

THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

No. 1,722. Vol. XXXIX

FRIDAY, MARCH 24th, 1944.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper] Price 3d.

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These famous bell-founding firms have kindly consented to this adaptation of their advertisements to meet the pressure on our space, due to the compulsory reduction in the number of our pages this week.

TWELVE-BELL RINGING.

Recently two men, both of them with exceptional experience and authority, have spoken of twelve-bell bands and, though they approached the subject from widely different angles and aimed at altogether different conclusions, they agreed on one important point. At the Johnson commemoration luncheon Mr. F. E. Haynes referred to the criticism sometimes brought against the St. Martin's Youths that they had only one method—Stedman. He did not attempt to challenge the criticism, but he maintained that the ringing of Stedman had actually brought prosperity, and was a major cause of the prominent position the Birmingham ringers occupy to-day in the Exercise. Our correspondent, who veiled rather than hid his identity under the initial 'B', stated that 'twelve-bell ringing is a full-time job, and leaves no room for variety on lesser numbers.'

An appeal to experience and history will, we think, fully confirm these views. Whenever there has existed a twelve-bell company which can fairly be said to have reached the very highest rank, they have been first and foremost twelve-bell ringers, and they have resisted the temptation to mix up twelve-bell ringing with performances on lesser numbers, and usually they have confined themselves to one method only. There is the outstanding example of the St. Paul's Cathedral band. For sixty years and more those bells have been rung with few exceptions regularly twice every Sunday, and always to Stedman Cinques. The embargo on Maximus was due in the first instance to Sir John Stainer, the famous composer and organist, whose ear objected to the turning in of the tenor; but long after his death it remained in force, a sufficient proof that the ringers themselves did not think it unreasonable. Now, though the quality of the striking at St. Paul's has naturally somewhat varied from time to time, it is certain that nowhere else has there been such a high standard of Sunday service ringing over so long a period. The closest rival is probably St. Martin's, Birmingham, where much the same custom holds.

It may be suggested that St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, is an exception which proves these conclusions to be unsound. Certainly the Ipswich band has been able without sacrificing quality of striking to introduce as much variety into their twelve-bell ringing as only the more advanced eight and ten-bell ringers are able to, into theirs. But Ipswich has been fortunate in having an ex-

(Continued on page 122.)

ceptionally long succession of really good ringers and of leaders who were admirably fitted for what was needed. And it is significant that when the band was in the making, and during its early prime, there was no other ring in the town of more than six bells.

It is generally agreed that there are difficulties peculiar to twelve-bell ringing, and that the difference between twelve and ten is much greater than between eight and ten. This is due, of course, partly to the extra number of ropes, but much more to the difference in the weights of the bells, which necessitates, very often, the bigger bells being pulled before the smaller bells over which they must strike; and to the difficulty an average ear has in adapting itself to the long-drawn-out rhythm of the twenty-four notes which make up a whole pull.

It requires long practice before the ear can really grasp twelve-bell ringing in the way it does eight-bell or even ten-bell ringing, and it is probably true to say that what the average ringer hears is the more or less steady beat of the big bells with the little bells as altogether subordinate. It is a puzzle to most, when listening outside, to tell whether ten or twelve bells are being rung.

The natural result is that usually the quality of twelve-bell ringing is not high, and that men are content with a standard which would not satisfy them on eight bells. We are speaking of average bands and average conditions. There are some men who adapt themselves to twelve bells with the same facility they do to other ringing conditions, but the strength of a band and the quality of the ringing depend on the average ringer. Twelve men who are proficient on eight or ten will not necessarily make a tolerably good twelve-bell band. Unless a full band can be got together, who are willing to devote themselves mainly to Cinques and have full opportunities of doing so, there is not much chance of even passable twelve-bell ringing. And since the outside effect is not increased by the two trebles, it is a question whether it would not be well in some towers at any rate to confine the ringing to ten bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT RODBOURNE CHENEY.

Ringers from nine towers met at Rodbourne Cheney on March 11th for the quarterly meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Methods up to Cambridge Minor were rung. The wives of the local ringers provided tea and the Vicar (the Rev. R. S. S. Heath) welcomed the ringers. Three new members were elected, and the places of the next meetings were provisionally arranged as Purton, Blunsdon and Highworth.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

MEETING AT DARFIELD.

