**

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BANGOR, CARNARVONSHIRE,
THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.
(St. David's Society, Bangor.)

*On Monday, September 13, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
At the Church of St. David.*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt., in F. sharp.

WILLIAM CRANE, SENR. Treble	DAVID TAYLOR 5
REV. T. LEWIS JONES 2	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 6
WILLIAM CRANE, JUNR. 3	WILLIAM T. PEGLER 7
ALBERT J. HUGHES 4	LEWIS W. McDERMID Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Corporal E. J. Webb, a member of the local band, who died in Alexandria Hospital from wounds received at the Dardanelles.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

*On Monday, September 20, 1915, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul, Wood Green,*

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

VARIAION OF C. MIDDLETON'S.

EDGAR T. SMITH Treble	FRANK W. PERRINS 5
EDGAR MARLOW 2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 6
THOMAS HILL 3	EDWIN J. TYLER 7
CHARLES TYLER 4	JAMES TYLER Tenor

Conducted by JAMES TYLER.

Rung for Harvest Festival. First peal of Surprise by all the band; also on the bells. This peal is supposed to be the first in the method by a resident Staffordshire band.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 25, 1915, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Bertholine,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*WILLIAM SUTTON Treble	JOSEPH A. COOK 5
JAMES WILDBLOOD 2	ARTHUR ALLMAN 6
EDWARD HARPER 3	†ALBERT CRAWLEY 7
WILLIAM CARTWRIGHT 4	JOHN BRASSINGTON Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

* First peal. † First peal as a conductor. Rung in honour of the Harvest Festival, also as a birthday compliment to the Conductor, and to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the first peal on the bells; also in honour of the 35th anniversary of the induction of Rev. W. Skene as Rector of Barthomley.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ARKLOW, CO. WICKLOW.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

*On Tuesday, August 31, 1915, in One Hour and Fifty-seven Minutes,
At LAMBERTON LODGE,*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob.

JOHN KEARON 1—2	RICHARD KEARON 3—4
ARTHUR HADLEY 5—6	

Conducted by RICHARD KEARON.

Witness: MRS. A. HADLEY.

First peal by John Kearon who only commenced ringing in January last and is just turned 15 years old.

The witness of the peal of Bob Minor rung at Retford, and published in our issue of September 17th, was Harold Johnson and not Lieut. Johnson as stated.

The umpire to the handbell peal of Grandsire Caters rung at Evesham on Sunday, September 12th, was Harvey Streets.

ARKLOW, CO. WICKLOW. THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, September 19, 1915, in One Hour and Fifty-eight Minutes,
At LAMBERTON LODGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being four 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Kent Treble Bob.

JOHN KEARON ... 1-2 | RICHARD KEARON ... 3-4
ARTHUR HADLEY ... 5-6

Conducted by ARTHUR HADLEY.

Witnesses: MRS. A. HADLEY and GEORGE BINGHAM.

First peal of Treble Bob by John and Richard Kearon.

HINTON, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (SOUTHERN BRANCH).

On Sunday, September 26, 1915, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,
At THE RESIDENCE OF MR. F. J. JOHNSON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

HARRY MIDDLETON ... 1-2 | FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 5-6
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... 3-4 | FRANCIS S. WILSON ... 7-8

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

Umpire: MISS ELLEN M. JOHNSON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. J. JOHNSON. Mr. F. S. Wilson hails from Tewkesbury.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

The following further contributions to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	114	10	3
"Wanderer"	0	2	0
Collected at the Gainsborough District meeting of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild (per Mr. F. S. W. Bulter)	0	5	1
Bushey Society (August collection)	0	5	0
Total	£115	2	4

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined the colours:
Pte W. J. Paice, of All Saints', Wokingham, and St. Peter's, Caversham, 4/4th (City of London), Royal Fusiliers, now at East Barnet.

From St. Mary's, Barcombe, Sussex:

Pte W. H. Banks, 8th Royal Sussex Regiment, in France.

Gnr. L. H. Stevens, R.G.A., at Dover.

Tpr. J. Morley, Sussex Yeomanry, at Maresfield Park.

From Christ Church, Mitcham:

Pte Hector Dewdney, 190th (Wimbledon), R.F.A.

Pte Douglas Hall, 3/5th East Surrey Regt. (Wimbledon).

From St. Marie's R.C. Church, Sheffield:

Gnr. Colin Harrison, No. 2599, 3/3rd W.R., R.F.A., now at Leighton Buzzard, Beds.

Pte Haydn Thorpe, No. 1502, 12th York and Lancs S.B., now at Silkstone, Yorks.

BANGOR RINGER KILLED.

By the death of Corpl. E. J. Webb, St. David's company, Bangor, have lost one of their most promising members. He enlisted at the outbreak of war, and joined the 6th Batt. of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. He went with his regiment to the Dardanelles, where he was severely wounded, and died in hospital at Alexandria.

The deceased was a native of Maid's Norton, Buckingham, where he learned to ring, and rang the treble to a peal of Grandsire Doubles. He then moved to Llandegar, near Bangor, entering the service of Mr. Gough, of Tynnewydd, as gardener. He was a member of the Penrhyn Fire Brigade. About 3½ years ago he joined St. David's company of ringers, and made rapid strides, mastering the Standard methods and Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major. Circumstances prevented him ringing any peals in these methods, but he was looking forward to scoring in this direction when he returned. The deceased, who was 25 years of age, leaves a widow and two young children, with whom the greatest sympathy is felt. On Sunday, Sept. 12th, the bells of St. David's Church were rung half-muffled for the services, as a mark of respect, and on the following day, as recorded elsewhere, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung.

RINGER'S WAR EXPERIENCES.

NARROW ESCAPES IN ERECTING ENTANGLEMENTS.

