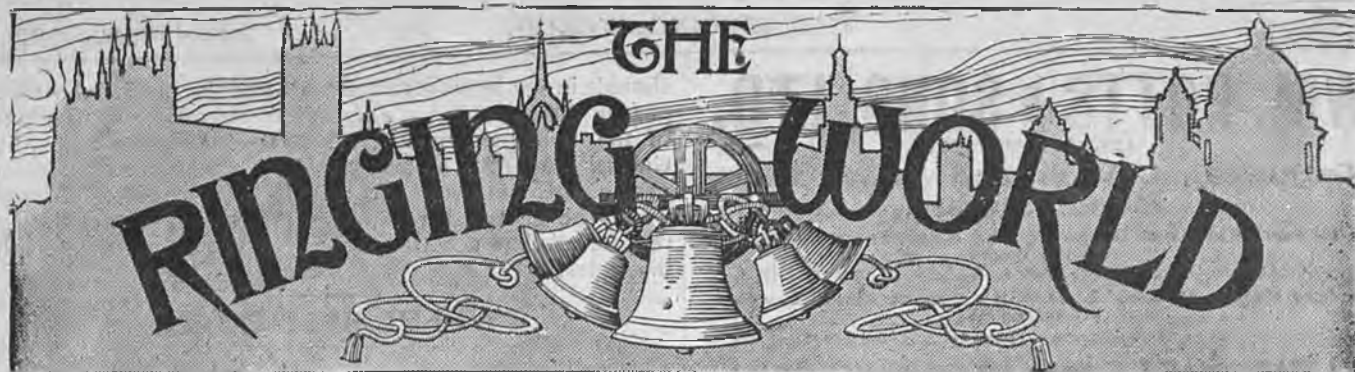


Hutchinson



No. 1,035. Vol. XXVI.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23rd, 1931.

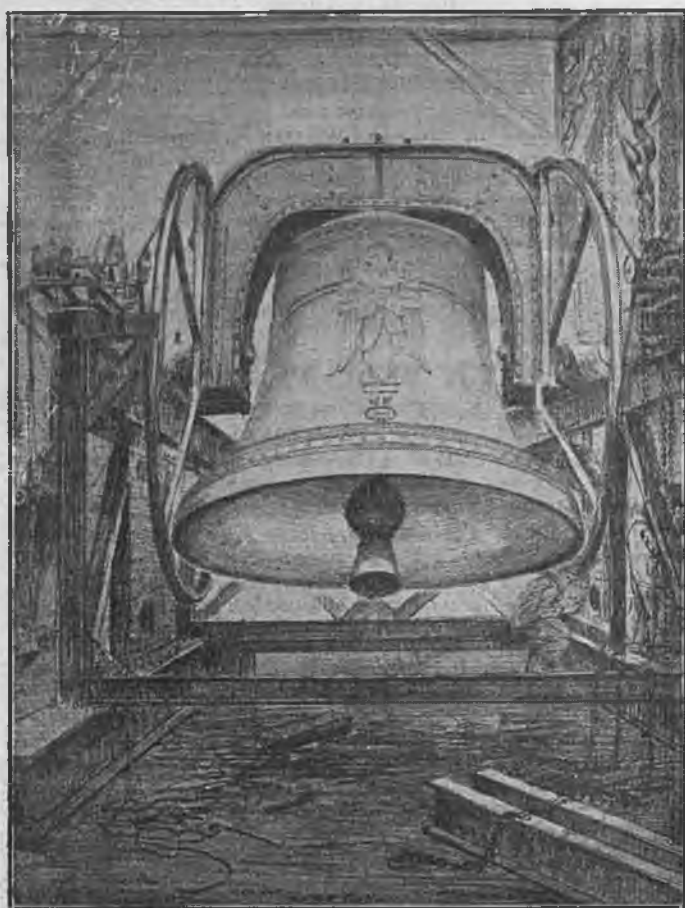
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PAINSWICK AND ITS LESSONS.

Whatever views may be held by our readers on the question of what constitutes a twelve-bell peal, we are confident that every member of the Exercise will feel extremely sorry for all the band who rang in what now proves to have been the abortive peal at Painswick on November 8th last. It is disappointing enough to find out after the completion of an ordinary five thousand that the peal is false; to discover that there has been a repetition in a peal of nearly 18,000 changes, which has occupied within a few minutes of twelve hours, must be a staggering disappointment for all concerned, and they will have the sympathy of everyone.

A number of points emerge as a result of the discovery that Mr. Albert Wright's 17,687 Grandsire Cinques has turned out to be false. In the first place we think it is a great pity that, before venturing at any time upon a performance such as this, the composer does not get his figures checked by some other competent person. It seems to us that this is an elementary precaution that should be taken. A composer may have every confidence in his own ability, but—and Painswick is not the only example—a slip can easily be made, and often the more obvious it is the more likely is it to pass unnoticed by the author. We realise there may be instances in which a composer might be very loth to submit his figures to anyone but the conductor before the peal is rung, especially where he has exercised his ingenuity and produced something longer than had been previously recognised as the extent obtainable in a method; but even so, unless one has lost all faith in the honesty of his fellows, it would be well if the composer had sufficient courage to get the truth of his figures verified. At any rate, registration of the composition with the Central Council, with an undertaking by the officials of that body that it should remain a confidential document until a certain date or until released by the author, should fully protect his interests, even if he had to submit the figures to his keenest rival. But in cases, like that at Painswick, where the extent of the method is not involved, there seems to be no reason whatever why figures should not be checked before they are rung.

The inclusion of the false lead in the Painswick peal was an obvious oversight on the part of the composer and no one sympathises with him more than we do, but in order that any breath of suspicion may be removed from previous long peals at Painswick, particularly in regard to the 13,001 rung in 1920 (which was a record length), and the 9,000 and 12,000 rung last year, we suggest, in the friendliest spirit possible, that Mr. Wright

(Continued on page 50.)

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should, in the interests of himself and the bands who took part in them, publish the figures or submit them to either of the two gentlemen (Mr. Arthur Knights and Mr. Gabriel Lindoff) who first called his attention to the falseness of this last great effort. The word of either of them would be accepted without question and would set at rest for all time any rumours which might call their truth into question.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, January 13, 1931, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

HENRY H. FEARN Treble	ALDERMAN J. S. PRITCHETT ... 7
GEORGE F. SWANN 2	A. PADDON SMITH 8
FRANK E. HAYNES 3	JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... 9
GEORGE E. FEARN 4	SAMUEL GROVE 10
ALBERT WALKER 5	JOHN NEAL 11
WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... 6	WILLIAM DAVIES Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by GEO. F. SWANN.

Specially arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A. B.C.L., for his 76th birthday; also for Miss Eva Dowding on her 21st birthday. Mr. A. Paddon Smith's 101st peal on the bells of St. Martin's.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Four Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

JOHN H. CRAMPION Treble	WILLIAM H. HEWETT 7
GEORGE R. PYE 2	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... 8
CHARLES T. COLBS 3	JAMES BENNETT 9
*WILFRED WILLIAMS 4	HAROLD W. CLARK 10
ALBERT W. COLBS 5	REUBEN SANDERS 11
CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 6	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus rung in London. It is also the first by the association, and by all the band except the ringer of the 8th. * First peal of Maximus.

TEN BELL PEAL.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHELOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5103 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F.

HENRY HUTTON Treble	RAYMOND OVERY 6
ALFRED H. POLLING 2	MAURICE SMITHER 7
C. ERNEST SMITH 3	ARTHUR J. BARTLETT ... 8
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 4	JOHN H. B. HESSE 9
WILLIAM T. BEESON 5	RICHARD HAYES Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING

W. T. Beeson's 200th peal. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Doris Hayes, daughter of the ringer of the tenor. It was intended to ring the 'four nines' (9,999 changes), but owing to there having been a serious operation at the Haslemere Cottage Hospital the previous day, the authorities there requested that an ordinary length peal be rung instead.

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DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham

EIGHT BELL PEALS.COLCHESTER, ESSEX.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM J. NEVARD... ..Treble	GEORGE A. FLEMING 5
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... .. 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 3	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 7
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 4	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ...Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

* First peal in the method. J. F. Smallwood was elected a member of the Guild before the attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Princess Royal.

MITCHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DAVID WRIGHTTreble	WILLIAM H. JOINER 5
WILLIAM S. SMITH 2	ALBERT CALVER 6
JOHN H. LOTT 3	HERBERT LANGDON 7
CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 4	HERBERT TOURLETenor

Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

* First peal 'inside.' Rung as a compliment to Mr. A. Calver, who attained his 70th birthday on the 8th inst., and received the hearty congratulations of the band.

CHIDDINGSTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

HERBERT MARKWELLTreble	WILLIAM COLLISON 5
DR. E. L. TAYLOR 2	ERNEST H. EVEREST... .. 6
GEORGE EDWARDS 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
WILLIAM LATTER 4	LESLIE E. EVERESTTenor

Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung half-muffled to the memory of Princess Royal. The band heartily thank Mr. and Mrs. Everest for providing tea on this and the previous attempt for the peal.

LLANDAFF.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

HARRY PAGETreble	FRED CHAMBERLAIN 5
DONALD CLIFT 2	ERNEST STITCH 6
JOHN W. JONES 3	JOHN PHILLIPS 7
FRANK J. BAILEY 4	ERNEST COOMBS... ..Tenor

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD. Conducted by ERNEST COOMBS

* First peal of Kent Major. First peal of Kent Major on the bells.

OLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BRUARTON'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

ERNEST WILSONTreble	DENNIS SAYERS 5
LEONARD C. DOWDESWELL ... 2	GORDON W. CHECKETTS ... 6
RALPH SAYERS 3	REGINALD WOODYATT... .. 7
REGINALD ELY 4	FREDERICK YATESTenor

Conducted by D. SAYERS.

* First peal at first attempt. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells by an entirely local band. All are Sunday service ringers. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Princess Royal, who was interred on this date.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in D.

ALPHREDS J. BERRYTreble	ERIC G. BENNETT 5
ALBERT G. HARRISON... .. 2	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... 6
CLEMENT J. MORE 3	WILLIAM STEGGALL 7
GEORGE ARCHER 4	NOLAN GOLDENTenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

The 125th peal on the bells for the Norwich Association. The conductor has now 'completed the circle' of these bells.

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb.

ARTHUR NEWELLTreble	PERCY SWINDLEY... .. 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	JAMES SWINDLEY 7
GEORGE R. JONES 4	JAMES H. RIDINGTenor

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

First Surprise peal on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mrs. R. D. Langford, wife of the respected hon. secretary of the Crewe Branch.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*ROLAND KENDALLTreble	WILLIE PROCTOR 5
JOHN WINDLE 2	*TOM SMITH 6
*CLIFFORD ELLISON 3	VERNEY BAIRSTOW 7
*SAM LONGBOTTOM 4	WILLIAM AMBLERTenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM AMBLER

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

GEORGE ELLISTreble	ROBERT SWIFT 5
GEORGE OLLIVER... .. 2	ALFRED I. GREENWOOD ... 6
KEITH HART 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
KENNETH SNELLING 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS... ..Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN GOOCHTreble	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 5
JAMES BENNETT 2	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	T. WILLIAM LAST 7
GEORGE BENNETT 4	CRCIL W. PIPETenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by T. W. LAST.

HALLOW, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 21½ cwt.

SIDNEY T. HOLTTreble	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
FRANK LAWRENCE 2	WILLIAM LEWIS 6
DENNIS R. MORRIS 3	CYRIL TANSSELL 7
*HAROLD F. MARTIN 4	CHARLES CAMMTenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal of Surprise.

TURVEY, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*RICHARD SHIMMINS Treble	WILLIAM STOCK 5
HENRY GAYTON 2	PEARL INSKIP 6
HERBERT L. HARLOW 3	*ERNEST FREEMAN 7
MISS EVELYN STEEL 4	HENRY STAPLETON Tenor

Composed by H. GAYTON. Conducted by HENRY STAPLETON.

* First peal of Major. First peal conducted by a local ringer at this tower.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Monday, January 12, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Stephen, Eastwood,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE OAKES Treble	ARTHUR FIRTH 5
MRS. COLIN RYDER 2	CHARLES WRIGHT 6
ALBERT NASH 3	COLIN RYDER 7
SIDNEY BRIGGS 4	PERCY MAUGHAM Tenor

Conducted by A. NASH.

Rung to welcome the new Vicar of Eastwood Parish, the Rev. W. Calvert Thomas, who was inducted on the 10th inst.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, January 12, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

FREDERICK J. CRAPNELL ... Treble	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ... 5
CECIL W. PIPE 2	GEORGE BENNETT 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	GEORGE A. FLEMING 7
CHARLES CLARKE 4	JOSEPH BOTWRIGHT Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE A. FLEMING.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Joseph Last who died on January 9th.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 13, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*JOHN H. BOTHAM Treble	THOMAS COLLINS 5
†ALICE CUTLER 2	ERNEST H. KILBY 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
HARRY KILBY 4	THOMAS J. LOCK Tenor

Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire.

PALGRAVE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 13, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES

Tenor 7½ cwt. in A flat.

WILLIAM MUSK Treble	ALPHRED J. BERRY 5
ERIC G. BENNETT 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 6
CLEMENT J. MORE 3	GEORGE ARCHER 7
FRANK S. CLARKE 4	WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in the method by all and in the county, and second by the association during its 53 years' existence.

'SILENT' MINOR.

At Norton, Staffs, on Sunday, December 28th, for evensong, at St. Bartholomew's Church, 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Corfield 1, C. S. Ryles 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. O. Lawrence 4, E. T. Dawson 5, J. Walley 6. Also rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Kathleen Mary, daughter of J. E. Wheeldon, which happened to fall on that day.

WHITLEY BAY.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 14, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ARTHUR PAYNE Treble	ROBERT S. ANDERSON ... 5
JOHN ANDERSON 2	ADAM DEAS 6
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 3	STEPHEN W. STRATFORD ... 7
THOMAS T. GOSTON 4	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. William Story, of the Newcastle Cathedral Guild.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5068 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CECIL C. MAYNE Treble	WILLIAM WELLING 5
*FREDERICK G. BALDWIN ... 2	LEONARD STILWELL 6
PHYLLIS M. MAYNE 3	FRANK CORRE 7
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Conducted by CECIL C. MAYNE.

* First Surprise peal, and rung at the first attempt.

PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, January 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*RICHARD T. MASON ... Treble	FRED BIRKS 5
FREDERICK R. WIGGIN ... 2	WM. HAROLD JONES 6
THOMAS PERRY 3	JOHN PERRY 7
G. EDWARD WINTERTON ... 4	CHARLES J. BASTONE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN PERRY.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Mr. Edmund Westwood, who was laid to rest that day and who had been for over 50 years a chorister and nearly 50 years a ringer at this church.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF HERWARD BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

ERNEST COOPER Treble	HARRY MORGAN 5
WILLIAM A. WOOLER 2	HAROLD WAGSTAFF 6
J. EDWARD CAWSEY 3	ALBERT NASH 7
MILTON C. FOWLER 4	PERCY GLEDSTONE Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEY.

First peal in the method by all the band, in the county and for the association.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

(CHESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*ERNEST JAMES WARING ... Treble	GEORGE R. JONES 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	JOHN E. RANGLES 6
GEORGE SPERRING 3	ARTHUR NEWELL 7
RONALD G. JONES 4	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. JONES.

* First peal.

CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.—At the Church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 min., rung on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Guildford: R. T. Carpenter 1, G. Luff 2, C. W. Trussler 3, T. Champion 4, T. Atwell 5, J. P. Pellce 6, A. J. Bartlett (conductor) 7, W. Bartlett 8.

HUGHENDON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Parish Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM E. TAYLOR Treble	HARRY WINGROVE 5
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 2	THOMAS GOODCHILD 6
GEORGE GILBERT 3	JOHN EVANS 7
WILLIAM HENLEY 4	WILLIAM WELLING Tenor

Composed by J. H. BLAKISTON. Conducted by Wm. WELLING.

Rung on the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, January 17th, 1881. Mr. Taylor's birthday, and Mr. Fussell's 220th peal for the Guild. Four Berks and four Bucks men comprise the band.

ICKLETON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ICKLETON SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb. in F.

LESLIE LILLEY Treble	WALTER HOTLEY 5
PERCY WEBB 2	GORDON LILLEY 6
LEONARD FLITTON 3	WALTER FLITTON 7
EDWARD FLITTON 4	ARTHUR G. LILLEY Tenor

Conducted by PERCY WEBB.

Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect for Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Webb, parents of the ringer of the 2nd.

CLAVERLEY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

*HARRY BOSWELL Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 5
JOHN PERRY 2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 6
HERBERT KNIGHT 3	FRANCIS BROTHERTON 7
EDWARD F. MITCHELL 4	ROBERT PICKERING Tenor

Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. First peal of Stedman on the bells. A birthday peal for H. T. Piper.

ANSTLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

MISS MARY L. COFFLIN ... Treble	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 5
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	ALBAN DISNEY 6
SHIRLEY BURTON 3	PERCY HARRISON 7
*MRS. H. J. POOLE 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 100th tower bell peal. Specially arranged and rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Cecil E. Hepburn, of Isham, and P. C. Geoffrey Sandifer, of East Haddon, which took place at Isham, Northants, on this day.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 17, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Gregory,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

HAROLD HERBERT Treble	CHARLES CLARK 5
LEONARD OLLINGTON 2	THOMAS CRINERY 6
GERALD DIXON 3	*ARTHUR SCOTT 7
SYDNEY GRIDLEY 4	DAVID ELLIOTT Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by D. ELLIOTT.

* First peal. First peal of Double Norwich by all except 6th and tenor ringers. Rung at the first attempt to celebrate the 55th birthday of conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BUXTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 31, 1930, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

DOUGLAS E. RUST Treble	HERBERT V. DIGBY 4
PHILIP N. BARTON 2	WILLIAM R. CATCHPOLE ... 5
ROBERT G. CATCHPOLE ... 3	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD.

Rung on the sixth anniversary of the first meeting of this band, ten members having rung their first peal during the period, and four others their first 720.

CHURCHILL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 31, 1930, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 18 cwt.