At a meeting of the Barnsley and District Society, held at Darfield on March 11th, the following towers were represented: Felkirk, Meltham, Rotherham, Wath, Wentworth, Sandal, Sprotborough, Sherburn-in-Elmet and the local belfry. The Rector, the Rev. H. Drown, took the chair at the business meeting, and six ringing members and one honorary life member were elected. It was arranged to hold the next meeting at Eastwood, Rotherham, on Saturday, April 15th. The ringing ranged from rounds and Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BROUGHTON, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Sat., Mar. 18, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

JOHN W. BEST Treble	THOS. W. HESKETH ... 4
WILLIAM TAYLOR 2	F. G. BRADLEY 5
GEO. R. NEWTON 3	E. R. MARTIN Tenor

Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

HORDLE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sat., Mar. 18, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 11 cwt.

*JOHN W. DRYDEN ... Treble	*ANDREW I. PEARMAN ... 4
*PERCY W. BRAYSHAW ... 2	†JOHN V. DAVIS ... 5
*MISS MARY E. DAVIS ... 3	ARTHUR V. DAVIS ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

* First peal on tower bells. † First peal in the method on tower bells; all first attempt. First peal in the method on tower bells as conductor. First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Sun., Mar. 12, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,*

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

*ERIC A. DENCH 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 5-6
*MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	†ALBERT J. WALLMAN ... 7-8
†DENNIS H. LANGDON ... 9-10	

Composed by W. H. BARBER. Conducted by J. THOMAS.

* First peal of Bob Royal on 1-2 and inside pair. † First peal of Royal.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

*On Thurs., Mar. 16, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
IN THE CHOIR VESTRY OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

HAROLD J. POOLE 1-2	ERNEST MORRIS 5-6
*GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 3-4	*JOSIAH MORRIS 7-8

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal of Major in hand.

WITNESHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(St. Mary-le-Tower Society.)

*On Sun., Mar. 19, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT UPPER STREET,*

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 1-2	CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ... 5-6
HOBART E. SMITH 3-4	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 7-8
*PERCY MAY 9-10	

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS. Conducted by WM. J. G. BROWN.

* First peal of Kent Royal in hand.

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'THE FIRST PEAL ON THE BELLS.'*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—For once I find myself at variance with the spirit of your editorial in the current issue, for I am all for Mr. Tyler's point of view regarding the first Superlative at Henfield.

A home company surely can be entitled to the legitimate and praiseworthy desire to score a 'first on the bells' when the method is in practice for that very purpose. And it is only natural they should be aggrieved if the performance is filched away by visitors—at any rate, I should take it hardly and am not ashamed to admit it. 'Peal snatchers' was a term used years ago for a different offence, but I think the words describe the visitors to Henfield. There are usually two points of view to most things, for don't we sing—

'Everyone who is born alive
Is either a little Liberal
Or else a little Conservative'?

But I confess I cannot appreciate the point you put forward.

There is, too, a vital difference in Mr. Tyler's letter and your leader. The former says 'they seemed to think there would be no objection,' and the latter 'these men knew of no objection.' Mr. Tyler's 'seemed to think' is pregnant, for it is obvious the visiting men knew of the local ambition, and after squashing the chance of a local 'first' they 'seemed to think'! Yes, we all know the formula for self-justification, and I am not surprised at the effect on the Henfield men.

CHARLES E. BORRETT.

Red Roof, Sheringham, Norfolk.

THE JUVENILE BELL HANGERS.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I read with interest the account of the miniature bell tower at Balscote in 'The Ringing World' of February 25th. After reading it, I felt I should like to state that a miniature peal of six bells are hung for ringing also in a wash house at Folkingham.

Over 30 years ago another lad of this village (then about 12 years old) and myself used to make model windmills of various designs. One design, I well remember, had a bell mounted on the top, and was worked by a crank connected to the sails, hence there was some noise when the wind blew. One night a gale sprang up and a neighbour who lived close by was so infuriated by the sound of the bell that he arose from his bed and came to the mill and broke it up.

The following day we were lucky enough to salvage the bell from the remains and came to the conclusion that we had better put the bell to another use, and preferably indoors. We fixed a headstock and a wheel to the bell, made a frame, and secured it to the cross beam in the wash house. We were very pleased with our effort, and thought several more bells hung with it would be more interesting.