Pte C. Austin, of the Coldstream Guards, son of Mr. John Austin, of Gloucester, and who, before the war was employed at the Spitalfields Foundry, has written an interesting letter to Mr. R. Warner, in which he says that both he and R. Runham, another well known ringer in the same regiment, are both going on all right. At the time of writing they were back down the line, having a long rest, and were stopping at a pretty little village. Pte Austin proceeds:—

"We have been lucky since we came out, for we have only seen one attack, which took place on May 9th, at Richebourg. We have, however, been in some warm places since then, such as the Brickfields at Givenchy and Quinchy, also Cambrai. Some of the sap heads in those places are not much more than five yards apart. One of our trenches, at one of the above places, is only 15 yards from the Germans. At such places as these, where the trenches are so close together, there are a lot of hand bombs, rifle grenades and trench mortar bombs used. Some of the bombs fired out of these trench mortars weigh as much as 80lbs. and they make more noise than 'Jack Johnsons.' Men have gone mad in these places and no wonder at it; it is enough to drive anyone mad.

"About two months ago I joined a barbed wire entanglement party. Of course we have to do all our work at night. We started work at a place which is called 'Cushy,' because the trenches are a good way apart, and there are not many shots fired there. We did this job without any trouble. The next place we went to, we struck it hot. We were working within 30 yards of the Germans. One night, when the moon was shining, they caught us out on top and started sniping at us, but they did not do any damage at first, and so we went on with our work, but in the finish we had to pay for stopping out. A bullet went through the woodwork on one of my mate's rifles, and then went into his face and killed him. About the same time another member of the party, who belonged to the London Scottish, was shot through the neck. I heard afterwards that he died in hospital. A few nights after this, in the same part of the line, they caught us again. We had just started work—there were three of us working together—when one of the chaps along with me saw a rifle grenade coming. He shouted: 'Look out, here's a bomb,' and of course we crept out of the way, and a good job, too, for it dropped just where we were working. Then they opened rapid fire, and started the machine guns working, and threw any amount of bombs and rifle grenades over. I thought my last minute had come. I kept my face flat on the ground, and managed to get along somehow. At last I got to one of our trenches, into which I went head first, that being the safest way. The next night we went up to the same place and finished the job without any trouble.

"Just after this we went to another part of the line, and got on all right till the last night. We had nearly all finished work, and some of us were sitting in the trench, when someone struck a match to light a 'fag.' About a second after a bullet sent the dirt flying off the top of the trench. A German had seen the light in our trench and sent a bullet over, on the chance of hitting someone. He must have kept his eye on the place, for he sent several more shots over, without, however, doing any damage. The rest of the party were just coming in when he sent another shot over, which passed through the neck of one of my mates, killing him, and then knocked the button off another chap's shoulder, which was a narrow escape for him."

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A most pleasant afternoon was spent at Harrold on Saturday last, on the occasion of the monthly meeting of the Bedford District. The methods rung during the afternoon ranged from Stedman Doubles to London Surprise. Tea was partaken of at the Institute, and was followed by the meeting, Miss E. Steel being in the chair. Members were present from St. Paul's and St. Peter's, Bedford, Sharnbrook, Kempston, and the local band. One new life member (Mr. P. L. Cooper, of Holbeck) was elected. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Houghton Conquest on October 30th. The Vicar was thanked for the use of the bells and for his visit to the tower, and, in reply, he expressed his pleasure at meeting the ringers.

MR. A. B. PECK'S ILLNESS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I know there is a natural desire among his friends in the Exercise to write expressing their sympathy with Mr. Alfred B. Peck in his serious illness, but as he is still on the "Danger List" at the Hospital it is not wise for him to receive any letters. As soon as he is able to do so, I will let his friends know. In the meantime I am sure they will understand why I write to ask them to defer writing until he is better.—Yours faithfully,

H. R. NEWTON.

A COMPOSITION CLAIMED.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The twelve part peal of Grandsire Triples under the name of A. J. Pitman, Port Talbot, which appeared in "The Ringing World" on September 18th belongs to me. It has been rung now in several variations, and is published both in Snowdon's Grandsire and the Central Council Collection of Peals.—Yours faithfully,

43, Cross Street, Macclesfield.

W. MATTHEWS.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENT.

PRESENTATION TO THE REV. H. J. ELSEE.

The annual meeting of the Lancashire Association was held on Saturday last at Pendleton, and despite many adverse circumstances, was a remarkably successful one. Ringers gathered from all parts of the County Palatine, and from many places outside, for they were drawn not merely by the fact that it was the annual assembly of the Association, but also by the opportunity of doing honour to the President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee), who has completed a quarter of a century at the head of the organisation. Mr. Elsee has rendered invaluable service to the Association throughout this long period, and the members thought the occasion a fitting one to mark their sense of gratitude and appreciation. The gift consisted of a handsome working model of a bell, and the presentation was made by Sir Arthur Heywood, the President of the Central Council. At the same time the Association took the opportunity of showing their practical appreciation of the services of their hon. treasurer, Mr. H. W. Jackson, of Bolton, who for 34 years has occupied the office. The bells of various churches were available during the day, and in the afternoon a service was held



THE REV. H. J. ELSEE.

at Pendleton, at which the Rev. A. T. Beeston (hon. secretary of the Chester Diocesan Guild) preached. The company then adjourned to the schools near by, where tea was partaken of. Following this came the event in which great interest centred.

THE PRESENTATIONS.

Sir Arthur Heywood, on rising, said: I have not during the whole of my somewhat long life found myself in the position in which I have been called to-night—of being connected with a deeply laid plot—a plot to keep back from certain individuals, knowledge of certain things, until a certain date. I call that a plot; therefore, I feel like a fish out of water, but when my good friend Mr. Chapman asked me some months ago if I would come up to the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association and present a testimonial to your president, I felt a great honour was being done me, and I feel that although, perhaps, I have no real claim to that honour other than being a Lancashire man myself, still as the honour was proposed to me I was extremely proud to take advantage of it. I am here to-day to fulfil to the best of my ability that promise of some months ago.

Your president is a very old friend of mine, and he has been one of my great supporters on that Central Council in which, all of you know, I have taken such a deep interest. His wise counsel and complete help have many times been of the greatest service to the Council and myself. You, who know him better as members of your great Association than I do, are able to appreciate him in many ways. I

cannot do him sufficient justice, although I have a very vivid recollection of a good many years ago now in attending one of the meetings at Bolton, and being very much impressed both by the methods of business and those who took part in it.

