

S.A. Ball

BINFIELD



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THE
CHURCH BELLS OF
OXFORDSHIRE

VOLUME II.

BY
FREDERICK SHARPE

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FOR THE YEAR 1947.

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NOTE.

For an explanation of the procedure followed in describing the bells see Volume I (Oxfordshire Record Society's Volume XXVIII), pp. 5—8.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF OXFORDSHIRE

By
FREDERICK SHARPE.

VOLUME II.

88. DEDDINGTON.

SS. Peter and Paul.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells ; tenor 45 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in F ; and a sanctus bell, 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Treble.	M & S. LONDON. 1946. (<i>Whitechapel foundry mark.</i>) / A.J.M. / D.D.D. / A.M.G.D. / JILL. / 1945. / VICTORY. / MAURICE FROST, VICAR. / GEORGE MONTAGUE WILLIAM HODGES. / E. C. PEARSON. } CHURCHWARDENS.	5	2	9
Second.	M & S. LONDON. (<i>Whitechapel foundry mark.</i>) A.J.M. / D.D.D. / A.M.G.D. / JOHN. / 1945. / VICTORY. / MAURICE FROST, VICAR. / GEORGE MONTAGUE WILLIAM HODGES. / E. C. PEARSON. } CHURCHWARDENS.	5	3	6
Third.	THOS. MEARS LATE LESTER PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECIT 1791 (<i>Border, Fig. G11.</i>)	7	0	8
Fourth.	(<i>Same as third.</i>)	7	1	25
Fifth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	9	0	16
Sixth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	10	1	27
Seventh.	(<i>The same.</i>)	12	3	7
Tenor.	(<i>The same.</i>)	17	0	10
Saunce.	ANTONY BASELY RICHARD LARGE (<i>Fig. A2.</i>) C W 1649	1	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$

The saunce is by James Keene : the others are from the Whitechapel foundry. All have their canons intact, and the seven oldest have been quarter-turned. The treble and second were the gift of an anonymous donor in thanksgiving for the safe return after the war of his son and daughter, whose names are inscribed

on them. A tablet on the east wall of the ringing chamber bears the following inscription :—

“The Treble and Second Bells, cast 1946, were added / to Complete the Ring of Eight in Thanksgiving for / Preservation and for Victory in the Wars 1939-1945, / and to commemorate the Services of the Members of the / Deddington Home Guard, who gave Generously of their scanty / Spare time in order to prepare themselves to fight — — / (and if necessary to Die) in the Defence of our Homes, / and who Mounted a Guard in this Parish each night / from the 30th of May 1940, / until the 10th of September 1944. / — - — - — (((-))) — - — - — / ‘THEY ALSO SERVE WHO ONLY STAND AND WAIT.’ ” (Sic.)

A new oak frame with pits for eight bells, and fittings, type E, were installed in 1928 by Mr. Richard White, who also hung the new bells in 1946. The saunce is hung for chiming in a separate frame in the south window of the belfry.

The earliest volume of the Deddington registers commences with the words :—

“This book was bought the yere which the tower fell 1634.”

The rebuilding was not carried out for some considerable time, and in consequence of this, on 21st January, 1643, King Charles I sent an order from Oxford to the church officers in these terms :—

“Whereas information is given us that by the fall of your steeple . . . the bells are made unserviceable to you, till the same be rebuilt and they are new founded ; . . . we hereby require you to send the same to our magazine here in New College . . . the just weight and nature of them to be ascertained . . . to the end we may restore the same in materials or monies to your church, when you shall have occasion to use the same.”¹

Six years later the present saunce was cast, and may have been the only bell in use until the new tower was completed. Early in the eighteenth century Browne Willis noted “4 bells”,² and prior to 1732 two bells were cast for Deddington by members of the Bagley family.³ There were at least five in the ring in 1788 in which year the churchwardens presented :—“3rd and 4th bells broken,” and this probably led to the installation of the new ring of six in 1791.

Visited : F.S., 11th November, 1926 ; E.C.P., F.S., 25th October, 1946.

¹ M. V. Turner, *The Story of Deddington*, 1933, p. 23.

² Willis MS., Bodleian Library, Oxford.

³ *Catalogue of Bells cast by Henry Bagley, of Chacombe, Northamptonshire*, 1732.

89.

DORCHESTER.