We obtained six untuned house bells from the local ironmonger, which were specially got, so as to be in tune as near as possible. The church tower was ascended and details carefully taken as to the hanging of the church bells. The wheels are made from the ready-made children's wooden hoop, differing in size, fitted with rims and spokes. The headstocks are weighted with lead increasing in weight from treble to tenor, the tenor, weighing approximately 2 st. The frames were secured to a plank, and this was supported on the cross-beams in the wash house, giving a draught of rope of 10ft. Ropes with sally are made from sash cord. The handling of the bells is somewhat tricky owing to their weight. Nevertheless, many a lad of this village 30 years ago got his first experience as to how a church bell is managed.

A year or so later some of us thought the actual ringing of a church bell could be accomplished, and we ventured to pay the church belfry a visit on a practice night. It was not so very long after that we were looked upon as church bellringers. So after all it is an ill wind which blows no one any good.

C. T. H. BRADLEY.

Folkingham, Lincs.

'THE TOP OF THE TREE'*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I wonder whether one of the chief reasons for the short life of famous ringing bands is not the failure of those bands to procure and train new recruits at a sufficiently early stage.

The training of recruits involving much ringing of rounds and the simplest methods is not so attractive to a band of ringers as the ringing of Surprise Major or Stedman Cinques. If there is a complete band with a few spare ringers there is indeed a great temptation to neglect the training of recruits, and yet in a short time death, removals to other districts and other causes may soon render the band deficient in numbers. Then, when the band is deficient in numbers, the difficulty of training recruits is increased, for I think that few will dispute that recruits learn ringing more quickly when they can be taken one at a time among a band of competent ringers with another competent ringer to stand behind. I think that herein may lie some part of the explanation of the rapid declines of famous ringing bands.

DENIS H. BAYLES.

Biddick Lane, Fatfield, Co. Durham.

HAVERHILL, SUFFOLK.—On March 5th. 720 Bob Minor: N. Nunn 1 Miss M. Backler 2, H. Backler 3, J. W. Jennings 4, L.A.C. Peter Carter 5, L. Wright 6.

THE LATE WALTER CHARMAN.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I would like to endorse fully the remarks made by Mr. A. H. Pulling. It could not have been better put. No matter where you came from, what you could ring, or what you wanted to ring, you always got a warm welcome at Warnham.

My friendship with Walter and the Warnham ringers goes back a long way, for I rang in a peal of Major with him in August, 1889, and now he has passed I am the only survivor of that band. The others were Messrs. T. Andrews, W. Wadey, W. Short, R. Jordan, A. D. Mills and H. H. Chandler, well-known names of that time in connection with Warnham tower.

Many enjoyable week-ends as well as other occasions have been spent at Warnham, many on peal ringing expeditions. These were mostly arranged by Walter and the late H. H. Chandler. The latter was Warnham's recognised conductor at that time, when it was thought that a peal attempt each night in the week was quite in order. In fact, it used to be said they could ring all night if they wished.

I have many times started for peals there before breakfast on a Sunday morning (many years ago) between 1885 and 1905, when we were catered for so homely and welcome by the late Mr. and Mrs. Farley, of the Sussex Inn.

The last time I met Walter was at Brighton in May, 1940, at the Sussex County Association annual meeting, and now he has passed to his long rest, thus closing the earthly career of one of England's and nature's gentlemen.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

1, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh.

Dear Sir,—I am indeed more than sorry to read of the death of Mr. Walter Charman, and I am in entire agreement in all that Mr. Alfred Pulling has written about him.

I am very glad to have known him for about 25 years, and every time I left him I felt all the better for having had a talk with him, and I have heard other ringers say the same thing. I am glad to know he is resting near his godson, Peter, under the shadow of the tower they both loved so well.

JOHN H. B. HESSE.

Wrighton.

DEATH OF MR. C. H. JENNINGS.

The death is announced of Mr. Charles Henry Jennings, who passed away at his home at Wyke Regis on March 10th. The funeral was on March 13th at All Saints' Church, where Mr. Jennings had been a member of the choir. The Rector conducted the service, and Canon A. W. Markby, the chairman of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, read the lesson. The church bells were rung muffled after the interment.