*JOHN C. ROYNON Treble	†GEORGE E. SHALLISH 4
†FRED HAWKINS 2	GEORGE GILLING 5
†EDWARD G. NORTON 3	EDWARD J. AVERY Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILLING.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. The treble ringer was elected a member previous to starting the peal. This is the first peal of Bob Minor on these bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

BRETTFORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Exercise, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal, Overton, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOHN C. PERKINS Treble	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 4
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 2	RAYMOND JELFS 5
THOMAS HANDS 3	JOHN HALL Tenor

Conducted by JOHN HALL.

First peal in seven Treble Bob methods by all the band, on the bells and by the branch. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Raymond Jelfs.

FRYSULL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 3, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt. 0 qr. 17 lb.

*JAMES SHAW Treble	*HERBERT E. BOOTH 4
*ERIC SANT 2	ALBERT D. COLLINS 5
ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 3	HARRY BOSWELL Tenor

Conducted by A. GREENFIELD.

* First peal of Minor and first attempt. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Boswell.

MACCLESFIELD.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of one 720 Oxford Bob and two each of Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 14½ cwt. (approx.).

WILLIAM GAYES Treble	ALBERT V. REES 4
*WILFRED STEVENSON ... 2	JACK TIPPER 5
ERNEST BENNETT 3	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Conducted by JACK TIPPER.

* 25th peal. First peal in four methods on the bells and by the ringers of treble, 2nd, 4th and 5th. First peal as conductor.

DEDDINGTON, OXON.—On December 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: J. Slatter 1, C. Searrott 2, E. Pritchett 3, E. Brock 4, F. Pritchett (conductor) 5, A. Grantham (first quarter-peal) 6. First quarter-peal on these bells since they were rehung by Messrs. White, of Appleton, the 'go' being excellent.

**RATTLESDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**

*On Saturday, January 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas.*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Double Court and two different 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

ARTHUR R. GRIMWOOD ... Treble	PERCY L. JOHNSON ... 4
*SHELFORD SPARROW ... 2	ERIC G. BENNETT ... 5
KEITH W. WHITTLE ... 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

* First peal in four methods. First peal in four methods on the bells.

**HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)**

*On Saturday, January 3, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Gabriel.*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES YOUNG ... Treble	FRANK LAWRENCE ... 4
DENNIS R. MORRIS ... 2	CHARLES CAMM ... 5
WILLIAM NIBLETT ... 3	ROBERT G. KNOWLES ... Tenor

Conducted by C. CAMM.

**HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)**

*On Monday, January 5, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
At the Church of St. Gabriel.*

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four six-scores of Stedman, 24 of Plain Bob, 12 different callings, and 14 of Grandsire, ten different callings. Tenor 10½ cwt.

FRED HAWKES ... Treble	CHARLES YOUNG ... 4
ALBERT HARTLAND ... 2	CHARLES CAMM ... 5
FRANK LAWRENCE ... 3	HENRY BISHOP ... Tenor

Conducted by F. HAWKES.

**WEARE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Tuesday, January 6, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Gregory,***

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*WALTER J. HAM ... Treble	WILLIAM J. BRADDICK ... 4
CHARLES G. WEARE ... 2	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... 5
WILLIAM E. WISEMAN ... 3	WILLIAM A. G. FROST ... Tenor

Conducted by CHAS. R. LILLEY.

* First peal and first attempt.

**STOKESAY, SHROPSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON DISTRICT.)
*On Wednesday, January 7, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. John,***

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

HUBERT JONES ... Treble	FORREST T. MASSEY ... 4
PERCIVAL R. NASH ... 2	WILLIAM R. NASH ... 5
WILLIAM F. RICKARDS ... 3	WILLIAM HABBERLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM R. NASH.

**CLEOBURY MORTIMER, SHROPSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 15 cwt.

HUBERT JONES ... Treble	FORREST T. MASSEY ... 4
PERCIVAL R. NASH ... 2	WILLIAM R. NASH ... 5
WILLIAM F. RICKARDS ... 3	*JAMES CORFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM R. NASH.

* First peal.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents, with ten different callings. Tenor 8½ cwt.

ALFRED BALLARD, JUN. ... Treble	RONALD RUSSELL ... 4
M. EDWARD WATSON ... 2	WILLIAM A. WOOD ... 5
*JOHN H. BAILLESS ... 3	FRANK BAILLESS ... Tenor

Conducted by M. EDWARD WATSON.

* First peal with bob bell. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Princess Royal.

**POTTERNE, NEAR DEVIZES, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(DEVIZES BRANCH.)**

*On Saturday, January 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,*

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 18 cwt.

JESSE FRANCIS ... Treble	WILLIAM A. SWIFT ... 4
SIDNEY HILLIER ... 2	FRANK GREEN ... 5
VINCENT E. SWIFT ... 3	WILLIAM C. WEST ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. WEST.

First peal of Minor on the bells. The band was mainly composed of officers of the Devizes Branch.

NAILSEA.

*On Thursday, January 15, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
At the Church of the Holy Trinity,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, six callings. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*E. C. S. BAKER ... Treble	*H. A. T. PRICE ... 4
*E. A. PRICE ... 2	S. E. JAMES ... 5
A. H. T. PARKER ... 3	*E. R. NORTON ... Tenor

Conducted by A. H. T. PARKER.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

**STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Thursday, January 8, 1931, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
At 23, GREEK STREET,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5055 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

HAROLD JACKSON ... 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY ... 5-6
FREDERICK PAGE ... 3-4	ALFRED BARNES ... 7-8
PETER LAFLIN ... 9-10	

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Umpire: ERNEST BENNETT.

**STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Thursday, January 15, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
At 23, GREEK STREET,*

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

ALFRED BARNES ... 1-2	HAROLD JACKSON ... 5-6
ALLEN F. BAILEY ... 3-4	FREDERICK PAGE ... 7-8
*ERNEST BENNETT ... 9-10	

Composed by GEO. R. NEWTON. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

* 50th peal, also first peal of Treble Bob on handbells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

A YOUNG RINGER'S RECORD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wonder how many young ringers in the Exercise could beat the peal list for 1930 of my nephew, James Bennett, jun., of Otley, Suffolk, who is 18 years of age? During the year he rang 27 peals, 17 of which were Surprise Major in eight different methods, made up as follows: London 1, Bristol 1, Pudsey 1, Lincoln 1, Rutland 1, Cambridge 6, New Cambridge 1, Superlative 5. In addition, he rang Double Norwich 2, Kent Treble Bob 1, Bob Major 2, Stedman Triples 1, Grandsire Triples 1, Minor 2, Kent Treble Bob Royal 1. This performance seems worthy of note, especially as he lives in the dead of the country.—Yours truly,

JAMES BENNETT.

METROPOLITAN POLICE GUILD. OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

The annual meeting of the Metropolitan Police Guild was held in the vestry of the headquarters church of the Guild, St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, S.E., on Wednesday, January 14th, when thirteen members attended.

Inspector William Bottrill, 'Y' Division, was re-elected Master, but owing to the impending resignation from the Force of the secretary, P.C. Fred Digby, 'L' Division, P.C. Norman S. Bagworth, 'A' Division, was elected secretary. The following were elected as members of the committee: Inspector Fred Porter, 'L' Division, P.S. George Schleuter, 'H' Division, P.C.'s Tom Bannister, 'S' Division, and Wilmington, 'C' Division, with P.C. Charles Davis, 'R' Division, as treasurer.

Then followed discussions, and various motions were passed on certain matters connected with the Guild and its work.

A vote of thanks was passed to the late secretary for his services, to which he suitably replied.

The Master asked the members to maintain, and, if possible, strengthen their interest in the work of the Guild and ringing, and particularly to turn up after previously promising to do so to ring for Sunday services.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector of St. George's for his help to, and interest in, the Guild in the past, and to Mr. Herbert Spink (steplekeeper) for his services. Included in this vote of thanks was a motion that Mr. James E. Davis, of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, E.C., be asked to accept the thanks of the Guild for his invaluable assistance.

A move was then made to the tower, where a number of visitors had assembled, including Mr. C. W. Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. George Cross, and ringing took place until 9 p.m., all having a pull at something they could ring. Various methods were rung more or less successfully, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise Major.

OXFORD GUILD'S JUBILEE.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild was inaugurated on January 17th, 1881, at a meeting held in Oxford. To commemorate the jubilee, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Cinques (1,430 changes) was rung for evensong on Sunday, January 18th, at St. Laurence's, Reading, in 62 mins.: G. Holloway 1, Miss N. Belcher 2, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 3, S. C. Davis 4, C. J. Watts 5, C. Pullen 6, Miss P. Holloway 7, J. W. Higgs 8, H. W. Smith 9, W. Hensley 10, E. G. Foster 11, W. Rampton 12. This touch was taken from the 'Clavis.' All are Sunday service ringers.

DEATH OF BANGOR'S OLDEST RINGER.

MR. WILLIAM CRANE'S SERVICES TO THE CHURCH.

The death occurred on Tuesday, December 30th, of Mr. William Crane, late carriage department foreman, L.M.S. Railway, Bangor Station, from which post he retired nine years ago. Mr. Crane, who was 74 years old, was a native of Bletchley, Bucks, and had lived in Bangor for the last 50 years. His wife predeceased him four years ago, and since then he had resided with his daughter. He was a staunch churchman and had been churchwarden, sidesman and bell-ringer at St. David's Church. He was one of the first band of ringers formed after the church was built in 1888. He kept no record of his peals, but he must have rung 100 or more of Grandsire, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Superlative. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and North Wales Association.