The Abbey Church of St. Peter and St. Paul.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells ; tenor 45½ inches diameter, in E.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / (Cross, Fig. K9.) In honorem S.S. Trinitatis. D.D. / Dorcensi Ecclesiae incolae A.D. 1867 (Fig. K9.)	4	3	15
Second.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / (Fig. K9.) In honorem S.S. Trinitatis D.D. Dorcensi Ecclesiae / J. A. Macfarlane A.D. 1867 (Fig. K9.)	5	1	18
Third.	LOVE GOD 1651	5	3	0‡
Fourth.†	(Cross, Fig. K8.) Henri Knight Made Mee 1603	6	1	0‡
Fifth.	(Cross, Fig. K10.) Sancta ¹ Toma Ora Pro Nobis 1606	7	2	0‡
Sixth.	(Cross, Fig. K10.) Virginis ¹ (Fig. K6.) Egredie (Fig. K6.) dicar (Fig. K6.) Campana (Fig. K6.) Maria 1591 HK	9	0	0‡
Seventh.	(Cross, Fig. G10.) PETRE : TVIS : APERI - DA : PAYLE : TVIS : MISEREAI	12	0	0‡
Tenor.	(Cross, Fig. F4.) PROTEGE BIRINE QVOS CONVOCO TV SINE FINE RAY RASTWOLD (Dragon, Fig.K1.) (Coin.) (Lion's head, Fig. F2.) (Horse, Fig. K11.) (Trefoil, Fig. F5, on side.) (Coin.)	16	0	0‡

These interesting bells are far-famed for their tone, and are in many ways unique. They have been so well cared-for that, with the possible exception of one bell² and in spite of extensive use, all the original castings have been preserved.

The inventory made by the Commissioners of Edward VI in 1552 states :—*Item a lyche bell. Item 2 bellys. Item a saunce bell.*

¹ *Sic.*

² By reference to the inscriptions it will be seen that the fourth is dated 1603, and the fifth 1605. This implies that if in 1603 the ring was composed of five diatonically tuned bells the present fifth must have had a predecessor. If, on the other hand, the bells were not tuned diatonically in 1603 all the castings are original.

Of these the lych bell, a small handbell rung in front of funeral processions¹, and the saunce have disappeared. The 2 *bellys*, now the seventh and tenor of the ring, are fortunately as sound as they were in the fourteenth century; and as under suitable conditions, such as those prevailing in the tower of the Abbey Church, the sound of a bell improves and becomes more mellow with age, they are now probably far more pleasing in tone than when they were cast.

The oldest bell is the tenor,² a fine-toned example from the medieval foundry at Wokingham, and of similar type to the fourth at North Moreton, Berkshire.³ Both bells bear inscriptions in the beautiful lettering⁴ introduced by the owners of that foundry *circa* 1350. Between each word on the Dorchester Abbey tenor is the stop, Fig. E.15, and each letter is crowned. In addition to the usual Wokingham foundry marks, Figs. F4, F2, F5, and the reverse of a groat, Fig. Q3, the bell bears the figure of a dragon, Fig. K1, and a horse, Fig. K11, which are not known to occur elsewhere. Above the inscription band is a typical fourteenth century flat moulding. A scale drawing of the inscription is given in Fig. 16. Saint Birinus, to whom the bell is dedicated, was the first Bishop of Dorchester, A.D. 634. The bell dates from the second half of the fourteenth century, and has the merit of being inscribed with the name of its donor, Ralph Rastwold, of whom Mr. A. H. Cocks has given us the following account.⁵ He says:—

"I have found in the *Inquisitiones post mortem*⁶ that 'Ralph Rostwold died on Thursday after the feast of S. Barnabas the apostle last past in the sixth year of the reign of King Richard II'; or, on the Thursday following 11th June, 1383.⁷ He held at the time of his death (besides the Manor of Hyde, in Wilts., worth £8 yearly) the Manor of Crowmarsh Gifford, in Oxon, worth £13.13s.4d. yearly, which village is only four miles distant from Dorchester, and various lands at Hurst, in Berks., worth 40s. a year, which place is only four miles from Wokingham; so the connection between the native place of the bell, and its home, is shown very satisfactorily Raf Rastwold was probably its donor during his lifetime."

¹ For an illustration of a lych bell see F. Sharpe, *The Church Bells of Radnorshire*, 1947, plate IV.