My work to-day is to congratulate on your behalf your president, who, I think, has been so for 25 years. The fact that he has been your president for such a long time; the fact that he has been your president all that time means to say that you are all very well satisfied with him (hear, hear). After all these years you naturally want to give some indication of the real, hearty and warm feeling that you all have for him by something more tangible than votes of thanks.

It is a very great privilege, thanks to your committee, to be allowed to present to your president this most beautiful model—quite the most beautiful of its kind which I have ever seen; the most beautiful model of a bell hung to ring (hear, hear); and at the same time I have also been asked (as president and treasurer have gone so long together) to present to Mr. Jackson, who, I think, I am right in saying has been your treasurer for four-and-thirty years, this handsome cabinet, which I regard as a double honour (hear, hear). I have great pleasure in presenting these testimonials with the hearty good wishes of the Lancashire Association, and with the hopes that they will remain during the life of the recipients, a clear indication of the value that the Association set upon their great services (hear, hear).

CANON EDWARD-REES' TRIBUTE.

Canon Edward-Rees said: It gives me a very real happiness to take part—even if it only be a very small part—in the meeting for which you are assembled here to-night. It has been my privilege to know your president for about two-thirds of the period of 25 years in which he has served you. I remember when he first came to preach, some 10 years ago at the Pendleton Church, when I was Vicar and when I had the pleasure and happiness of his acquaintance. I have been many times into his Church, and more than once into his pulpit. Now, if any of you had ventured into that pulpit you would recognise the significance of what I am saying. When you stand in it—and if you are at all inclined to be nervous, you will find yourself, ever and anon, making a dive into the body of the church. I suppose that Mr. Elsee, who I know possesses a keen sense of humour, when he built that pulpit was very reminiscent of the change and movement of a bell when it is being swung. I believe he built that pulpit in imitation of the movement of a bell (laughter). Perhaps he forgot that others who have to use that pulpit from time to time are not so intimately acquainted with that movement as he himself. However, the pulpit is a noble one, and the church is a noble one (hear, hear). But we are here to-day not to celebrate the church to which Mr. Elsee is so closely associated, but to celebrate his 25 years' presidency of this Association (hear, hear). I know that what Sir Arthur Heywood of his greater knowledge has told you is literally true; I know that Mr. Elsee commands the esteem and respect, and indeed the affection of all those of that great company of ringers who have come into contact with him during his presidency of your Association (hear, hear). I know that he is deserving of the esteem and regard which has been accorded to him. I hope you will forgive me in saying this, but perhaps you will notice that 25 years seem to be a very long time in the life of one who is your president; if you look at him you will see that the years seem to have been deluded—they have passed him by. One can hardly think he is more than 25 years old, but he must be because your memories cannot all be wrong. You cannot have made a mistake by writing down a "2" before the "5" in error. I know that, because my memory—corroborates yours. I am glad you are making him such a fit present, one that is unique, one that has a charm for everybody who makes its acquaintance (unless he makes its acquaintance as I did, without some sort of preparation), and I hope that it will be your president's privilege to preside over your Association for another period, if not for 25 years, at any rate for a long period, and I hope, too, that that esteem which has bound him to you and you to him will grow stronger, grow more holy and more precious as the years pass (applause).

BELL RINGING CARRIES HARMONY.

There must be something in bell ringing (I am the most amateur of bell ringers as Mr. Chapman would tell you, so if I venture to speak a heresy before I sit down you must forgive me), which carries harmony into men's hearts and lodges it there. You know the great nation with whom we are at war—Germany—has no bells, no ringing of bells in the length and breadth of the country. There is an abundance of bells in Germany, but they are not rung as Lancashire men understand ringing, they are not swung and rung to form complicated harmonies, such as you understand and appreciate; may not some part of the enormities with which that great people have shocked the conscience of mankind be due to the fact that they have never learned to ring bells? Be that as it may I am quite certain that when a man takes to bell ringing it is as though he was doing a good thing, and if I had a dozen sons, in very truth, in literal truth I should exhort them to begin to learn your art of change ringing (hear, hear), while they were still young enough to learn, and, that being so, I should wish for them—I hope members of other companies beyond the bounds of Pendleton will allow me to say this—I should wish those sons of mine no better opportunity than to be associated with a company like that which graces the tower of Pendleton Church. I could wish nothing better for them in the course of their development as church bell ringers than to belong to an Association presided over by Mr. Elsee (applause).

The inscription on the bell is as follows:—

Presented by the members of the Lancashire Association to the Rev. H. J. Elsee on the completion of his 25 years as President of the Association, Sept. 25th, 1915.

The Cabinet bears the inscription:—

Presented to Mr. H. W. Jackson by the Lancashire Association in commemoration of 34 years as treasurer, Sept. 25th, 1915.

THE PRESIDENT'S THANKS.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee, who was received with great enthusiasm, said: I am not sure as president—I was told the president had to preside over everything—I ought not to begin by reprimanding you for interfering with the agenda paper. I see nothing about this on the agenda. I did not know you could keep a secret so well, not one single hint of anything of this sort has reached me from anybody until I came into the room to-night. I wondered what this new and most beautiful toy was, which I saw on the table. I thought perhaps somebody had presented a challenge bell to the Association, but I do not know how you managed to keep a secret so profound as you have kept this. Well, it was a very kind thought indeed, and I thank you more than any words can say for giving me this most beautiful token of your regard for services which I am quite sure I have not deserved ("No, no"). As regards the token, you have chosen that which, of all things, I should like to possess (hear, hear); I do not think I have ever told a ringer, but I have always wished that I had a real working model of a bell, such as this so that one might now and then explain to persons (who know less than Canon Rees does about them) how they work. Well, you have somehow guessed my want, and you have provided it more beautifully than I ever dreamt of. I can only tell you this, that anything I have ever been able to do for the Association has only been a very great pleasure to me (hear, hear). It is one of the many good things that I owe to my father and mother. They wisely never objected to my going down into the belfry at the old tower at Rugby and mixing with the ringers and learning to ring. I know that some others of my older relations were suspicious as to what sort of company a boy, of 8 or 10 I think I was, might find down there, but they were wiser, and by that wisdom they have provided me with a source of enjoyment all through my life up to the present, and, I hope, right through life as long as it shall last (hear, hear).

"A RASH EXPERIMENT."