Mr. Jennings learnt to ring at Bridport, and at different times he had been a member of the bands at Warminster, Eastleigh and St. Stephen's, Bristol. He went to Wyke Regis in 1898 and from then until last June was associated with the local company. He helped to form the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild and was its hon. secretary for more than twenty-five years. He retained the office until the end and was engaged in promoting a fund for the restoration of Wyke bells.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—There are, and no doubt always have been, those who would like a Council meeting on a Monday rather than a Tuesday. When I started the Suffolk Guild, with 500 members, we had to elect our four members for the Central Council, and I was asked what it involved. I replied that as long as I could remember it had met on the Tuesday in Whitsun week, and it usually meant a day's travelling to and from the place of meeting.

At our annual meeting, soon after Easter, are we to elect Monday or Tuesday candidates? And for how many years?

My knowledge and experience may not be very valuable, but after all I do count as one towards a quorum, and if some people are elected as Mondayites, who think of this meeting merely as an excuse for a holiday jaunt, the quorum may not be obtained.

The loyalty I mentioned was not against war working, which we all want to help, but against travelling. We know, as far as anything can be known nowadays, that next Whit Monday will be the most difficult, and even impossible, day for travelling that ever was. Nothing could be less loyal than to choose it for a meeting which involves much moving about.

Of course, if only a formal meeting is required, to which some half-dozen members came, on their own feet, or on bicycles, what has been written is beside the mark. But, if so, the sooner this is stated the better.

It is all very well to write scornfully of 'reverend gentlemen,' but after all we owe a good deal to them in the practice of our exercise. And I speak from experience when I say that to hold a meeting on a Monday, at which members are expected to come from a distance, is to set their backs up. Nor is this alleviated when some of us cannot attend on a Monday.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.

Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.
45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

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All communications for this journal should be addressed to:—

The Editor,

'The Ringing World,'

c/o The Woodbridge Press, Ltd.,
Guildford, Surrey.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the office for 4s. 3d. per quarter payable in advance.

Cheques and remittances should be made payable to 'The Ringing World.'

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

By the decision of the Standing Committee a meeting of the Eighteenth Council will be held on Whit Monday, May 29th, 1944, in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster Abbey (by kind permission of the Dean) at 11 o'clock.

Notice is also given that the first Session of the Nineteenth Council is due to be held in London in 1945.

Nominations for the president, hon. secretary and treasurer and hon. librarian (to serve for one year), together with notices of motions, must be in the hands of the secretary not later than March 31st, 1944.

All nominations and all notices of motions must be signed by two members of the Council (the proposer and seconder).

Attention is drawn to Rule 5.

G. W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary.

At the christening at Kingsworthy on March 12th of Robert Christopher Kippin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kippin, the four bells of the Parish Church were rung by the father, Charles H. Kippin, mother, Mrs. C. H. Kippin, grandfather, William R. Melville, and godfather, Fred E. Collins.

During the last three months, Mr. Ernest Morris (who has been placed on the Lord Bishop of Leicester's list of occasional speakers for youth movements) has given a large number of addresses and lectures mostly on bells, old Leicester, English cathedrals, etc.

Capt. Donald F. Perrens, younger son of Mr. Frank W. Perrens, was promoted to be Squadron Leader in the R.A.F. last January, and has now been awarded the D.F.C.

HOW FAR CAN BELLS BE HEARD?

To the Editor.

Sir,—Some forty years ago I was standing in the garden at Cheddar on a Saturday afternoon. It was deathly still—not a zephyr. Within the space of 20 minutes I heard Wrington bells, six miles due north, and Wedmore clock striking four, four miles away in the opposite direction.

I did not hear the first two bells at Wrington (there were only six in those days) and the third only intermittently, but heard the last three clearly and continuously. They were only in rounds and were immediately lowered, the sound completely failing before they were down.

Ebbw Vale.

R. ALSOP.

LEICESTER.—At St. Margaret's on Sunday, March 5th, 720 Bob Minor, with tenor covering: Miss Nancy Price (first 720) 1, Ernest Morris (conductor) 2, Thomas Bent 3, John R. Smith 4, Josiah Morris 5, Fred Price 6, G. Stedman Morris tenor.

MARKET HARBOUROUGH, LEICS.—On Sunday afternoon, Feb. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. I. Barrow 1, F. Wallington 2, L. Deacon 3, R. March 4, Sgt. A. Idle, R.A.F. 5, P.C. J. W. Rawson 6, W. Hector (conductor) 7, W. Kilsby 8.

PAUL REVERE.

(Continued from page 116.)