² F. E. Robinson, *Among the Bells*, 1904, p. 54, states that the seventh was cast in London *circa* 1320. This statement is repeated in the *Abbey Church Guide Books*, but is incorrect.

³ F. Sharpe, *The Church Bells of Berkshire*, § 136, *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. XLVII, 1943, p. 17.

⁴ *Ibid.*, Figs. 63 and 64. These capitals were subsequently used as initial letters for mixed Gothic inscriptions after the introduction of "black-letter" type early in the fifteenth century.

⁵ A. H. Cocks, *The Church Bells of Buckinghamshire*, 1897, p. 50.

⁶ Public Record Office.

⁷ i.e., Thursday, 18th June, 1383.

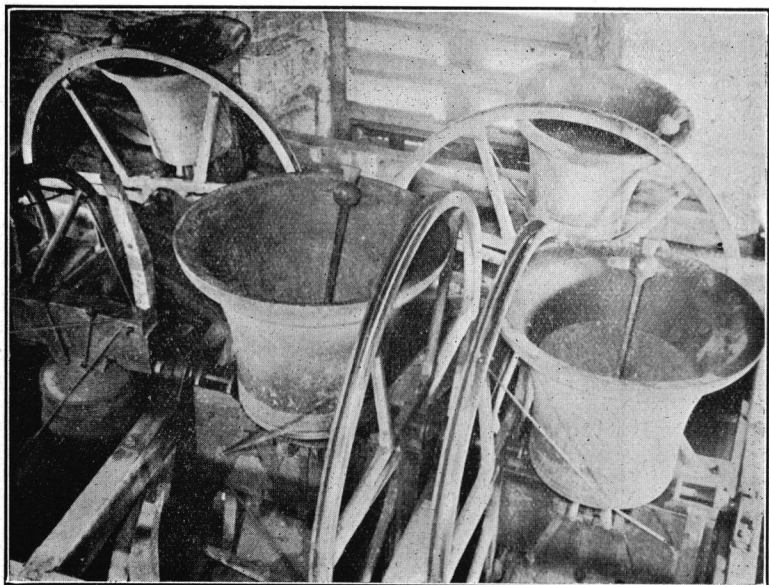


Photo:

F. M. Underhill, Esq., F.S.A.

Fig. 15. The interior of the belfry at Dorchester Abbey. In the background (inverted) are the fifth and sixth bells : in the foreground are the fourth, tenor and seventh bells. The fourth is in the normal "at rest" position : the tenor and seventh are inverted. Inside the tenor may still be seen the long chisel-marks made by the medieval tuners.

The next oldest bell is the seventh, which in the opinion of the author is the finest-toned bell in the ring. It dates from the last quarter of the fourteenth century¹ and is a product of the Exeter foundry. The names of the earlier Exeter founders, like those of the owners of the Wokingham foundry, are not at present known to campanologists. The bell is inscribed in the well-known lettering afterwards used by Robert Norton, of Exeter, a founder who was active in the first quarter of the fifteenth century. The initial cross, Fig. 610, found on the Dorchester seventh, was frequently used by him. Norton's bells, however, are distinguished from those of his predecessors by the use of a founder's mark bearing his initials²; his earlier bells are inscribed in capitals, while his later productions have black-letter inscriptions. It is reasonable to assume that the Dorchester seventh, with its inscription in capitals, is the work of the founder from whom Norton acquired his plant. Both in shape and design the bell favours early fourteenth-century castings made in London and the Home Counties, but it must be remembered that the West Country founders were invariably later than their contemporaries in adopting the prevalent fashions in bell design. The upper portion of the bell is illustrated in Fig. 17, and the lettering and cabled canons should be noted. St. Peter and St. Paul, to whom the bell is dedicated, are the patron saints of the Abbey Church, which succeeded the cathedral, originally founded by St. Birinus, after the transfer of the seat of the second bishopric of Dorchester to Lincoln *circa* 1075.

The fourth, fifth and sixth are work of Henry Knight I, of Reading, and are chiefly remarkable for the pre-reformation character of their inscriptions. They were not cast from pre-reformation moulds as suggested in some guide-books, nor were medieval moulding stamps used to form their inscriptions.³ The lettering on these bells is that introduced by Henry Knight I; but in the wording of the inscriptions it would seem that the spirit of the monks of Dorchester Abbey had survived until the early years of the seventeenth century.