Mr. Crane was of a reserved and quiet disposition, and was greatly esteemed by his fellow-ringers and friends. Through ill-health he had been confined to the house for a considerable time.

The interment took place at Glanadda Cemetery, the first part of the service taking place at St. David's Church. There was a large attendance of railway men and friends. The Rev. W. Lewis, curate of St. David's, officiated at the church and cemetery. The staff of the carriage department were bearers to the church, and the following ringers acted as bearers from the church to the cemetery: Messrs. J. H. Midwinter, V. Child, W. T. and A. E. Pegler, who also rang two courses of Grandsire on handbells over the open grave. Afterwards the tower bells were rung half-muffled to touches of Grandsire, and also the whole pull and stand 74 times. The bells were rung muffled for services the following Sunday. At seven o'clock English service a memorial service was held, the preacher being the Rev. W. Lewis, who prefaced his sermon with a tribute to the work Mr. Crane had done for the Church. The 'Dead March' in Saul was played by the organist, after which a short touch was rung on the bells. By his death, the oldest of St. David's bellringers is lost.

W. T. P.

A HALF-PEAL.

On Monday evening, January 5th, a half-peal of Treble Bob Minor (2,520 changes) was rung at the Parish Church of All Saints, Kempston, by members of the Bedfordshire Association in 1 hour 33 mins. It consisted of 360 College Exercise and 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob: S. L. Knott 1, N. Inskip 2, F. C. Tysoe 3, C. Prindiville 4, P. Inskip 5, P. C. Bonnett 6. Conducted by Percy C. Bonnett. Arranged for Mr. S. L. Knott, of Stagsden, who was home on holiday.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham have accepted invitations to be present at the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner on February 28th.

Owing to the pressure on our space, a number of letters and reports are unavoidably held over.

As will be noticed in the peal reports, Mrs. Harold J. Poole has made a welcome reappearance in the activities of peal ringing. By the peal rung at Austey on January 17th, she completed a century of peals on tower bells. This is her first peal since her wedding just over three years ago.

A correspondent writes, with reference to the most excellent articles on Variation and Transposition, by Mr. J. A. Trollope, it would be interesting for him to see the figures of the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal, the report of which was published in 'The Ringing World' of January 18th, and to say if they are a variation of a previous composition.

The first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus in London was rung twenty years ago next Wednesday by the College Youths at Cornhill.

A peal of '5,040 real Double Eight-in, with two bobs in a lead, as many 7th's as 2nd's, with bobs behind and before alternately,' was rung at Richmond, Surrey, on January 28th, 1816.

VARIATION AND TRANSPOSITION.

The next instalment of Mr. Trollope's instructive article will appear in our next issue.

HOLDING THE ROPE. WHICH IS THE CORRECT WAY?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—After reading Mr. Dyke's article and the comments by A. W. F. re the teaching of would-be ringers. I must confess to being rather startled. In more than 60 years' experience of ringing, and having taught many bands and individuals, I have seen many awkward ringers. I also have seen and rung with some of the finest ringers the Exercise has had, and sir, some held the rope one way and some the other, meaning left or right hand, but when I read that out of a band starting for a ten-bell peal nine do not hold the rope correctly, I am constrained to ask, Will one of the gentlemen tell me which is the correct way and give me their authority?—Yours faithfully,

TOM RUSSAM.

Birmingham.

'IN AND FIFTH'S.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am always willing to be corrected, and I thank Mr. Wilde for pointing out the slip on my part in saying that any peal of 'London' would be applicable to 'Rutland,' but in writing of 'Rutland' I expressly mentioned tenors together and In and Fifth's is not tenors together in 'London,' 'Rutland,' or any other method.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BAKER.

REUNION OF OLD FRIENDS.

On Saturday, January 10th, a few old friends met together at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton, to ring 66 leads of Kent Treble Bob Major, in honour of Mr. Walter Idle's 66th birthday, the band being as follows: Walter Idle (Dewsbury) 1, Joseph Broadley (Shipley) 2, James Cotterell (Bradford) 3, Harry Armitage (Huddersfield) 4, Ernest Betts (Liversedge) 5, Fred Hodgson (Liversedge) 6, William Frith (Huddersfield) 7, Thomas Kendall (Shipley) 8. At the conclusion of the well-struck touch, the ringers adjourned to the Park Hotel, where they were met by other friends from Elland, Batley and the local company. After doing full justice to an excellent tea provided by Mr. Walter Idle, the evening was spent in handbell ringing and reminiscences of old times spent together, some very amusing anecdotes being related. One incident of years ago is well worth recording.

The Dewsbury company of that time went to Huddersfield to ring. One of the party was the verger at Dewsbury, who wished to be home early. After having rung and spent a short time with the rest of the party at a neighbouring hostel, he wished them all 'Good-night,' and went to catch the train for Dewsbury. Having caught the train all right, he settled himself down and fell asleep, passed through Dewsbury, and woke up to find himself at Leeds, eight miles beyond. Boarding another train for Dewsbury, he once more fell asleep, and on again waking up he was surprised to find himself back at Huddersfield. He therefore rejoined his friends at the hostel, and in response to the remark, 'We thought you had gone home,' he related his experience to their great amusement.

At the conclusion of a very pleasant time, Mr. Broadley proposed a vote of thanks on behalf of all present to Mr. Idle for his kind hospitality, and wished him 'many happy returns.'—This was seconded by Mr. G. H. Hardy and carried unanimously, and Mr. Idle suitably replied.

STEDMAN'S TERCENTENARY. SUPPORT FOR SUGGESTED COMMEMORATION.

The suggestion made in 'The Ringing World' last week that there should be a fitting commemoration this year at Cambridge of the 300th anniversary of the birth of Fabian Stedman has met with support in many influential quarters of the Exercise. No steps, of course, can be taken, at any rate with regard to the restoration of the bells at St. Benedict's Church where Stedman himself rang, until the approval of the church authorities has been obtained. The proposals have been put before the Vicar and his reply is now awaited.

CENTRAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S VIEWS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Exercise should be grateful to you for the suggestion made in last Friday's issue with regard to the bells of St. Benet's, Cambridge. It would certainly be very appropriate that the bells should be put into ringing order to commemorate the tercentenary of Stedman's birth.

It does not seem to me that there should be a great deal of difficulty in raising the necessary funds. Before any definite steps were taken, however, it would be necessary to be assured that the parish authorities would appreciate the action contemplated, and some assurance should be forthcoming that the bells would be maintained in good order with reasonable facilities for their being rung.—Yours faithfully,

EDWIN H. LEWIS.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Sonning Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild on Saturday, the Master (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) mentioned the suggested Stedman commemoration and the scheme put forward in these columns last week. The restoration of the old bells at St. Benet's Church, Cambridge, should, he said, be done by the ringers of England as a thankoffering for the life of Stedman. He would give that proposal his own warmest support, as it would contribute something to one who had been really great.

The Editor of 'The Ringing World,' at the Bristol United Guilds' dinner on Saturday, when ringers were present from many parts of England, referred to the great opportunity which was presented to the Exercise this year to do something of practical value in recognition of what Stedman did, and what his work had meant to succeeding generations of ringers. Anything in the nature of the restoration of the bells at St. Benet's Church must, of course, depend upon the sanction of the church authorities and their sympathy with the scheme. If that were forthcoming, as he hoped it would be, he appealed to ringers of England to do something worthy of the great name of Stedman and the honour of the Exercise.

Immediately afterwards, one gentleman present promised a donation of £5 for the restoration fund if the work is undertaken.

THE BELLS OF ST. BENEDICT'S, CAMBRIDGE.

Sir,—Your suggestion that steps should, if possible, be taken to commemorate the tercentenary of the birth of Fabian Stedman, whom you rightly look upon as the father of modern change ringing, seems to me to be in every way admirable. In contemplating some of the forms which the commemoration might take, nothing, I think, could be more suitable than the thorough repair of the bells in the tower of St. Benedict's, Cambridge, the very same, save one, on which he used to ring, and I most earnestly hope that the scheme may meet with full success.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Kemerton, Tewkesbury.

WAS FABIAN STEDMAN A PRINTER?

Dear Sir,—In your leading article of January 16th you write as if there were absolute proof that Stedman was a Cambridge printer. I would point out that this matter is by no means certain. In support of it there is only hearsay, and that of the Leicester ringers (Leicester is a long way from Cambridge). Thus this is a most unsatisfactory form of support for any statement. On the other side we have the positive printed statement on the title page of 'Tintinologia,' that that book was printed for him by a printer in London. This is not absolute proof that he was not a printer, but it certainly implies that he was not; while a careless reading of these same words may have provided that very hearsay we have already referred to. The statement that he was a printer, when some of us believe he was not, should always be qualified by mentioning that fact.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

HERBERT DRAKE.

'THE GRANDSIRE' OF THE ART.

Sir,—I read with great interest your leading article in 'The Ringing World' of last week, re the 'Stedman Tercentenary.' Personally I feel that we as ringers owe much to Fabian Stedman, who surely is 'The Grandsire' of our art, and that we as an Exercise ought to celebrate the event in 1931 in some appropriate manner. Trusting this will be one of many letters that will reach you on the subject, yours faithfully,

Folkingham, Lincs.