Dr. Nichols' articles are most interesting, because they were written for Americans by an American who had gained a love of bells and who sought to impart it to his fellow-countrymen. He had acquired a large knowledge of English bells, English bell founders, and English ringers and ringing. He was a member of the Society of College Youths, and his daughter, Mrs. Shurcliff, was proficient in handbell ringing and took part in one or two peals of Stedman Triples. But since Dr. Nichols' personal knowledge was confined to what he learnt in the course of visits to this country, it was inevitable that some of it was rather superficial. This will account for those things, he says, with which the reader cannot agree.

Such, for instance, is the statement that the old English founders deliberately introduced discordant overtones into their bells; that English ringers have always understood the principles of musical counterpoint, and used them as the ground plan of scientific change ringing; and that the result is the resolution of the discords into concords. Actually the ears of founders, ringers and the general public alike normally heard (as they still hear) only the predominant strike note and ignored the overtones. This idea spoils the value of Nichols' defence of Paul Revere's 'masterpiece,' the 21 cwt. bell at Boston, in which (if they are correctly given) the overtones are far more wildly inharmonious than any English bell. We are, however, informed by a competent authority that the bell is of good average quality with a pleasing tone.

Dr. Nichols' explanation of the shortness of the vibration in Revere's and modern (presumably American) bells was surely a mistaken one. It was not in the quality of the copper used but in the quality of the craftsmanship wherein lay the superiority of Rudhall's and the Whitechapel bells.

To a lover of bells America must be a very disappointing country. In England, church bells and the music of change ringing belong to the history and the life of the people. Single bells make little or no appeal. In America bells were merely instruments for making enough noise to call people's attention to some particular time. More melodious than hooters and sirens, but answering the same purpose. Revere, we remember, never cast any bells to be sounded together, and therefore never showed whether he could make a 'tunable' peal.

American bell founders, like their bells, belong to the prosaic world of business. They have no romance or glamour, such as attaches to the founders of England and the Low Countries, and consequently it was only natural that Dr. Nichols should turn with relief to the one American founder whose story seemed worthy to be added to those of the Hemony's, the Miles Grayes, the Rudhalls and the like. For Paul Revere was not only a maker of bells but a man with a name in the history of his country.

Paul Revere was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on January 1st, 1735. He had little education and began life as a gold and silver smith in his father's workshop. Later on he engaged in copper engraving, and when he was 21 years of age took part as an artillery lieutenant in one of the military actions against the French.

In those days the country on the eastern seaboard of what are now the United States of America were English colonies, treated, as all colonies were then and for long afterwards, as 'possessions' and dependent for their safety on the strength and protection of the mother country. The French held Canada, and the lands at the mouth of the Mississippi river. They were pushing a line of fortified posts through the vast, unexplored interior, and were scheming to confine the English to the narrow strip of country by the sea. It was doubtful whether North America would belong to England or to France. The Seven Years' War, in which England conquered Canada, settled the issue, and that really settled the future of the United States. So long as the French menace remained, the Colonists were dependent on England, but when the menace was removed, and especially when England required the colonies to pay some part of the expense of the war, discontent and opposition began to appear among the colonists, especially as the English Government handled the matter in almost the worst possible way.

Revere was one of those who took a strong line in their opposition to the Government, and by their action led to war and independence.

By the year 1775 things had reached the stage when war was inevitable, and it only wanted some incident to act as the spark which would explode the powder magazine. It came when the English commander, General Gage, sent a detachment to Concord to destroy some stores which the rebels had collected. They came into conflict with the colonial militia, shots were fired, and the war began. The whole thing, in itself, was no more than a trivial skirmish, but anything which starts a war, and especially one like the War of American Independence, has an interest and importance far beyond its intrinsic value.

Until comparatively recent years America had no history and no great names, and it was not unnatural that writers of the nineteenth century should make the most of every man who in any way had taken part in the struggle for independence, and so events and persons were given an importance which they never could have gained in the history of one of the older countries. This is how Revere gained his fame as a patriot. General Gage's intention appears to have been known to the rebels and they determined to resist it. It was arranged that Revere should wait at a convenient place, and when he received a signal that the English were moving, he should ride by night and warn his friends of their approach. It was a feat calling for a strong and fearless rider, but there was nothing particularly heroic about it, and, since he was riding through friendly country, nothing of personal danger. It was the sort of thing which happens unnoticed in all military operations, and in this war would not have been thought worthy of the D.S.O. or even the M.M. But it has been Revere's fortune to have his exploit sung by Henry W. Longfellow and to have it represented as a great event on which the fate of a nation depended.