The third also is from the Reading foundry and was cast during its ownership by Ellis Knight I, Francis Knight, and Henry Knight II.

¹ See footnote on page 118.

² H. T. Ellacombe, *The Church Bells of Somersetshire*, 1875, p. 5, and plate I, Fig. 5.

³ Moulds have to be made separately for each individual bell, and are only used once: there is no "stock" mould which is used for casting several bells.

From the dates on the existing bells it appears that they were augmented in number to three in 1591, to five¹ in 1603, and to six in 1651. No further alteration was made until 1867, when the treble and second were added : these two bells were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who also installed a new oak frame. In 1936 the bells were rehung with gear, type E, in the existing frame by Mr. Richard White. With the exception of the fourth, all the bells retain their canons and have been quarter-turned.

The inscription on the tenor is recorded by Wood², and Lukis³.

The bells are illustrated in Figs. 15—17.

At Dorchester Missionary College is a fine-toned handbell, 5 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches in diameter, having the strike-note C \sharp , cast by Robert Wells I, *circa* 1760, and inscribed :—

R WELLS

Visited : F.S., 5th December, 1931 ; F.M.U., F.S., 1st Oct., 1949.

90.

DRAYTON-ST.-LEONARD.

St. Leonard.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 33 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, in B.⁴

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.
Treble.	"Domine labia nostra aperias" / Ex dono Joannis C Willoughby Barronetti. / M et S. / M D C C C L X X X I V.	3 1 24
Second.	Os Nostrum annuntiabit laudem tuam / Ex dono Abraham Deane. / M et S. / M D C C C L X X X I V.	4 0 3
Third.	Saluum fac Populum tuum, Domine / In Memoriam Henrici Betteridge / Vidua et liberi moerentes / M et S. / M D C C C L X X X I V.	4 2 16

¹ The bells may have been augmented in number from three to four between 1591 and 1603.

² A. Clarke, *The Life and Times of Anthony Wood, antiquary, of Oxford*, Oxford Historical Society, 1891, Vol. I, p. 225.

³ W. C. Lukis, *An Account of Church Bells*, 1857, p. 94.

⁴ On a framed certificate in the tower the strike-note of the tenor (i.e. the key-note of the ring) is stated to be A natural, but this is incorrect.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Fourth.	Our hope is in the Lorde 1625 / Recast M and S. MDCCLXXXIV.	5 0 23
Fifth.	Benedic hereditati tuae / Henri Knight made me 1603. / Recast M and S. MDCCLXXXIV.	5 2 18
Tenor.	Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis (Shield, Fig. C1.) (Cross, Fig. C2.) (Shield, Fig. C3.) / Recast. Mears & Stainbank. A.D. MDCCLXXXIV. / Arthur I. Williams Rector. / Henry D. Betteridge, / Richard D. Buswell. } Churchwardens.	7 2 3

A ring of six from the Whitechapel foundry, consisting of three bells, added to the ring in 1884, and the metal of three old bells recast to form the present fourth, fifth and tenor. The old bells were inscribed as indicated on the present ones. The predecessor of the fourth, formerly the treble of the ring of three, was by Ellis Knight I; the predecessor of the fifth was by Henry Knight I; and the former tenor was by William Chaimberlain of the London foundry *circa* 1470.

The oak frame and gear, type B, by Mr. Frederick White, 1884, was renovated by Mr. Richard White in 1938.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles yn the steeple.*

Visited : F.S., 30th September, 1933.

91.

DRAYTON-ST.-PETER.

St. Peter.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells; tenor 34½ inches diameter, in A.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	(Cable moulding all round.) / CANTATE (Fig. B12.) DOMINO (Fig. B12.) CANTICVM (Fig. B12.) NOVVM (Fig. B7.) H (Fig. B7.) B (Fig. B12.) 1670 (Fig. B12.)	4

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Second.	MATTHEW (<i>Fig. B7.</i>) DAVIS (<i>Fig. B7.</i>) CHVRCH (<i>Fig. B9.</i>) WARDEN (<i>Figs. B7,</i> <i>and B12.</i>) 1670 (<i>Figs. B12, B7,</i> <i>B12, and B7.</i>)	5
Tenor.	(<i>Cable moulding all round.</i>) / (<i>Fleur-de- lys border all round.</i>) / VOBISCOM CONCORDO DEVM LAVDARE (<i>Fig. B6.</i>) HB (<i>Fig. A5, three times.</i>) 1634 (<i>Fig.</i> <i>B12.</i>)	7½

The bells, by Henry Bagley I, have been quarter-turned, and hang with gear, type A, in an oak frame of nineteenth century type : the treble has cabled canons.