It does not seem very long, though, when one looks back, yet it was 25 years ago, at a meeting like this, when I was called to the president's chair in the Cathedral Schools in succession to the late Canon Lowe. I think it was rather a rash experiment that you should have called on a young fellow, who had only been in Lancashire two years, and only been ordained three years, to preside over this great Association, but you chose to do it, and though I have often suggested it, you have never turned me out of office yet. I might have done a great deal more for the Association, and I wish I could get about more among ringers and do more to further this work, but it has been a very great pleasure indeed to me to do anything possible for the ringers of Lancashire. I do take it as a mark of especial kindness that Sir Arthur Heywood has come to this meeting to-night (hear, hear). When I met him up in the belfry just after the service, I said, "What are you doing here? We do not often see you at a Lancashire meeting," and he said, "I am a Lancashire man." I know, and Manchester will always know the name of "Heywood" as a right good Lancashire name, but all the same Sir Arthur has so many ties in Derbyshire and Staffordshire now that we do not see him in Lancashire as often as we should very much like to do; and so to-night I take it as a very great mark of kindness to myself as well as to your Association that he has found time and been present at this meeting, and I thank him for it, and I can only thank you over and over again for your kindness to me (applause).

Mr. Jackson, who was also warmly received, also admitted that he had been taken much by surprise. "I had not the slightest idea when I came into this room," he said, "that that cabinet was for me. I saw that bell and knew all about that (laughter), but as for the other presentation I was entirely at sea. I can only just say this, I thank you for the presentation you have made. I have worked for the Association ever since it commenced, and have tried to do everything I possibly could to help the Association. I thank you all for the presentation."

After this the members proceeded to the business of the meeting, including the election of officers, etc.

On Saturday morning a peal of Stedman Triples, at St. Thomas', Pondleton, unfortunately came to grief, but on Sunday evening a quarter-peal was rung for evening service, in 46 mins., by: F. Smith 1, W. C. Hunt (Nottingham) 2, Sam Greenhalgh 3, J. Winterbottom 4, G. E. Turner 5, Harry Chapman 6, James George, composer and conductor (Birmingham) 7, W. Smethurst 8.

TOTTENHAM.—On Sunday, Sept. 12th, for morning service, at St. Ann's Church, 720 Plain Bob, in 25 mins.: T. Ringmore 1, E. Hibble 2, T. Langdon (conductor) 3, H. C. Stubbs 4, F. Fensom 5, C. H. Ross 6.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, Sept. 12th, for a memorial service, in the evening, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. Gibson 1, F. Hounsell 2, C. Stevenson 3, G. Woods 4, G. Apps 5, Pte H. Tomsett (conductor) 6, G. Tomsett 7, T. Mitchell 8.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MR. C. H. HATTERSLEY'S PRACTICAL ADVICE.

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District of the Yorks Association was held at Conisbro', near Rotherham, on Saturday last. About 30 ringers attended from Sheffield (Cathedral, All Saint's and St. Marie's), Rotherham (Parish Church and Eastwood), Doncaster, Barnsley, Wakefield, Bolsterstone, Wath, etc. The bells were raised about 3.30 p.m., and kept going until 8 p.m., the methods rung including Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire, Stedman, Double Norwich, etc.

The visitors enjoyed a capital tea, for which Mr. Harrison, of the local company, had kindly made the necessary arrangements.

On returning to the tower, a short business meeting was held, the chair being taken by Mr. F. Willey in the regrettable absence, through ill-health, of Mr. C. H. Hattersley (vice-president).

Mr. Hattersley sent the following interesting letter:—

"I am again unfortunate at being unable to be with you on the 25th inst., as I am still confined to my room, but I wish all the members a pleasant time. The periodical meetings of the Southern District of the Yorks Association should ever be regarded as opportunities to improve the standard of change ringing, and every member should regard it as a duty to strive and accomplish a degree of excellence in some form or other. I can't understand how it is we have so many ringers who seem to take so little interest in composition, and the higher aspect of conducting. If they would only pay a little more attention to these two elements of the science, they would soon discover, when ringing, how much easier it is for them to find their companion bell, than, as often is the case, to stare and twist about like a person who had lost his understanding. Of course, every ringer is not bent that way, and every man would not prove a success, but I do think that all ringers would find it exceedingly attractive and interesting. Moreover, it would ensure less mistakes being made, less talking, and consequently better striking. The art of composition and conducting also, is not so mysterious as some people would have others imagine, and to talk of composition being played out is all moonshine and nonsense, as the possibilities of composition are almost of surpassing belief. In various degrees I have been interested in change ringing for the past 60 years, and if I had another 60 years to live I would still keep on being interested."

The hon. membership of the Rev. F. Meridith Brookes (Bolsterstone) was confirmed.

On the proposition of Mr. G. Halksworth, seconded by Mr. J. Holman, a sincere vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of the late Mr. W. Snowden (ex-president of the Association), Mr. Willey (the chairman), who had been closely acquainted with the deceased gentleman, paying a tribute to his great services to the society, and to his sterling worth. His kindly disposition, and marked straightforwardness, would, said the speaker, be ever a cherished memory.

A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to the Vicar (the Rev. W. A. Strawbridge, M.A.), and the churchwardens for the kind permission extended to the members in placing the bells at the visitors' disposal, and to the local company for having everything in readiness.

No invitations being forthcoming, it was left to the committee to decide upon the next place of visit.

Mr. G. Halksworth proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Willey for presiding, and this was seconded by Mr. D. Brearley, and unanimously carried, the Chairman suitably replying.

MR. F. G. MAY'S ILLNESS.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—I have been seriously ill ever since the end of February this year, and am only just beginning to feel my strength returning. During the time of my disability, I have had numerous inquiries as to how I was getting on, and visits from ringing friends. May I ask you kindly to allow me space in your valuable paper to thank my ringing friends for their very kind inquiries, and say I am hoping soon to be well and able to take my place in the belfry once again. At the moment, I am too weak to do much ringing, but I have visited two or three towers and tried my hand. Thanking you in anticipation, yours faithfully,

FRED G. MAY.

HAWKHURST RINGERS AT RYE.