Sixty or eighty years ago Longfellow was very generally recognised not only in America, but in this country as well, as one of the greatest poets of all time. His laurels have sadly withered, but he had the gift of writing easy verse on rather shallowly sentimental subjects which greatly took the popular fancy. To-day there can

be few persons of more than middle age who did not in their school days have to learn 'The Village Blacksmith,' 'The Wreck of the Hesperus,' 'Excelsior,' or the like; and, what is more (let us give Longfellow the credit), do not still remember most of it. So when Revere's ride was made the subject of one of Longfellow's poems his fame was assured. This is how it begins:—

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five;
Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year.

He said to his friend, 'If the British march
By land or by sea from the town to-night,
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry arch
Of the North Church tower as a signal light,—
One, if by land, and two, if by sea,
And I on the opposite shore will be
Ready to ride and spread the alarm
Through every Middlesex village and farm
For the country folk to be up and arm.'

Then follows a description of the waiting and watching of the two friends; one pacing 'through alley and street, wanders and watches with eager eyes,' while, 'impatient to mount and ride, booted and spurred, with a heavy stride, on the opposite shore walked Paul Revere.' At length he gets the signal, and

A hurry of hoofs in a village street,
A shape in the moonlight, a bulk in the dark,
And beneath from the pebbles in passing a spark
Struck out by a steed flying fearless and fleet.
That was all! And yet, through the gloom and
light
The fate of a nation was riding that night.

* * *

So through the night rode Paul Revere;
And so through the night went his cry of alarm
To every Middlesex village and farm—
A cry of defiance and not of fear.

Longfellow, say the authorities, 'paid little attention to exactness of detail,' and probably the picture is essentially a false one. No doubt all the plans had been made and Revere rode hard and silently to warn men who expected his coming. The 'cry of defiance and not of alarm' does not ring true, and it is absurd to say that 'the fate of a nation hung on the ride.' The war would have started and run its predoomed course had Paul Revere never lived.

Revere served against the English during the War of Independence and held several minor commands. He was, however, accused of disobeying orders and court-martialled, but was acquitted.

After the war he was engaged in the manufacture of gold and silver ware and copper castings. It was out of this latter that his bell founding developed, as explained by Dr. Nichols. He died at Boston on May 10th, 1818.

Paul Revere was evidently a strong-willed, versatile man, who engaged, not without success, in many things. But he acquired a fame in after years altogether out of proportion to what he actually did, and at the best his achievements were only second rate, whether as engraver, soldier, hero or bell founder.

(Concluded.)

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**FALSE PEALS.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The task of proving the peals rung by the Yorkshire Association is now completed and, I regret to say, there are further two false compositions to add to the lists that I have sent to 'The Ringing World' from time to time. They are: No. 2,389, 5,040 St. Clement's Triples, rung at Eastwood, Rothenham, on October 6th, 1913; and No. 2,508, 5,060 Grandsire Cinques, composed by Samuel Wood, and rung at Ashton-under-Lyne on September 4th, 1915.

The composition used for the St. Clement's Triples (a variation of Parker's 12-part Grandsire Triples) does not run true to St. Clement's.

The Grandsire Cinques is false in the 1st and 13th courses; the treble's handstroke lead at the 4th lead-end of the 1st course, repeats at the 3rd lead-end of the 13th course.

Out of a total of more than two thousand different compositions, ranging from Triples to Maximus, rung by the association, 38 are false; they are as follows: Treble Bob Major, 18; Bob Major, 8; Stedman Caters, 4; Grandsire Caters, 2; Grandsire Cinques, Cambridge Royal, Double Norwich Major, Grandsire Major, St. Clement's Triples and Grandsire Triples, 1 each. A full list of the false compositions that have appeared in our records will be published in the next annual report, and it is the intention of the General Committee to make the list a permanent feature of future reports.

I would like to draw the attention of those who have copies of the 1904-5 Yorkshire Association report to peal No. 1,438, 5,040 Stedman Triples by J. W. Washbrook. The footnote to this peal is very misleading and the obvious interpretation of it will produce a false composition; in fact, I sent copies of the peal, as it is printed, to six conductors some time ago and asked them to write it out in full as they would call it from the instructions given in the footnote. Five replied to my request and all produced a false peal!