Visited : F.S., 29th March, 1948.

92.

DUCKLINGTON.

St. Bartholomew.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 30½ inches diameter, in C ; and a sanctus bell, 13½ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt. Qrs. Lbs.</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON. 1889. / O HARK TO WHAT IT SINGS, / AS JOYOUSLY IT RINGS, / MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED.	3 0 4
Second.	ROBERT COSTORD IOHN GIBBS C W 1708	3 1 0†
Third.	CANTATE DOMINO CANTICVM NOVVM 1708	3 2 0†
Fourth.	WILLIAM BAGLEY AND HENRY BAGLEY MADE VS ALL 1708	3 3 0†
Fifth.	WILLIAM BAGLEY MADE MEE 1708	4 1 0†
Tenor.	W : HINTON & J : BAZLESS. C. WARDENS. R : TAYLOR & SONS FOUNDERS MDCCCXXIX	5 1 11
Saunce.	1688 ¹ (<i>Border, Fig. A11.</i>) (<i>Cable moulding,</i> <i>Fig. N4.</i>)	2 0†

From the Bagley bell catalogue, published in 1732, we learn that a ring of five was cast for Ducklington by W. and H. Bagley in 1708. The tenor was recast by Messrs. Taylor in 1829, and the present treble added in 1889. The saunce is by James Keene. Two canons of the fifth are missing.

¹ *Sic.*

The saunce is hung for chiming : the other bells have gear, type C. That of the tenor is by Messrs. Taylor, and contemporary with the bell : the rest of the gear is by Mr. F. White. Bagley's bells have been quarter-turned.

The bells hang in a two-tier oak frame. The lower tier probably dates from 1708, and is now in poor condition : the upper tier contains the fifth bell and was added in 1889 when the roping positions of the second, third, fourth and fifth were altered.

Visited : F.S., 18th September, 1949.

93.

DUNS TEW.

St. Mary Magdalene.

A western tower containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 45 inches diameter, in F ; and a saunce bell, 16½ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	ROBERT WELLS ALDBOURN WILTS. FECIT .. 1790	5 2 0†
Second.	WILLIAM BANBVRY THOMAS WHITLEY C W 1668 ¹	6 3 0†
Third.	IOHN LEE IOHN HATTON C W 1694	7 3 0†
Fourth.	C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1858	10 0 18
Tenor.	MATTHEW : BAGLE : MADE : MEE : J768 : IOHN PREEDY : THOMAS : COULING :- CHURCH :- WARDENS : / I :- TO :- THE :- CHVRCH :- THE : LIVING :- CALL :- AND :- TO :- THE : GRVAE ¹ : DO : SUMMONS ¹ : : ALL (<i>Border.</i>)	14 2 0†
Saunce.	1821	1 0 0†