C. T. H. BRADLEY.

PAINSWICK PEAL COMPOSITION FALSE.

GREAT PERFORMANCE PUT OUT OF COURT.

The publication in 'The Ringing World' of the figures of the peal of 17,687 Grandsire Cinques, rung on November 8th last at Painswick, has revealed that the composition was false, the rows in the first treble lead of the peal being repeated in reverse order in the seventh lead after the third course in the last part.

The ringing at Painswick was a supreme effort on the part of the band, and occupied 11 hrs. 36 mins. The peal took just as much ringing as a true one, but it can no longer stand as a peal or as a record length. It must be a great blow to the ringers to find that their great achievement is all in vain for the purpose for which it was rung, and ringers throughout the country will have the greatest sympathy with all the band.

A number of correspondents have written to us calling attention to the falseness of the peal, and public reference was made to it by the chairman at the annual dinner of the Bristol United Guilds on Saturday. It will be sufficient here if we give the letter received from Mr. Albert Wright, the composer and conductor.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Mr. A. Knights and Mr. G. Lindoff have pointed out to me that we rang through a lead that was rung previously in the peal, viz., one of the leads after the course-end 543628708e, repeated with the first lead. I wish to apologise to the band for doing so, but that does not alter the fact that we rang the greatest number of changes on twelve bells, and, when the mistake was made, the greatest number of true changes for twelve bells had been rung.

'Coles' of fire have been poured on the peal ever since it was rung. The Painswick Youths, not being affiliated to the Central Council, make their own 'Rules and Decisions,' and still claim to have rung the greatest number of true changes on twelve bells.—Yours truly,

ALBERT WRIGHT.

FULMER RINGER'S DEATH.

On Friday, January 9th, the death occurred at Windsor Hospital after only a few days' illness of Mr. Frederick Clarke, one of the Sunday service ringers of Fulmer Parish Church, Bucks. Deceased, who was 45 years of age, was a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and had been a ringer since 1901.

He rang his first 720 of Minor on June 1st, 1902, and took part in a peal of Minor at Fulmer in January, 1903, which is recorded in the belfry. Two years ago, with Mr. Harding, the belfry foreman, he helped to get together the present Sunday service band, the old band having broken up under war time stress.

The deceased was laid to rest on Wednesday, January 14th, the Rev. R. F. Lee (in the unavoidable absence of the Rector) conducting the burial service, at the conclusion of which he gave a short address, speaking of deceased's good example by taking an interest in the church's work, also of his somewhat sudden passing away, which emphasised the necessity for all to be ever prepared.

Several of the ringers were at the graveside, and the floral tributes included wreaths from the Rector, the ringers and churchworkers, his employer, and the staff with whom he worked. There, on that lovely January afternoon, hard by the little church, where in the days gone by, they had rung together, and worshipped many times, the ringers bade Fred Clarke farewell, 'until the day breaks and the shadows flee away.'

G. H. G.

THE PEAL AT SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL.

The first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus in London has been rung by members of the Middlesex County Association, which society also rang the first peals of Superlative and Spliced Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Maximus in the Metropolis.

The latest peal was rung at the first attempt, after two practices. It was the first peal of Yorkshire on any number by six of the band, whilst Messrs. Williams, Roberts, Hewett and Sanders completed the trio of Major, Royal and Maximus in the method.

It was Mr. E. P. Duffield's 50th peal on twelve bells, and it was rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. R. Sanders on the birth of a daughter, as well as being a birthday peal for the 'happy father.'

SITUATION WANTED.

GARDENER, single-handed, or head of two or three. Keen ringer, three methods; has instructed; West Country preferred; good references.—G. Whitmore, Comp-ton, King's Somborne, Winchester.

PUBLICATIONS.

'GRANDSIRE DOUBLES AND TRIPLES, Simply Explained'; also 'Bob Minor and Major, Simply Explained,' for beginners. 6½d. each, post free; 5/9 a dozen post free; from I. Roe and M. Broome, 9, Lansdown Crescent, Bath.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.

A RECORD GATHERING.

Ringers from places as far apart as Sheffield and Truro, London and Manchester were among those present at the tenth annual dinner of the Bristol United Guilds on Saturday. Elaborate arrangements had been made for the entertainment of the visitors, the feature of the afternoon programme being an inspection of Bristol University and 'Great George,' the fine 9½ ton bell which hangs in the tower. Various churches were also open for ringing, and afternoon tea was provided for all. A record company of considerably over 200 assembled for dinner, which was served in the ballroom of the Grand Hotel. The chairman of the United Guilds (Mr. Percy C. Williams) presided, the vice-chairman being Mr. Harry Burt. Among the company were the Rev. D. A. and Mrs. Jaquet (St. James, Bristol), Rev. F. G. Walsley (St. Ambrose), Rev. M. Paterson (St. Thomas), Rev. W. G. Heber Thomas (St. Stephen's), Rev. A. H. D. Allan, Rev. F. L. Edwards (hon. secretary of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild), Messrs. A. Walker (Deputy Ringing Master, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham) and Mrs. Walker, Mr. W. H. Shuker (hon. secretary, Lancashire Association) and Mrs. Shuker, Mr. J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaff and Monmouth Association), Mr. J. T. Dyke (hon. secretary, Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (hon. secretary, Guildford Diocesan Guild) and Mrs. Goldsmith, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hawkins (London), Miss I. Hastie (West Clendon, Surrey), Messrs. C. D. Heginbotham (Devizes), A. A. Hughes (London), R. H. Dove (Croydon), J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), J. A. Dart and J. Thomas (London), S. Palmer, J. Hol-



THE CHAIRMAN:
MR. PERCY C. WILLIAMS.

man and K. S. Long (Sheffield), G. F. Swann (Sutton Coldfield), G. E. Fearn and H. H. Fearn (Birmingham), A. S. Roberts (Truro), E. Stitch (Port Talbot), contingents from Gloucester and Bath, and ringers from nearly all the towers in and around Bristol. The excellent arrangements were carried out under a committee consisting of the chairman, vice-chairman, prospective chairman (Mr. U. Braven), Miss E. Smith, Miss F. G. Leaker, Messrs. F. G. Leaker, J. G. Jeffries, J. Gould, H. Way, W. Knight, W. H. Skidmore, J. Burford, H. Bennett, H. Pring, W. Parker, W. S. Emory, F. Jewell and R. Seager, while Mr. Edgar Guise again discharged the onerous duties of hon. secretary with conspicuous efficiency. After an admirably served meal, during which selections of music were played by the Tyndale Trio, the

toast of 'The King' was honoured, and the company settled down to enjoy an entertainment of the same excellence and diversity that has characterised these gatherings from the first, thanks to the good offices of Mr. Emery and Mr. Charles Read, I.S.M. The toast of 'The Church' was proposed by the chairman. They met there that night, he said, in a spirit of brotherliness, and they all had one end in view, that of promoting the interest of their particular form of church work. If the same spirit of brotherliness which prevailed in the belfry was always present in every other corner of the Church it would be a great blessing. The Church was the mainstay of them all, in their daily, moral and spiritual life. They hoped she would be healed of all her troubles and would continue in the future, as she had done in the past, to give a clear and definite witness for the honour and glory of God (applause).

The Rev. D. A. Jaquet responded and had some amusing anecdotes to tell of his connection with bells before coming to his present parish of St. James. One was of the occasion when he was being inducted into a new living and had to toll the bell. He found he could get no sound from it, and then discovered he was pulling the window cord instead of the bell rope. At St. James' they had a fine peal of bells, and were very proud of their ringers, he said. The ringing of the bells in other churches Sunday by Sunday was a constant witness to the world that that particular day was a holy day, and they were a witness to the service and worship of God. It was very definitely a church art, like the playing of the organ, in which

people must take pains. As the younger folk grew up and learned to ring, he hoped they would realise that anything done in the service of God and His Church, as of anything that was worth doing in the world, needed the taking of infinite pains. He hoped as the years rolled on, more and more people would feel that there was a call for their talent and time and work in the service of God and the Church.

A RULE FULFILLED.

Mr. J. W. Jones proposed 'The Gloucester and Bristol Association and the Bristol United Ringing Guilds.' He said it would have been a great joy to those who formed the association 53 years ago if they could have seen that great gathering. It was a fine answer to their first endeavours. The first portion of the first rule of the association was intended to set up a standard of character among ringers, and if they could see that assembled company they would be sufficiently satisfied with the result of their efforts to promote belfry reform. He thought the time had now arrived when there was no need to insert in their rules the object of belfry reform. It had already been achieved (hear, hear). He was the son of an old Gloucestershire ringer in whose days the ringing started in November and ended about February. They were out for records in those days, but not for records of Grandsire Cinques or Cambridge Maximus. At Christmas they visited the farmers, and the records they tried to set up was to see how many gallons of cider they could get given to them (laughter). That was one of the reasons why the founders of the association found it necessary to introduce a rule about belfry reform. In regard to the other part of the rule, the promotion of change ringing, success in that direction had been amply proved. Among other peals rung during the past year had been Cambridge Major at St. Mary Redcliffe and the long peals of Grandsire Cinques. In all the advancement that had taken place in the last few years, they had had a fine answer to the association's efforts to promote change ringing. Mr. Jones went on to refer to the help which members of the association had given to others outside their own territory, and especially to what was done by Mr. F. E. Ward, a former Master, whose work at Caerleon and elsewhere, in conjunction with Mr. C. E. Boufflower, was one of the inducements which led to the formation of the Llandaff Association. He spoke of the work of such men as Jim Hinton, Sam Phillips and others to uplift ringing in Bristol, of the services rendered to ringing by such members of the association as the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and the Revs. H. L. and F. B. James and others, and of the work done by stalwarts like John Austin, William Cave, Edgar Guise, William Knight, John Burford, Albert Wright and a host of others. He raised his hat also to members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, because they were always ready, however well they could ring themselves, to give a man a helping hand, and he had personally experienced many such kindnesses (applause). It was a spirit which he would like to see exercised throughout the country (hear, hear). He congratulated the Bristol United Guilds upon the success of that splendid gathering, which he hoped might be long continued (applause).