On Sunday afternoon five of the Hawkhurst, Kent, ringers, cycled to the ancient town of Rye, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was tapped off for evening service in 45 mins., by G. Maskell 1, C. W. Player (Stone) 2, J. B. Bennett (Rye) 3, J. Blake 4, G. J. Youngs (Rye) 5, J. H. Durrant 6, G. Billenness 7, F. Chapman 8.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar (the Rev. A. S. Howes) for the use of the bells, to Mr. Youngs for arranging for the ringing, and to the Rye company for so readily allowing the visitors to ring at the "Cathedral of East Sussex," and filling up the vacant ropes. Mr. Player was also thanked for making one of the party. The Hawkhurst ringers hope a return visit will be paid by the Rye band.

RINGER WOUNDED.

Corpl. P. Ballance, of the 6th Lincolnshire Regiment, a ringer at All Saints' Church, Gainsborough, has been wounded at the Dardanelles.

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DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM SNOWDON.

A GREAT LOSS TO THE EXERCISE.

With the deepest regret we have to announce the death of Mr. William Snowdon, of Cartmel, North Lancashire, and formerly of Leeds, who passed away in his 70th year, on Sept. 17th. The sad news reached us just too late to appear in our edition of Friday last.

The passing of William Snowdon removes from the Exercise one of its most prominent figures, one of its most valued and most valuable members. His name is one which, like that of his brother Jasper, will live long among ringers, not for feats of prowess in the belfry—for he did little peal ringing—but for the immeasurable services he has rendered by carrying on the work, which his brother's untimely death in 1885 interrupted, viz., that of publishing a series of works which have become the standard text-books of ringing to-day. It would be difficult, in the compass of a single article, to do justice to all that Mr. William Snowdon, in the seclusion of his study and out of the gaze of the Exercise, has done for ringing, and in this respect his loss is well-nigh irreparable.

Born on February 24th, 1846, Mr. Snowdon was the third son of the late Rev. John Snowdon, M.A., Cantab, for 36 years Vicar of Ilkley, Yorkshire. He was educated in London as a Bluecoat boy, and after leaving Christ's Hospital he entered the extensive engineering works of Messrs. Kitson and Co., of Leeds. There he spent 15 years, and then



THE LATE MR. WILLIAM SNOWDON.

began practice as a consulting engineer in the same city in partnership for many years with his brother, Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon. This profession he continued after his brother's death, but in 1913 he retired to Cartmel. A devout son of the Church, he identified himself in various ways with the Church life of Leeds, and, in addition to being a member of the Leeds Parish Church Ringing Society, he was one of the eight wardens of the church for many years, and an active member of the Church of England Men's Society.

AS PRESIDENT OF THE YORKS ASSOCIATION.

For more than twenty-five years Mr. Snowdon was the President of the Yorkshire Association, and no office bearer in any organisation ever discharged his duties more conscientiously than he did. In the whole of the time he occupied the position he never missed a single meeting, and by his business-like conduct of the Association's affairs, his devotion to its interests and his geniality, he held the love and respect of every member. His connection with the Yorkshire Association, along with that of his brother Jasper, dated from its formation in 1875. They were then members of the Ilkley Amateur Society of Change Ringers, and Jasper, as is well known, became the Association's first president, and continued in that capacity until his death, in November, 1885. At the unanimous request of the committee, Mr. William Snowdon consented to occupy the position for his brother's unexpired term of office, and he first took the chair at the meeting at Rotherham, on February 6th, 1886. It might have been thought a difficult matter to find a worthy successor to Jasper, but how William

gained and held the appreciation and esteem of the members is shown by the fact that he held the office uninterruptedly for over 25 years until his retirement in March, 1911. It is sufficient to quote his own words in tendering his resignation: "It has become my duty to the memory of the first president to complete some of his unfinished writings (for the benefit, I hope, of the whole Exercise), and I find it impossible to do so, and also retain office."

For William Snowdon the office was no sinecure. He was a man of abundant energy, and the work he undertook and achieved as president was tremendous. It was largely owing to his continuation of his brother's skilful and prudent guidance that the Association has attained to its present important sphere of influence. How his work increased during his office may be shown by the fact that at the time of his election the membership was 525; at his retirement, 1,452. At the annual meeting at Sheffield, in January, 1901, he was presented by the members with a beautiful candelabrum, with accompanying side-candlesticks, all in solid silver, as a mark of the Association's goodwill on attaining its silver jubilee, with the hope that he might be spared for many years to enjoy the sight of the beautiful workmanship, which was from the hands of one of the best-known Sheffield ringers (Mr. C. H. Hattersley). At the annual meeting, at Holbeck, on January 27th, 1912, following his retirement, he was presented by the members with a handsome solid silver tea-tray, beautifully engraved, bearing the following inscription: "Presented to William Snowdon by the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers on his retirement from the office of President after 25 years' service, as a small recognition of his untiring zeal and devotion for the welfare of the Association." A piece of silver ware, suitably engraved, was also presented to Mrs. Snowdon, who often assisted her husband in the arduous work of compiling the annual report. Before leaving the county of Yorkshire, Mr. Snowdon said that he certainly would not lose interest in the Association's welfare, and if it was thought at any time that his advice and opinion would be of service he would be only too pleased to give it.

Mr. Snowdon was a member of the Central Council from its very inception, at first as a representative of the Yorkshire Association. After his retirement from the office of president he was elected an honorary member of the Council, and his practical views and sound advice were always listened to with respect. In some of his theories he was not always at one with some of the younger school of "experts," but his knowledge of his subject added weight to his opinions. He was a member of the Standing Committee, upon which his counsel was always valued.

LITERARY WORK.