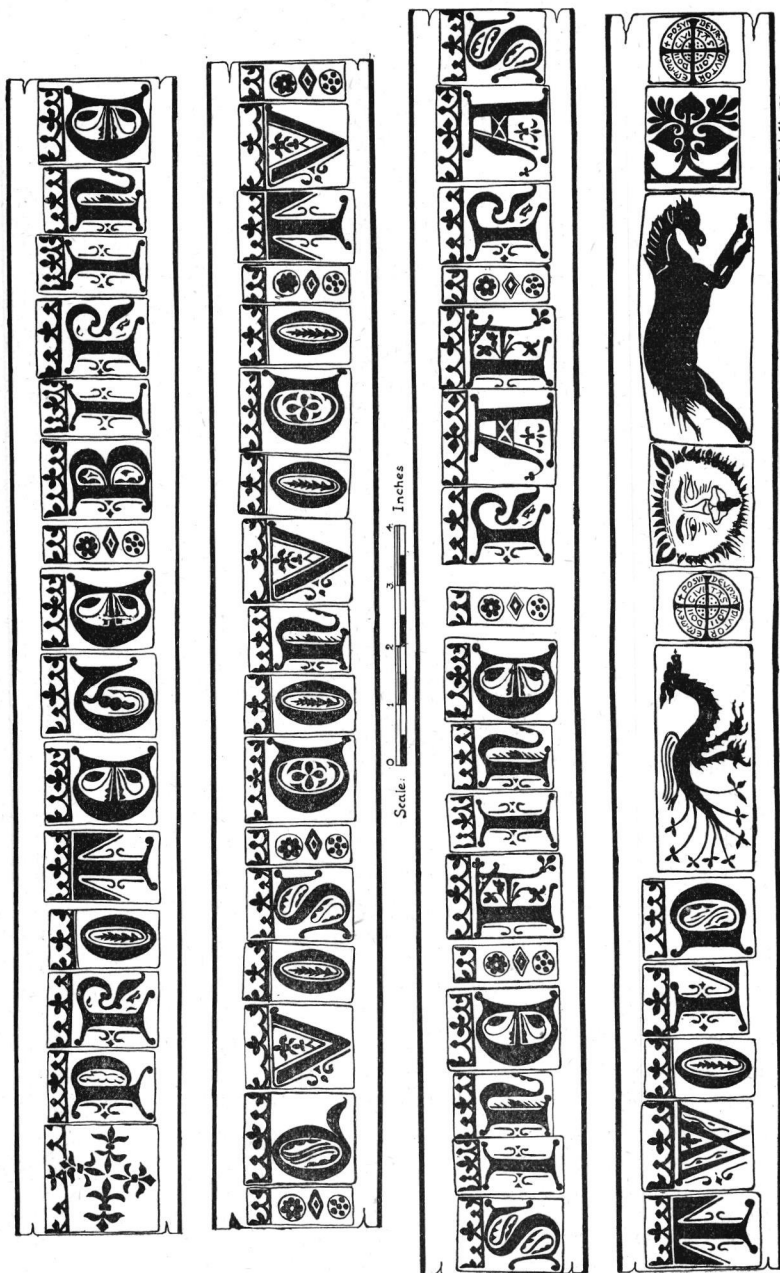
The treble is by Robert Wells II ; the second and third are by Richard Keene ; the fourth and saunce are from the Whitechapel foundry ; and the tenor is by Matthew Bagley II. The inscription has been placed on the sound-bow of the treble in characteristic Aldbourne foundry style.

The bells hang in a seventeenth century oak frame of an unusual plan²; the treble and second swing "mouth-to-mouth," and the third and fourth swing "side-by-side" in one direction ; the tenor swings at right angles to the remainder. The gear is type A.

Visited : F.S., 20th June, 1929.

¹ *Sic.*

² See *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. XLV., 1941, p. 78.



94. DUNSDEN.

All Saints.

An open western turret containing two bells. I am informed by the vicar, the Rev. J. F. Amies, that they are hung for chiming and are not easily accessible. According to *Kelly's Directory* the church was built in 1842.

95. EASINGTON.

St. Peter.

An open western turret containing one bell, $18\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. It was examined in February, 1920, by the Rev. P. G. Espinasse, who states that it bears no inscription, has a plain inscription-band between two sets of three moulding-wires, and probably dates from the seventeenth or eighteenth century.

96. ELSFIELD.

St. Thomas-à-Becket.

An open western turret containing two bells, $19\frac{1}{4}$ and $23\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter respectively, hung for chiming.

The smaller is inscribed :—

W : TAYLOR OXFORD FECIT 1846

Its predecessor was a medieval bell, inscribed :—¹

SANCTA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS

The larger bell bears the inscription :—

MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1654

New gear was supplied and the bells rehung by Mr. R. White in 1928.

1552 Inventory. * *Item in the steple 2 belles a hand bell and a sacrynce bell.*

Visited : F.S., 25th June, 1924.









¹ *A Guide to the Architectural Antiquities in the neighbourhood of Oxford*, (1845), p. 195.

97.

EMMINGTON.