Mr. F. Skidmore (Bristol Branch chairman), who responded, agreed with Mr. Jones that the first rule of the association needed revising. That gathering proved that the morale of ringers in the diocese had vastly improved. Bristol, he said, had always been a great ringing centre, and he trusted always would be. They had had some wonderful ringers in Bristol, and they all wanted to see them helping one another and especially the younger ringers. They had a great deal to be proud of in belonging to such an association. Their first duty was to ring for the services of the church, and he was glad to see that the clergy were taking a far greater interest in ringers' work than they did in times gone by. Their frequent visits to the belfry were a great encouragement to the ringers, and much appreciated. In Bristol he hoped the ringers would be entirely united as one great family. On the social side they had a great deal to be proud of. They had a number of friends ready to come to their aid on occasions like that, and he specially thanked Mr. Emery, Mr. Spurrier and Mr. Read for the excellent programme provided for their entertainment that evening and on similar occasions in the past ten years.

PRESENTATION.

The Chairman endorsed what Mr. Skidmore had said with regard to their indebtedness to the three gentlemen named, and requested Mr. Emery to present a silver bell in stand to Mr. Read in recognition of the services so willingly given for the past ten years.

Mr. Emery said it had been a great pleasure to do what he could for the United Guilds, but they were specially indebted to Mr. Read, who was a great asset to the Guild (applause). He hoped the spirit of friendship kindled ten years ago would long continue. The in-stand, said Mr. Emery, was inscribed, 'Charles Read, I.S.M.: in grateful appreciation, from Bristol United Ringing Guilds, 1931.'

Mr. Read, in acknowledging the gift, said what a pleasure it was to give his assistance at those gatherings, at which such a wonderful spirit of friendship prevailed.

A course of Stedman Cinques was then rung on handbells by Messrs. G. F. Swann, J. Thomas, S. Palmer, A. Walker, J. Burford and W. Cave.

Afterwards Mr. Burt submitted 'The Visitors' in felicitous terms, welcoming the presence of the representatives of so many associations. (Continued column 2, next page.)

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**SONNING DEANERY'S ANNUAL MEETING.**

One of the most thriving branches of the Oxford Diocesan Guild is that in the Sonning Deanery, and about a hundred members were present on Saturday last at the annual meeting, which, as usual, was held at Wokingham. Ringing took place during the afternoon at All Saints' and St. Paul's, and service was held at the latter church. The Rector, the Rev. H. M. Walter, officiated, and the organist, Mr. A. H. Lusty, A.R.C.O., was in attendance. The singing of the hymns was an inspiration. These included the ringers' anthem, 'Belfry Praise,' the Old Hundredth (adapted) and 'Praise my soul the King of Heaven' (Goss).

The Rev. W. H. Bayley, Rector of Bearwood, preached an appropriate sermon from Isaiah lxi. 6, 'Men shall call you the ministers of our God,' in which he dealt with the history of bells and ringers, and concluded with a review of the position of the Guild of Church Bellringers, their duties and privileges. 'Undoubtedly, you are among the priests of the laity,' he said, 'whose duty it is to call God's servants to worship.' The preacher strongly exhorted ringers to let the call be also for themselves.

Tea was served in the Parish Room, where, under the direction of Mrs. Boulton, a band of St. Paul's churchworkers undertook the carving and waiting. These volunteers included the Mayor and Mayoress of Wokingham (Alderman and Mrs. A. E. Priest), his Worship being a churchwarden of the church, Mr. A. Newbury (churchwarden), Messdames Barry, Newbury, Hyde, Parker, Eamer, Miss Spiers, Miss Webb, and Mr. E. W. Youdell.

A YEAR OF USEFUL WORK.

Canon Coleridge presided at the business meeting, when the hon. secretary (Mr. W. J. Paice) reported a quiet year of useful work. The membership stood at 23 honorary and 155 ringing members, as against 21 and 150 respectively for the previous year. He referred with regret to the loss of the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield and the Rev. F. Egerton Corfield by death during the year. Both were staunch friends of the Guild. The jubilee gathering last May was a great success. Two peals had been rung during the year—one at Sonning (5,088 Kent Treble Bob Major, by members of the East Berks Branch) and the other at Twyford. The continued appearance of young ringers was encouraging. Sonning men were congratulated upon a praiseworthy effort to master the Stedman method. The report closed with a warm tribute to the good feeling between ringers and the clergy.

The balance sheet showed but a small margin of £1 3s. in hand, and discussion ensued as to possible economy, the secretary explaining several items.

The report and balance sheet were passed, with thanks to Mr. Paice. Canon G. F. Coleridge was unanimously re-elected, with hearty thanks, as chairman of branch.

Mr. W. J. Paice, as hon. secretary and hon. treasurer, was accorded similar recognition of his valued services.

The branch committee (foremen of towers) was re-elected, with the exception that Mr. E. Allen succeeds Mr. Jos. White as foreman of Hurst tower. The branch representatives to the Guild committee were also re-elected, viz., Messrs. F. Dentry, J. Moth, J. Wright and J. White. Quarterly meetings and combined practices were arranged for (by invitation) Sandhurst, Twyford, Waltham St. Lawrence and Sonning. The Secretary said he valued 'The Ringing World' as a medium in which to advertise meetings.

The following recommendations by the branch committee were adopted: That the present charge of 6d. per member for the annual tea be increased to 1s. per member; that a collection be taken at the annual service for the Branch Restoration Fund.

MASTER'S SUGGESTIONS.

The Master (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) remarked that that day was the very jubilee day of their Guild, January 17th, 1881, being the day of its foundation, which took place at Oxford. Discussing quarterly meetings, the Master said that it was not so much expected to have a preacher on those occasions as a short service. He would really like to see some more peals; there must be some younger members anxious to take part in them. Of several attempts last year, there were not many successful. He mentioned the suggested Stedman celebration of this year, as announced in 'The Ringing World,' and his scheme for restoring the old bells in St. Benet's Church, Cambridge.

Mr. A. J. Wright (Guild treasurer) spoke on Guild finance, especially the Branch Restoration Fund. As the money was spent in grants, he had to make a new start. This year there was a balance forward of £26. Last year £158 was paid away in grants. He hoped all branch representatives would be present when the Guild committee would discuss the matter at Reading. He looked upon Sonning Branch as one of the most prosperous in the Guild. There was no great use in holding balances in the branches. Some £190 was (thus held in the Guild. He advised putting it into the structures and into improved ringing.

The Rev. A. P. Carr proposed a hearty vote of thanks to many friends to whom they were indebted—the Rev. W. H. Bayley for his excellent sermon, the Rector of St. Paul's for the use of his church and Parish Room, the Rectors of All Saints' and St. Paul's for the

(Continued in next column.)

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The first meeting of the year of the South-Western Division at West Ham on Saturday last was a very successful one, and augurs well for the coming year. Between 40 and 50 members and friends were present, and all spent a most enjoyable afternoon. The bells were raised and kept going in various methods till 5 p.m., when a break was made for the service, conducted by the Rev. Minn, who gave an inspiring address. Tea was partaken of in the Meeson Hall, thirty-nine being present. The meeting followed, at which two resident ringers, three non-resident life, and one honorary member were elected, and Woodford decided upon for the place of next meeting, to be held, if possible, on March 14th.

The Secretary reported that one of the oldest members, Mr. Nelson Hawkins, had been accidentally killed by a motor, and as a mark of respect to his memory those present stood in silence for a minute or two.

During the afternoon and evening, members and friends were present from Leytonstone, Bishopsgate (St. Botolph's), Hertford, Ealing, Southgate, Bentley, Harlow, Brentwood, Romford, Loughton, Barking, Walthamstow, Leyton, Gillingham (Kent), Stowmarket, and the local band, and touches of Grandfire Triples and Caters, Stedman Caters, Treble Ten and Bob Royal were rung.

MR. JAMES GEORGE'S LATEST ACHIEVEMENT.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—On January 3rd, 1931, I was successful in completing the ringing of a peal on tower bells on every date in the year (including February 29th and December 25th), these peals being rung on either 8, 10 or 12 bells. Being the first person ever to accomplish this, I desire through your valuable paper to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to Mr. J. H. Cheesman (Greenhithe, Kent), Mr. W. Whitehead (Leicester), and Mr. M. Swinfield (Burton-on-Trent) for the great and genuine help they have given me to obtain this record. I also desire to thank Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Loughborough, for the frequent free use of their foundry bell tower for this purpose.—Yours truly,

JAMES GEORGE.

NAVAL FUNERAL HONOURS FOR PLYMOUTH RINGER.