To obtain the correct calling, after the course-end 254316, the two courses marked 'A' should be repeated eight times, omitting the bobs at 5-6 in the first and sixth repetitions. This will give the course-end 315426. 231456 is produced by repeating the four courses marked 'B' nine times, with an additional 12-13 in the 3rd course of the first and sixth repetitions.

Pudsey.

W. BARTON, Hon. Peal Secretary.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**MEETING AT BRADFORD-ON-AVON.**

Thirty-one persons were present at a meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at Bradford-on-Avon on March 11th. The Vicar conducted the service, and Mr. E. F. White, the branch chairman, presided at the tea and business meeting. He mentioned that since the last meeting the branch had lost two of its members through death, Mr. E. Stevens, Bishop's Cannings, and Mr. J. Gye, Market Lavington. Thanks were given to the Vicar, the organist, the ladies who provided tea, and to Mr. H. G. Baker, who had made the arrangements. The next meeting will be at Bishop's Cannings on April 1st.

During the afternoon and evening, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and rounds were rung. The towers represented were Bradford-on-Avon, Melksham, Holt, Warminster, North Bradley, Seend, Longbridge Deverell, Trowbridge, Westbury, Devizes (St. John's and St. Mary's) and Southbroom. Visitors came from Bruton, Bath, Cirencester and Southampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT ST. HELENS.**

On March 11th ringers were present at a meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association, held at St. Helens, from Aughton, Halsall, Sefton, St. Nicholas', Liverpool, Farnworth, Wootton, Childwall, St. Thomas, St. Helens, and the local belfry, as well as the Rev. D. P. Roberts and Mr. J. E. Bickerstaffe. A feature of the gathering was the number of young ringers.

The Rev. J. J. Cresswell, curate-in-charge, presided at the business meeting. Tea was provided by Mr. Cresswell and the churchwardens, for which they were thanked by the Rev. D. P. Roberts. The next meeting will be on April 15th in conjunction with the Wigan Branch.

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NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bell Foundry, 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1, March 25th, 3 p.m. Ringing at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Meeting at Whitstable, Saturday, March 25th, 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea 1s.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Annual meeting at Boston, Saturday, March 25th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Business afterwards. Tea can be obtained at nearby cafes.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—Meeting at Rolleston-on-Dove (8 bells), Saturday, March 25th, 3.30 p.m. Bring own food. Cups of tea provided.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Annual meeting at Reigate, Saturday, March 25th, 3.15 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m., followed by business. Names to Alfred Gear, Sandy Way, Redhill.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Meeting Saturday, March 25th, at Clewer, 3.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tea 1s.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Malins Lee, Saturday, March 25th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Bus service from Wellington.—E. D. Poole, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—Meeting at Weston-super-Mare, Saturday, March 25th, 2.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea Kalif Cafe, High Street, 4.30 p.m., followed by business meeting.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—Meeting at Cottenham, Cambs, on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (6) 3.45 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. Service 7.45 p.m.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Meeting at Aston Parish Church, Saturday, April 1st, 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Vicarage Room 5.15. Names for tea to Mr. W. Davies, 99, Rosary Road, Erdington, Birmingham, by March 29th.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at St. Paul's, Daybrook, Saturday, April 1st, 2.30 to 8 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea in Church Room. Names to Mr. R. A. Ward, 42, Arno Vale Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, by Monday, March 27th.—T. Groombridge, jun., Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at All Souls', Bolton, Saturday, April 1st, 2.30 p.m. Business 6.30 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Berkhamstead, Saturday, April 1st. Bells (7) 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Numbers for tea by 29th.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

NORTH STAFFSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Cheadle Parish Church, Saturday, April 1st. Committee meeting 4 p.m. R.C. bells available. Names for tea to Mr. J. W. H. Crabb, Hall Orchard Villa, Cheadle, Staffs, by March 28th.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Practice at Finchampstead (6 bells), Saturday, April 1st, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—B. C. Castle, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY and MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Joint meeting at N. Wingfield on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. W. H. Wain, South View, Church Lane, N. Wingfield, by March 29th.—G. G. Graham and S. Scattergood, Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Meeting at Broughton, near Preston, on Saturday, April 1st, 2.30 p.m. Bring food.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