It was, of course, in connection with the completion and publication of the works begun by his brother that Mr. Snowdon is best known to the Exercise at large. No pains were too great for him to take, no detail too trivial for him to investigate or check, and we do not think we are going in the slightest degree beyond the truth when we say that, but for the devotion and zeal of Mr. William Snowdon, much valuable material might have been lost to the Exercise. A great proportion of his spare time has been taken up in editing and revising further issues of the writings of his brother Jasper, whose death in 1885 came at a time when he had much work in hand, but not before he had laid the foundation upon which it has been possible since to build so well. "Rope Sight," "Treble Bob," "Standard Methods" and "Double Norwich" were already out, and "Grandsire" was almost ready for the printer's hands when death carried him off. Upon his brother, William, who had been so closely associated with him, the labour of completing Jasper's work devolved, and not only has he revised and perfected the earlier editions, but he has since edited and published "Stedman," and had in preparation "Surprise Peals," which was to have dealt with Cambridge, Superlative and London. We are not certain whether this last-named work is completed. We are afraid not, although we believe it is in an advanced stage. "I do not know another individual more qualified, more honest, or who could undertake to deal so conscientiously with such a classical collection of change ringing literature." This is the opinion of one who was long associated with Mr. Snowdon, and it would be the unquestioned opinion of all who are qualified to judge. The labours of Mr. William Snowdon in continuing the work begun by his lamented brother, have been of immeasurable value to the Exercise, and it is a source of deep regret that he has not lived to see its full completion.

It was in April of this year that symptoms appeared which gave cause for anxiety in regard to Mr. Snowdon's health, and the end came after six months' illness.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place on Tuesday of last week—St. Matthew's Day—the first portion of the service being held in the beautiful Priory Church of Cartmel. The officiating clergy were the Vicar (the Rev. Godfrey S. Smith) and the Rev. C. C. Marshall (Vicar of St. Chad's, Far Headingley, Leeds), who succeeded Mr. Snowdon in the Presidency of the Yorks Association, and was thus able to represent the organisation at the last sad obsequies. There are only four bells at the Priory Church at Cartmel, but these were rung muffled, and their sweet tones sounded very beautiful down the valley as all that was mortal of William Snowdon was laid to rest in the churchyard, which is about half-a-mile away from the church. It was a lovely autumn day, peaceful and still, and the bells sounding forth as the service finished, gave just that sense of a "soldier's" funeral, which we are sure he would have liked.

The deceased leaves a widow and daughter to mourn the loss of a beloved husband and father, and the whole Exercise will share their sorrow in the death of one who, though advanced in years, could ill be spared from the ranks of the workers in the cause of ringing and all that the art implies.

AN APPRECIATION.

By Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES.

The Editor has asked me to write a few words in connection with the lamented death of the late Mr. William Snowdon. I could only wish that he had applied to one who had been in more constant communication with him than I have been, especially of late. Though I have had the pleasure of Mr. Snowdon's acquaintance and friendship for about thirty years, that is, since the death of his talented brother, Jasper Snowdon, I have actually seen him, with the exception of one short, delightful little visit of a day or two that I paid him at his home in Leeds several years ago, only as a rule at the annual gathering of the Central Council.

Previous to and at the time of the bringing out of the book on Stedman, the correspondence between us was naturally full and constant. It will thus be seen that though I can say but little, indeed practically nothing, as to the history of his life, and scarcely anything as to his capabilities as a practical ringer, I can testify fully to the many excellencies of his character. As regards his history I will only mention that his father was a former Vicar of Ikley, and that his profession was that of a consulting engineer.

Coming to speak as to what manner of man he was, the first great and leading characteristic was his earnest Churchmanship. At the annual meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Association some few years ago, we had the privilege of a sermon from our Bishop, and in the course of it he described the ideal Church ringer—the man who, however tired he might be on Sunday after his week's work, never failed to be in his place in the tower on Sunday morning, who, hot and dusty though he might be, never failed to follow up the calling of others to worship by setting the example of being there himself. Probably no one in our congregation but myself had the least idea that the Bishop had an actual existing person in his mind, and he himself never said a word to me on the subject, and so I may be quite wrong, but I at once said to myself, "That man is William Snowdon." Readers will remember that the Bishop of Gloucester was Vicar of Leeds, and, though not at all on that occasion, he and I have more than once talked of Mr. Snowdon.

Then there was his thoroughness. He never scamped anything. He was invariably painstaking and careful to the last degree. Every lead-end and every course-end in the MS. of the book on Stedman was ticked with the mark of his pencil to show that he had verified it. The latest edition of the book on Grandsire is also an evidence of this feature of his character. Added to these there was also the general friendliness and urbanity of his manner. He always had a bright smile for his friends, and it was invariably a pleasure to meet him.

A member of the Central Council from the first, and one of the Standing Committee, he will be much missed at the annual meeting. Though I do not know for how long he has been in failing health, I see by a glance at the schedule of attendances that the last occasion on which he was present was in 1913. This year he certainly excused himself on the score of health. Since then I have had to consult the members of the Standing Committee on business, and little did I imagine when his reply came, which, though it was not in his own handwriting, yet showed that he was quite able to grasp the question, that it would be the last word that I should receive from him.

For myself I have lost an old and true personal friend, and the Exercise at large has lost one who was deeply interested in the welfare of ringing, and was always ready to put all his powers at its service.

A VISIT TO HUNTSHAM.

Situated in a picturesque valley of North Devon, and seven miles north-east of Tiverton, is the parish church and scattered village of Huntsham. Many a change ringer is doubtless familiar with the name of the late Mr. C. A. W. Troyle, of Huntsham Court, and his book on change ringing. Some thirty years ago method ringing was successfully fostered here, and the tower was the centre from which many a ringing excursion took place. To-day, a visitor may see in the belfry but the signs of the good old days. Records of peals on the walls supply us with the names of three clerical ringers who took part in peals of Grandsire and Stedman Triples previous to their ordination, viz., Revs. C. D. P. Davies, G. F. Coleridge and W. S. Willett. The Sange silent apparatus, though the wires are disconnected, still remains in position. Until September 23rd the bells had been silent for well-nigh a year for reasons, unfortunately, not by any means solely connected with the war. However, the occasion of the harvest thanksgiving heard this silence broken by several well-struck six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which Messrs. Heard and Broomfield, two members of the local band many years ago, took part. It is hoped that this visit will be but the prelude to scientific ringing being again heard on the complete ring. The ringers stood as follows: Frank Henson (Troll), 1. Humphrey Chattee (Huntsam) 2. Clifford Henson (Bampton) 3. John Heard (Clavanger) 4. Rev. E. V. Cox, conductor (Bampton) 5. John Kelland (Hockworthy) 6. Charles Broomfield (Bampton) also rang the treble. The band is very grateful to the Rector's son, Mr. Frank Hudson, for greasing and oiling the bells, which well repaid him for his efforts by their splendid "go."