On Monday, December 29th, Mr. Reginald John Beer, chief writer, H.M. Navy, died suddenly in the street at Plymouth at the early age of 36 years. For a long time he was the leader of the Emmanuel band, which office he was compelled to resign on going abroad in 1916.

He returned to Plymouth in 1918, and became an unattached member of the South-West District Branch.

He took part in several peals for the Devonshire Guild, and was one of the band chosen for a peal attempt at Plympton two days after his death.

He was laid to rest with naval honours in the Corporation Cemetery, Plymouth, on Friday, January 2nd. A beautiful wreath was sent from the South-West District Branch, and the secretary, Mr. E. W. Marsh, together with Mr. W. G. Hiscott and J. Pook, represented the branch. Mr. H. T. Westcott represented Charles Church, and Messrs. J. Symons and A. T. Baldry the Emmanuel band.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.

(Continued from page 58.)

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards first replied, and spoke of the splendid arrangements made to entertain and interest the visitors throughout the day. They had thoroughly enjoyed every moment spent in Bristol.

Mr. Albert Walker also replied, and said that in the arrangements for the entertainment of visitors, Bristol United Guilds set an example to all the other societies who organised similar gatherings. The visit to Bristol University had been particularly interesting with such a cicerone as Mr. Emery.

Mr. Braven proposed 'The Press,' to which the Editor of 'The Ringing World' replied, and the remaining toast was that of 'The Artists,' submitted by Mr. H. Bennett, and acknowledged by Mr. Read.

The programme included songs by Mr. E. H. Cooke and Miss Winifred Rodd; an extremely amusing pianoforte recital by Mr. Laurence, who impersonated the chief characters as well as the whole orchestra in an opera; a magical turn by Mr. W. Baker, whose 'experiments' were extremely mystifying; a ventriloquial sketch by Mr. Ken Kennedy, and selections by St. Thomas' handbell ringers.

Many of the visitors stayed the night at Bristol, and were able to ring for service at various churches on Sunday.

(Continued from previous column.)

use of their belfries, the organist, and the honorary auditor of the branch accounts, Mr. Owen Goddard (applause).

On the motion of Mr. F. Dentry, Canon Coleridge was thanked by acclamation for presiding. In reply, Canon Coleridge said there were 2,897 ringers in the Oxford Diocese, of which over 2,000 were in their Guild—very creditable, everything considered. An increase of 187 upon the previous year was shown for all England at the end of 1929, when the ringers numbered 46,270.

BOBS BEFORE AND METHOD 'B.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—The fact that I made use of bobs Before in the peals of Rutland (that I gave is proof that I do not object to Befores, but only to the wholesale use of them.

Supposing it were possible to compose and ring the extent of sixty six-lead-courses of 'Rutland,' tenors together, the time occupied would be well over six hours, and at the end of that time the tenor man would have rung six-sevenths of the method only! and some of the six-sevenths would have been different in each case from the other.

Could the tenor men at the finish honestly say that they had rung a peal in the method?

There are certain circumstances in which a bob Before in every course is not only justifiable but is the only means of obtaining a peal in a method, and this brings me to what I am more particularly writing about.

In my letter in your last issue I gave the false course-ends of methods A, B and C published in your previous issue.

The false course-ends of 'C' were a known quantity, and will permit of twenty-four true plain courses only, tenors together, as I pointed out.

This week I have tested 'A' and 'B.'

The false course-ends of 'A' will permit of fifteen true plain courses only, tenors together, and there is not a true lead in the method.

The false course-ends of 'B' will permit of twenty true plain courses only, tenors together.

But now I have to correct a statement I made last week, i.e., although there are only twenty true plain courses of 'B' method, tenors together, yet, if we use a bob Before in each course, the falseness of the method is cut out, and the peals mentioned by Mr. Wilde will be applicable to 'B' method.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BAKER.

Mr. A. J. Pitman writes pointing out that Mr. Baker's statement was incorrect, and he sends the composition of a peal in each of the methods A and C. With regard to B, he points out that peals can easily be obtained, as the falseness is cut out by bobs Before. The compositions will be published as soon as space permits.

AN ICKLETON VETERAN.

MR. JESSE WEBB AND HIS WIFE DIE ON THE SAME DAY.

Mr. Jesse Webb and his wife, Mrs. Rebecca Webb, of Ickleton, Cambs (father and mother of Mr. Percy Webb, leader of the Ickleton ringers), both passed away on Thursday, January 8th, within a few hours of each other. They had both been ill for several months, and their end was very peaceful. The interment took place on Tuesday, January 13th. Four of the local ringers were bearers, and there was a large congregation, for Mr. and Mrs. Webb were much respected. The choir were also present, Mr. Jesse Webb having been a chorister as well as a ringer for about sixty years, although he had not been able to attend church for about a year. Both Mr. Webb and his wife were 78 years of age.

Amongst the large number of wreaths was one from the local ringers, who also rang a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells over the grave. The hymn sung was 'Now the labourer's task is o'er.'

As a young man, Mr. Jesse Webb started ringing at Burwell (Cambs), where he, two of his brothers and an uncle (all now passed away) took up method ringing on the five bells at the Parish Church, Grandsire being their favourite method.

About forty years ago Mr. Jesse Webb moved to Ickleton, where there was a good peal of six, but they had not been rung for several years, as the band could only muster five men. He offered to take the vacant rope, and so a start was made, but all the locals could ring was one lead of Bob Minor. After a time Mr. Webb took in hand some lads, including his two sons (one of whom was killed in the war), but it was an uphill task. However, his son soon made headway and got over to Saffron Walden, where he was made welcome and told to come whenever he could. In the year 1897 most of the band joined the Ely Diocesan Association, and in the year 1900 the first peal on Ickleton bells was rung, Mr. Webb and his two sons taking part. Mr. Webb, however, had not taken part in many peals, but what he had rung consisted of Minor and Doubles.

About three years ago, when the new eight were put in Ickleton tower, he rang his first touch of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major when he was in his 75th year. He had not been able to ring for the last year through ill-health, but the ringers always knew he was listening and would tell them if the striking was good or not.