St. Nicholas.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells ; tenor 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, in B ; and a sanctus bell, 17 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	RICHARD HOWLET RICHARD HELEE W(<i>Fig. L3.</i>)C / H(<i>Fig. K3.</i>)K 1664	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Second.	(<i>Cross, Fig. Q4.</i>)        	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tenor.	+ Blessed be the name of the Lord / Joseph carter 1584	6
Saunce.	T C 1723	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

The treble is by Henry Knight II ; the second, 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches less in diameter and a semi-tone lower in note than the treble, is a very thin maiden casting dating from *circa* 1550, and probably by one of the Appowells, of Buckingham¹; the tenor is by Joseph Carter, and the saunce by Thomas Chandler. The treble has a broken canon and a curious wooden head to its clapper, which lacks the customary flight ; the clapper of the second retains its original baldrick.

At the time of the author's visit the saunce was lying unhung in the east window of the tower : the other bells have gear, type A, and hang in a two-tier oak frame ; the treble and tenor occupy the pits in the lower tier.

7 Edw. VI. *Imprimis 3 belles.*

Visited : F.S., November, 1935.

98.

ENSTONE.

St. Kenelm.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 38 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, in A^b ; and a sanctus bell, 14 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt. Qrs. Lbs.</i>
Treble.	THOMAS DAVIS & NATHANIE ² PARSONS : CHURCHWARDENS 1831 (<i>Fig. J3.</i>) / (<i>Figure of Ox.</i>)	6 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$

¹ A similar bell at Bloxham is described on p. 53, where an explanation of the unusual form of inscription will be found.

² *Sic.*

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Second.	THOMAS DAVIS & NATHANIEL PARSONS CHURCHWARDENS. (<i>Fig. J3.</i>) W & I : TAYLOR FOUNDERS OXFORD 1831. / (<i>Ox.</i>)	6 2 4
Third.	LONG MAY OUR BENEFACTORS LIVE AND KNOW. (<i>Figure of fox,</i> <i>running.</i>) / WHAT PRANKS WE PLAY OUR GRATITUDE TO SHOW / (<i>Ox.</i>)	6 3 24
Fourth.	(<i>Fig. J3.</i>) W & I TAYLOR FOUNDERS OXFORD. 1831. (<i>Fig. J3.</i>) / (<i>Ox.</i>)	7 0 13
Fifth.	(<i>Same as fourth.</i>)	7 2 23
Tenor.	(<i>Fig. J3.</i>) I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL. AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL. (<i>Fig. J3.</i>) T : DAVIS & N : PARSONS C : WARDENS. 1831. (<i>Fig. J3.</i>) / (<i>Ox.</i>)	10 0 0†
Saunce.	1786	3 0†

The ring was recast at the Oxford foundry in 1831. The bells have angular canons and hang in a rolled steel frame. The latter has no foundation joists and was installed by Messrs. Bond, *circa* 1890. The fittings of the two largest, type C, and those of the remainder, type A, are contemporary with the bells.

Messrs. Taylors' books give details of the weights of four of the bells but not those of the treble and tenor. In their records also is the statement that, before being recast, the old tenor was a 37-inch bell by John Briant : this does not agree with the statements made by the Rev. J. Jordan¹ but may be correct. It is possible that Briant recast the tenor between 1769 and 1825. According to the Rev. J. Jordan the inscriptions on the former bells were as follows :—

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>
Treble.	1678
Second.	1661
Third.	1661
Fourth.	THOMAS KINCH HENRY LAY CHURCHWARDENS MATTHEW BAGLEE ² MADE ME 1767
Fifth.	RICHARD KEENE MADE THIS RING 1661

¹ J. Jordan, *A Parochial History of Enstone*, 1857, p. 181.

² *Sic.*

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>
Tenor.	THOMAS KINCH IOHN PHILLIPS CHURCHWARDENS MATTHEW BAGLE ¹ MADE MEE 1769 / I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL

From these inscriptions we may assume that Richard Keene cast a ring of five in 1661, to which he added a treble seventeen years later ; subsequently the fourth and tenor were recast by Matthew Bagley II.

From Mr. Jordan² we learn that the bells were rehung in 1718 at a cost of £18.3s.od. and that the frame-head of the fourth bore the inscription :—

JOHN WILLIAMS AND RICHARD FECIT 1718

He also refers to the saunce being hung in a bell-cote above the west gable of the chancel until *circa* 1831, and quotes the following entries in the churchwardens' accounts :—

1769. Pd. Mr. Bagley coming over to direct hanging the Saints Bell. 0., 1., 0.

1787. Pd. for new casting of Sance Bell. 1., 11., 11½.

Visited : F.S., 24th September, 1948.