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT MACHEN.

A quarterly meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at Machen on Saturday last, and proved to be a most successful one. During the afternoon touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. Tea was served in the School, and owing to a greater number mustering than was expected, the room was taxed to its utmost. Nevertheless everyone present was accommodated and well satisfied, and, at the conclusion, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector (the Rev. S. M. Davies) and the ladies for their kindness, special mention being made of Mrs. Newton Wade and Mrs. Stratton, who took charge of the tea tables.

The business meeting followed, the Rector presiding.—It was decided that the place for the next Monmouthshire quarterly meeting be left over until the annual meeting, to be held at Newport on December 26th.—New members were elected, belonging to Merthyr, Caerphilly, Pontypridd and Machen towers.

The question of the subscriptions of those serving with the colours was discussed, and it was decided that the matter be included in the agenda for the annual meeting.

One of the hon. secretaries (the Rev. Connop L. Price) having been invalided home from the Dardanelles, it was the unanimous wish of all present that the following message be sent to him: "That this meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association of Change Ringers in session at Machen desire to express to you their sympathy in your present illness, and wish you a speedy and permanent recovery to continue under God, the special work you have undertaken for King and country."

Mr. England, of Merthyr, asked for the Association's assistance in trying to influence the Rector there to get the wheel renewed of one of the bells which had become smashed, owing to the bell coming out of its bearings. Mr. England said he was sorry to have to bring such a matter as this before the Association, but the Rector was so indifferent as to whether the bells were rung or not that he had taken no steps in the matter, although it happened some months ago.—It was decided to write a letter to the Rector.

In replying to a vote of thanks for presiding, the Chairman said he was most grateful in more ways than one to the Association for visiting Machen. One reason was that he was about to restart a band of ringers, and after the ringing they heard that day he was sure they would go ahead and endeavour to get the bells rung. Unfortunately they had been silent for some time.

The bells were afterwards again utilised, the ringing bringing to a close a meeting which could not possibly have been more successful.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A MARSKE RINGER.

It is with deep regret that we record the death, as the result of an accident, at the early age of 23 years, of William James Letty, who has been connected with the Marske Church, Yorks, the whole of his life, and took to the ringing chamber some seven or eight years ago. From the first he took a keen interest in change ringing, although there were only six bells in the tower. He always did what lay in his power to further the interests of the art, seeking the best advice and being always willing to go further afield for experience. He was a member of the Cleveland and North Yorks Association, for which he had rung 13 peals in Minor methods, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob Major.

He was a joiner by trade, and worked in Messrs. Raylton Dixons, Ltd., shipyard. About two months ago he was appointed one of the foremen, and on Thursday, Sept. 16th, gave instructions to workmen on a ship. On leaving these men he stepped into the ship's hold, and fell a distance of about 30ft., receiving fatal injuries and bringing to a premature end a life which promised a brilliant career, both in business and as a ringer.

He was laid to rest in Marske Cemetery on Monday, Sept. 20th, when there was a very large attendance of both fellow workmen and friends at the funeral. The bells of his favourite church were deeply muffled on the occasion, several members of the Cleveland and North Yorks Association taking part in the ringing.

KENT MEMBERS' TRIP.

On Saturday week, a few members of the Kent Association paid a visit to the pretty village of Downe to ring on the grand little peal of six there. Most of the party made the journey by cycle, arriving about 6 o'clock. The bells were raised in peal, and two courses of Kent Minor rung by: A. James, senr., 1. H. L. Garfath 2. I. Emery 3. E. G. Filtness 4. H. J. Blackwell 5. G. Durling (conductor) 6. A 720 of Cambridge Surprise was next essayed, and completed in capital style by: G. Durling 1. H. L. Garfath 2. E. G. Filtness 3. E. F. Pike 4. W. Hewett 5. I. Emery (conductor) 6. This is believed to be the first 720 of Surprise on the bells. A 120 of Grandsire Doubles and then 360 of Bob Minor followed, by E. F. Pike 1. G. Durling (conductor) 2. H. J. Blackwell 3. I. Emery 4. H. L. Garfath 5. A. James, senr., 6. A 120 of Stedman Doubles and two courses of Kent for Mr. A. E. Newick, who had just arrived, completed the method ringing, and the bells were then lowered nicely in peal. After a social hour, all departed on their various ways home, fully agreed that it had been a very enjoyable and successful evening.

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WITTERSHAM'S ANCIENT BELLS.

The Church of St. John-the-Baptist, Wittersham, Kent, stands on high ground, and its lofty tower is among the best in Kent. It contains five bells which are undoubtedly the most musical peal of five in the county, and few are the fives that equal them elsewhere throughout the land. A small framed record, sent to the church towards the end of the last century by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, reveals the following particulars of the weights and inscriptions:—

Tenor: John Wilmar made me 1629; 18 cwt.

IV: Thomas Mears and Son fecit 1808; 13 cwt.

III: Thos. Odiarne, Jery Odiarne, and I. O. Marne gave this bell 1609; 10½ cwt.

II: Josephus Carter me fecit, 1609; 9 cwt.

Treble: Josephus Carter me fecit, 1609; 7 cwt.

A footnote adds that the treble, 2nd and 3rd are the only bells now existing in Kent by Josephus Carter, and are referred to in "Church Bells of Kent" as three of the finest in the county.

But, alas, these beautiful bells, with the exception of celebrating the golden wedding of one of the churchwardens some little time ago, have not been rung for 15 years. This silence, however, need not have prevailed. Some years ago Mr. Norman Forbes-Robertson, a resident of the parish, made a munificent offer. He proposed, at his own expense, rehanging the five and adding another bell. His idea was to retain the massive wooden bellcage, which has a vacant pit, where the new bell could have been accommodated. Architectural difficulties, it was urged, prevented a move being made. "It would be detrimental to the tower for the bells to swing in the old frame, and a new frame altogether is necessary," seems to comprise the sum and substance of the arguments against Mr. Robertson's scheme. A little more perseverance might have gone a long way, and probably, if the plans of Mr. Robertson had been laid before a few bell founders, the restoration would have been accomplished according to his ideas.