THE FIRST PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I correct a slight misstatement in this week's 'Belfry Gossip'? The first peal of Grandsire Cinques was not conducted by Annable. It was rung at St. Bride's on January 19th, 1724 (not 1725), and was composed by William Jackson, who rang the 9th, and conducted by Matthew East, who rang the 11th. Annable, a young man of about 21, rang the second. It was the first peal rung by the College Youths.—Yours sincerely, J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637.) — The subscription of 1s. 8d. which entitles members who have not met twenty times to vote on matters of finance is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on January 20th, *St. Giles', Cripplegate, on the 27th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, on Saturday, Jan. 24th, at 4 p.m. Business meeting in the Church House at 6 p.m.—J. Sparrow, Hon. Sec., 5, Bandon Rise, Wallington, Surrey.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bath, on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea in Parish Room 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—T. Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The memorial tablet to the late treasurer, Henry W. Jackson, will be unveiled at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, on Saturday, Jan. 24th, by the President, Rev. Canon H. J. Elsee, M.A., Rural Dean. Service at Holy Trinity Church at 6.30 p.m., unveiling ceremony immediately afterwards. The towers of the Parish Church, St. George's and Holy Trinity will be open for ringing from 2.30 p.m.—Peter Crook, 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (FARNHAM DISTRICT) & LADIES' GUILD (SOUTHERN DISTRICT).—The annual general meeting of the Farnham District, combined with the quarterly meeting of the Ladies' Guild, will be held at Farnham, on Saturday, January 24th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meetings in Church House.—H. F. Mills, Hon. Sec. Ladies' Guild; C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec. Farnham District, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Lindfield on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5, by kind invitation. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.).—A. D. Stone, Hon. Divisional Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — North-Western District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Martin's, Epsom, on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting following in Church House. All ringers welcome. — D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD. — Quarterly meeting will be held at All Saints' Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. P. Hartill, Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Ardeley (6 bells) on Jan. 24th. Service in church. Tea and business to follow. Bells ready any time. A sweet little peal of six. First meeting ever held here. — W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—A meeting will be held at Creaton on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Will those requiring tea please notify me?—R. Adams, East Haddon.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Doncaster (St. George's Church) on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5.15 p.m., 1s. 6d. per head. All outstanding subscriptions should be paid at this meeting. A good attendance is requested.—Percy Gledstone, Hon. Sec., 34, Silverwood View, Conisborough.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southampton District. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Southampton, on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea in Deanery School at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—W. T. Tucker, 71, High Street, Eastleigh.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch. — The next annual meeting will be held at Kingsteignton on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please advise me early who intends coming. All welcome.—H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at South Hackney on Jan. 24th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m., and after the meeting. Service, tea and meeting at 5 p.m.—J. A. Waugh, Dis. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch. — The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Cirencester on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Watermoor bells open 3 o'clock. Tea, Viner's Restaurant, 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Service, Parish Church, 6 o'clock. Bells open after service. — F. J. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., 67, Chester Street, Cirencester.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Bray on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Committee meeting at Vicarage 4 p.m. Bells (6) available 6 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting of the Forest Branch will be held at Lydney on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Tea in Church Room at 5. Business meeting to follow. — Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bakewell on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Church of All Saints (8 bells, tenor 17½ cwt.) available afternoon and evening. Tea and meeting about 5 p.m. A good attendance is requested, and members from other districts are welcome. Nominations are required for the office of vice-president and secretary and for two committeemen. An earnest appeal is made for further subscriptions to the Chambers Memorial Fund, which will shortly be closed. — J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., Leamwood, Dore.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rugby on Saturday, Jan. 24th. The bells of St. Andrew's available during the afternoon and evening. Committee meeting 4 o'clock in the Vestry. Service in church 4.30, to be conducted by Rev. J. W. Hunkin, Archdeacon of Coventry. Tea at Corner House Café (next to the church) at 5 o'clock, 1s. 6d. per head. Business meeting to follow.—D. E. Lewis, Gen. Hon. Sec., Firholm, King Edward Road, Nuneaton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at SS. Peter and Paul, Bromley, on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea (kindly supplied by Vicar and churchwardens) and business meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid at this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL GUILD.—Chippenham Branch will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, Jan. 24th, at St. Paul's (8 bells), Chippenham, at 3 p.m. St. Andrew's bells (8) will also be open. Service 4.45. Tea after. Business meeting to follow. Visitors welcome.—F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., The Woodlands, Chippenham, Wilts.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery.—The annual meeting will be held at Castle Cary on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Schoolroom 5 p.m. Meeting to follow.—E. Creed, Dimmer Farm, Castle Cary.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch. — Owing to the Grantham bells being unavailable, the annual meeting will be held at Folkingham on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, and business meeting at Greyhound Hotel. Meat tea 1s. 9d.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., The Lodge, Folkingham, Lincolnshire.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Finedon on Saturday, Jan. 24th. Bells available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. As the report and balance sheet for the past year will then be presented, it is hoped as many as possible will attend.—F. Barber, Branch Sec., School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', Gosforth, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (10) available from 2.30. Tea at 5.0. Those requiring tea please advise me before January 28th. A good attendance is requested.—W. J. Davidson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Chief Fire Station, Newcastle.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — The annual district meeting will be held at Basingstoke on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (2 towers) available from 2.30 p.m. Service in Parish Church 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting follows. Will all members try to support the work of the Guild by attending if possible? Visitors welcomed. If tea required, please notify by Jan. 28th to Rev. D. L. Board, Hon. Sec., Wolverton Rectory, Basingstoke.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—*Book this date*, Jan. 31st. On Saturday, Jan. 31st, a meeting will be held at Royston. Good bus and train services. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. The tea is by kind invitation of the Vicar (Rev. F. F. Greig), who will provide tea for those who notify not later than Thursday, Jan. 29th, to the Rev. F. F. Greig, The Vicarage, Royston. Send a card *this time* if you never have before!—Don Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., Offley, Hitchin.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Daventry on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Usual arrangements. Members, please note alteration of tower.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (12) available 2.30. Service in church 5. Tea (1s. each) in St. Chad's Room at 6 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Please send number for tea before the 27th to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Wakefield on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (12) available from noon onward. Reports will be distributed in the Schools from 2.45 p.m. to 3.45 p.m. Divine service in the Cathedral at 4 p.m. Tea, for which a charge of 1s. 6d. per head will be made, will be served in the Wakefield Co-operative Café at 5 p.m., and all applications for same should reach Mr. A. Tate, 11, Haselden Road, Snapethorpe, Wakefield, not later than first post Tuesday, Jan. 27th. General meeting in the Cathedral School Room, Brooke Street, at 6.30 p.m. Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1930-31 are now due.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District. — Quarterly meeting at Milton-next-Gravesend on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., conducted by the Rector (Rev. G. W. Mennie, M.A.). Members intending to accept kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Mitchell to tea at the Johnston Institute must acquaint me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 27th. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid without delay.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District. — The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30, followed by the usual meat tea (1s. 6d.), with business meeting afterwards at the Institute. Will those requiring tea please advise Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, by Jan. 28th?—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—The annual meeting will be held at Carisbrooke on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at 'The Waverley,' by kind invitation of the Vicar of Carisbrooke, followed by the annual business meeting. All ringers welcomed. Will those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, Jan. 28th.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.O.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Bletsoe on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Everybody welcome.—Percy C. Bonnett, Hon. Dis. Sec., Stagsden.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Reigate on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea and business to follow. Ringers requiring tea must notify me by Wednesday, Jan. 28th.—A. J. Bull, Hon. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. Sleaford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me on or before Thursday, Jan. 29th.—Reginald Scott, Westlea House, Sleaford.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Presteigne District.—The annual meeting will be held at Weobley on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea, 5.30, 6d. each to those who notify me by Wednesday, Jan. 28th. Business meeting to follow.—Jabez Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Pembroe.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch will be held at St. Stephen's, City, on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells from 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow at St. Thomas' Parish Room, Victoria Street. Bells of St. Thomas' available after meeting, St. Stephen's till 7.15 p.m. Numbers for tea, please, by 27th? All ringers and friends welcome.—Harry Bennett, Branch Hon. Sec., Highfield, Runswick Road, Brislington.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Barwell on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Tea at 4.30 prompt. Business immediately after tea. Special business necessitates a good attendance.—W. A. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Annual meeting at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Service at 5 p.m. Tea, usual terms, at 5.45. Please note and advise me by 28th certain. Business meeting after tea. Ringing at St. Giles', 2.30 to 5 and after the meeting. Also at St. Clement Danes', 3 to 4.30. Practice meeting and social half-hour at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Thursday, Feb. 12th. Bells from 7.30 p.m. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch. — The annual meeting of the above will be held at Butterwick on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Divine service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Business meeting immediately afterwards. Will those who intend to be present kindly advise me by Tuesday, Jan. 27th? Buses pass the church to and from Boston (Post Office) at intervals during the day. The president is generously providing tea. All ringers welcome.—John Phillips, Hon. Sec., The School House, Butterwick, near Boston, Lincs.

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BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wraxall on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hardingstone on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Will all who require tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 27th?—T. Tebbutt, West Street, Moulton, Northampton.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Tower open 3 p.m. Evensong 4.15, followed by tea in the Refectory. Will tower secretaries please notify me, at least three days beforehand, how many may be expected from their towers?—J. W. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Wayside, Circular Drive, Chester.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. George's Church, Hyde, on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—S. Thompson, Hon. Sec., 16, Market Street, Ashton.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Huntingdon.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Huntingdon, on Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify me by Wednesday, 28th, how many will require tea.—D. Clarke, 36, Cromwell Gardens, St. Neots.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grimsby District.—Annual meeting at St. Andrew's, Grimsby, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea, 5 p.m., in Church Hall, at a moderate charge (only for those who notify me by Jan. 28th).—H. I. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

A WELCOME HARDY ANNUAL.—Bushey, Saturday, Feb. 7th. Bells open from 3.30. Tea 5.45. Cheap return tickets from all parts, either by motor coach or train. Send names for tea by Feb. 4th.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. (City 4270.)

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES.—The 2nd annual dinner will be held at the Victoria Hotel, London Road, Leicester, on Saturday, Feb. 7th, at 6 p.m. Admission will be by ticket only. All applications for tickets (5s. each) must be accompanied by remittance, and must be made to the undersigned not later than Saturday, Jan. 31st. As accommodation is somewhat limited, early application is desirable. All ringers and friends will be very heartily welcome. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. John-the-Divine (10) 3 p.m. till 4.30 p.m.; St. Saviour's (8) and St. Peter's, Belgrave (8) 3.15 p.m. till 5.15 p.m.; St. Margaret's (12), St. Martin's Cathedral (10) and All Saints' (5) 3.30 p.m. till 5.30 p.m.—Alban Disney, 3, Highgate, Aylestone Lane, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Penshurst on Saturday, Feb. 7th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea in the Village Hall, followed by business meeting after the service. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Tuesday, Feb. 3rd. Subscriptions are now due and can be paid at the meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

OXFORD SOCIETY.—A dinner will be held at the Greyhound, Worcester Street, Oxford, on Saturday, Feb. 7th, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, obtainable from V. Bennett, 30, Lime Walk, Headington, Oxford, before Feb. 1st. Ringing at All Saints' and St. Ebbe's 5-7 p.m. All ringers welcome.

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—A meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Lincoln, on Saturday, Feb. 7th. Bells (6) open from 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please notify Mrs. C. McGuinness, 56, Moorland Avenue, Lincoln, not later than Wednesday, Feb. 4th? Gentlemen cordially invited.—Mrs. R. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Surfleet.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 7th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45, as guests of the Rev. P. W. Shepherd-Smith (Vicar) and his wardens, in the Church Hall. Those requiring tea please notify me by Feb. 4th.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4. N.B.—Brentford bells (6) available from 2.30 to 4.30.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A by-meeting will be held at Snodland on Saturday, Feb. 7th. Tower open 3 o'clock. Service at 4.45, followed by tea and meeting. All ringers welcome. Please notify me early.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', West Derby, on Saturday, Feb. 14th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, at 6.15 p.m. Meeting to follow. Those desiring tea please notify Mr. H. Hancock, 60, Sandstone Road, Stonycroft, Liverpool, by Wednesday, Feb. 11th.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting will be held at the Foresters' Hall, Canterbury, on Saturday, Feb. 14th, at 4.30 p.m. Further particulars later.—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Dis. Sec.

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