LEEDS PARISH CHURCH (12 bells).—Practices first Saturday in month resumed April 1st, 6 to 8 p.m.—G. Robinson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Accrington on Saturday, April 1st, 2.30 p.m. Business 6 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. C. W. Blakey, 133, Ormerod Street, Accrington, before March 29th.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL (GLASGOW) SOCIETY.—Weekly practices resumed on Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m., commencing April 4th.—E. A. Stafford, Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—Meeting at Dorking on Easter Monday, April 10th. Particulars next week.—D. Cooper, 51, Waddon Road, Croydon.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Maidstone on Easter Monday. Committee meeting 11.30 a.m. Service at 3. Tea at 4.15 to those who notify me before April 3rd. Business meeting to follow. Ringing at All Saints', Maidstone, Leeds, Aylesford, Linton, West Malling, Boxley and Bearstead.—F. M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Worcester, Easter Monday, April 10th. General meeting in College Hall, 2.30 p.m. Evensong Cathedral 4.15 p.m. Bells: All Saints' (10), St. John's (8), St. Swithin's (6), all 11 a.m.; Cathedral (12), 12 noon to 2.15 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Norwich, Easter Monday, April 10th. St. Miles', 11.30 to 1 (bring own lunch); Mancroft and St. Giles', 2 to 4. Service at Mancroft, 4. Tea at Ber House, 5, followed by business meeting; St. John-de-Sepulchre after meeting. Names for tea by April 4th.—A. G. G. Thurlow, Gen. Sec., 52, The Close, Norwich.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES.—Practice, Easter Monday, April 10th, 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. to all who notify W. J. Coppard, 29, Valley Road, Lewes, by Wednesday, April 5th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Saturday, April 15th, at St. Margaret's, Leicester. Bells (12) 2.15 to 3 p.m. The Bishop of Leicester will preach. Committee meet in vestry after. Other arrangements later.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, on Saturday, April 22nd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting in Church Hall. Visitors notify me by 19th.—E. A. Stafford, Deputy Hon. Sec., 16, Tabard Road, Glasgow, W.3.

UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION.—It is proposed to elect a Central Council representative by postal ballot. Nominations with names of proposers and seconders should reach me by Saturday, April 15th.—J. E. Spice, Hon. Sec., New College, Oxford.

MARRIAGE.

LANXON—BRADBURY.—At Truro Cathedral, on March 7th, Cyril Edward, younger son of Mr. J. G. and the late Mrs. Lanxon, of 11, Ferris Town, Truro, to Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bradbury, of Halcyon, Crescent Road, Truro.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ILCHESTER.

At the meeting of the Nottingham District of the Midland Counties Association, members were present from 20 towers in the Nottingham and Derby Districts as well as visitors from Leicester, Trumpington and Handsworth.

After a short service a memorial tablet was unveiled in the belfry to the memory of departed members of the company, H. Tarlton, J. W. Iliffe, A. T. Baker, G. Burgoyne, H. Straw, H. Harrison and A. Nicholson. The ceremony was performed by Mr. H. Fletcher, of Derby, who introduced change ringing to Ilkeston when it had only five bells. A course of Grandsire Triples was then rung by past and present members of the local company.

Sixty-five persons were present at tea, including the Mayor of Ilkeston, the Vicar and the churchwardens. Grandsire Triples and Caters and tunes were rung on handbells and various methods from rounds to Cambridge on the tower bells.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

A joint meeting of the Eastern and Western Districts of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at Chester-le-Street on March 4th, at which ringers were present from Sunderland (Bishopwearmouth and St. Ignatius'), Houghton-le-Spring, Whickham, Blackhill, Benfieldside, Newcastle (Cathedral), Tanfield, Gateshead and the local tower.

The Rector, Canon Appleton, visited the belfry and welcomed the ringers. A short business meeting was held after tea, with Mr. R. L. Patterson (vice-president of the Eastern District) in the chair.

Mr. F. Ainsley proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens and to the ladies who waited at tea. It was decided to send a letter to Lieut. Hawkins, who is in hospital, expressing good wishes and a speedy recovery.

Meetings were arranged for the Eastern District at Gateshead on March 25th, and for the Western District at Lanchester on April 15th.

HINCKLEY.—On Saturday, March 11th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Cyril Ison 1, William A. Wood 2, James Draycott 3, Frank K. Measures 4, Leonard Trevor 5, Frank Trotman (first 720 Cambridge as conductor) 6.

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