Since this splendid offer, the Rector (the Rev. A. Howell Smith) seriously thought of trying to raise the money for the restoration of the five, and the addition of three new ones. The late Right Hon. Alfred Lyttleton, M.P., of Wittersham House, a devout churchman, and who often read the lessons at Wittersham Church, interested himself in the matter, but the great Statesman was called to rest before anything definite had been done, and since his death little has been heard respecting the bells.

Quite recently, however, the Rector and churchwardens discussed the question for a third time. The ringers wanted something done to make it possible to ring the bells, and sanction was given to Mr. C. W. Player, of Stone-in-Oxney to execute some small repairs. The churchwardens were, however, only prepared to spend a few pounds, and consequently Mr. Player could not do much. He fitted the tenor with a new stock, and patched the whole peal up as much as possible.

On Saturday last, several members of the Kent Association, by kind permission of the Rector and the churchwardens, had an evening's ringing at the tower. As far as the "go" was concerned no one expected to find the bells perfect, but Mr. Player has certainly made them much better. Grandsire Doubles and Bob Singles were rung, and the following ringers took part: Messrs. C. W. Player, A. Daw and F. Burt (Stone); C. Tribe (Tenterden), G. Johnson (Appledore) and G. Billenness (Hawkhurst). The local ringers had several rounds. A kind anonymous resident of the village provided supper for everyone. Thanks were accorded the donor, and the preparer of the meal intimated that this expression should be duly conveyed. The ringers left at nine o'clock, and thus ended a very pleasant gathering, the first of its kind, perhaps, ever held at Wittersham. There is no record of change ringing having been practised at Wittersham, so nothing has been accomplished unless visitors have come to the tower.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Gainsborough District was held at Kirton Lindsey on Saturday week, ringers being present from Gainsborough, Brigg, Willingham, Scunthorpe, Barnetby and Bigby, in addition to the local company. The bells of St. Andrew's, a ring of six, were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going in the Standard methods.

Tea was provided at the Vicarage long room, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. H. R. Garvey (Vicar of Kirton Lindsey) presided.

The District Secretary informed those present that he had a few days previously received a letter from Bombardier Walter Ayre, R.F.A., who is serving somewhere on the western front, saying that he had so far escaped without a scratch. This item of good news was received with applause.—Five new members—Messrs. H. Hobbins, W. Kent, A. Allison, W. Atkinson and G. Atkinson, all of Kirton Lindsey—were elected.

A collection for "The Ringing World" subscription list towards the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund realised the sum of 5s. 1d.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and Mr. A. Triffett for making the necessary arrangements were unanimously passed and duly responded to, after which further ringing was indulged in, and brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close.

Among the Associations which have recently invested in War Loan stock is the Worcestershire and Districts Association.

NOTICES.

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

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Ringing for Divine service at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, at 10 o'clock. — H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Great Barr on Saturday, October 2nd. Bells available at 3. Service in church at 5.15, with an address by the Rev. A. Partridge. Tea (10d.) at the Beacon Inn at 6. The question of "War Loan" will be considered. Reports ready for distribution.—H. Knight, Honorary Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The next meeting and 6-bell contest will be held at Kirkheaton on Saturday, October 2nd, 1915. Draw for order of ringing at the Beaumont Arms at 3 p.m. prompt. Tea will be provided at 6d. each to all who send in their names not later than Monday, September 27th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Eckington on Saturday, October 2nd. Bells available from 3 to 8 p.m.—Sam Thomas, Sec. pro. tem., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devises Branch. —The next meeting will be held on October 2nd, 1915, at Hilberton, at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5, with short business meeting. Ringing also at St. James', Trowbridge, in the evening. Intending visitors please advise early.—Henry Brownlee West, Honorary Secretary, "Avalon," Devises.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District. — The annual district meeting will be held at St. Mary Magdalen's, Gillingham, on Saturday, October 2nd, 1915. Bells available at 3. Service at 4. Tea in the "Memorial Room" at the Vicarage, after service.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on October 2nd, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Tea at the Brown Bear, 5.30; members 6d., others 8d. All will be made welcome. I shall be grateful if those who can will notify me.—W. H. Lawrence, Honorary Secretary, Little Munden, Herts.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—The next meeting will be held at Charing on Saturday, October 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; short service at 5; tea, kindly provided by the Vicar, at 5.30. Ringers intending to be present should let the honorary secretary know not later than October 4th. The Hon. general secretary of the Association (the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore) has promised to attend this meeting.—Stephen Hazzelden, Hon. District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next monthly meeting will be held at Prestwick on Saturday, October 9th. Bells available 5 to 7 and 7.45 to 9 p.m. Meeting to be held during the interval. Subscriptions are now due.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary, 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Overbury on Saturday, October 9th. Service in church at 5 p.m., at which members are requested to attend. Tea will be provided in the Village Hall by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Lea) for those who notify me by the Wednesday previous. Branch officers will be elected at this meeting. By kind permission of Sir Richard B. Martin, Bart., the Court gardens will be open to ringers. The bells (6) will be available.—James Hemming, Branch Secretary, 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on October 7th and 21st for handbell practice; and on the 12th and 26th for business. St. John's, Hackney, for service on the 10th at 10 a.m. No ringing in the evening until further notice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Walton-le-Dale on Saturday, October 9th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Rishton on Saturday, October 9th, 1915. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Kettering Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Isham on October 9th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—R. F. Turner, District Secretary, 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Folkestone on Saturday, October 16th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30. Arrangements for tea will be notified later. — C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

AN UNOFFICIAL MEETING will be held at Bampton, Devon, on Saturday, October 16th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea (6d.) in the Infants' School at 5. Change ringers will greatly help by their presence. Names of those requiring tea should be sent to me not later than Tuesday, October 12th.—Rev. E. V. Cox, Bampton, Devon.

ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Coalbrookdale on Saturday, October 16th, 1915. Ringing at 3 p.m. Tea in Trinity Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting after tea.—Rev. H. B. Beckwith, Honorary Secretary, Ridgemount, Shrewsbury.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. W. J. Nudds has removed to 25, Park Mews, Kilburn Park Road, N.W.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. DAWSON & SONS,
LTD. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.