99.

EPWELL.

St. Anne.

A southern tower containing two bells, 19½ and 21¾ inches in diameter respectively, hung for ringing ; and a sanctus bell, 12 inches in diameter, hung for chiming.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1858 / (<i>Royal Arms.</i>) / PATENT	1¾
Tenor.	J : BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT MDCCCXXI. J : TURNER C.W.	2½
Saunce.	J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1858	½

On the soundbows of the two smallest are their founders' names : the inscription on the tenor occurs in the orthodox place. The bells hang in an oak frame, and are fitted with gear, similar to type A, but lacking stays and sliders.

6 Edw. VI. *Ippwell. Item 2 belles and a sance bell.*

Visited : F.S., 13th October, 1934.

¹ *Sic.*

² J. Jordan, *A Parochial History of Enstone*, 1857, p. 181.

100.

EWELME.

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 48½ inches diameter, in E ; and a sanctus bell, 13 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	JOHN FRENCH & THOMAS HESTER C W J702	7 3 19
Second.†	h q q R y r a o x J m ¹	8 1 14
Third.	REVD. R: D: HAMPDEN / REGIUS PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY RECTOR : / JOHN FRANKLIN / JOSEPH FRANKLIN CHURCHWARDENS IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1840 / W: & J: TAYLOR / BELLFOUNDERS / OXFORD & LOUGHBOROUGH / AD GLORIAM SS. TRINITATIS PER JESUM CHRISTUM DOMINUM NOSTRUM.	10 3 12
Fourth.	LOVE GOD 1631	15 0 1
Tenor.	EW ELM TENNOR RECAST AO : DOMINI J782 : THOS : JANAWAY FECIT (<i>Border, Fig.</i> <i>LII.</i>)	18 3 21

The treble is by William and Robert Cor, and has large ornamental initial capitals similar to those on a bell at Kintbury, Berkshire, which was also cast in 1702.² The second, with its meaningless inscription, is probably either the work of John White, *circa* 1525, or by a successor of his during the Reformation period. It has lost its canons. The capitals are those used by William Haslewood : the smalls were formerly found on a bell of similar type at Bloxham.³ The third is from the Oxford foundry, the fourth by Ellis Knight I, and the tenor from the Chelsea foundry. The tenor has large ornamented canons. The saunce bears no inscription, but, judged by its shape, probably dates from the early part of the eighteenth century.

¹ *Sic.*

² Sharpe, *ut sup.*, § 113.

³ For other examples see Cocks, *ut sup.*, p. 63.

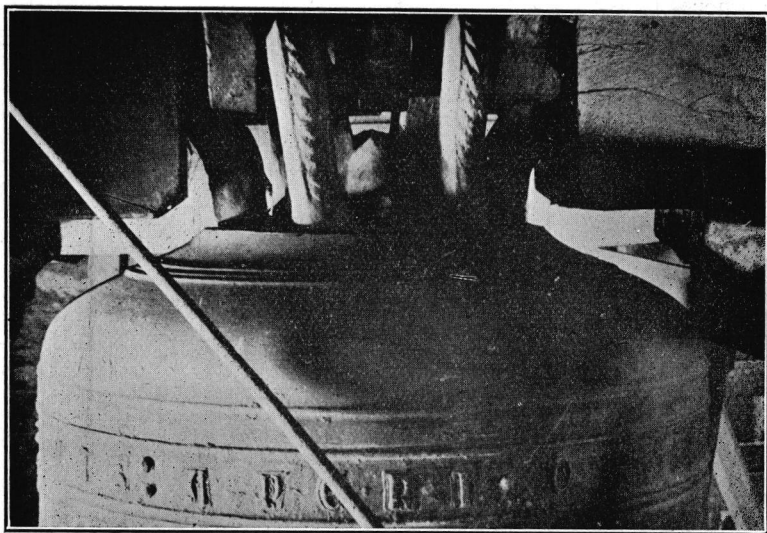


Photo :

F. M. Underhill, Esq., F.S.A.

Fig. 17. Dorchester Abbey. The upper portion of the seventh bell of the ring of eight, showing cabled canons, fourteenth century flat moulding and portion of inscription band. The bell was cast at the Exeter foundry, *circa* 1380.

The churchwardens' accounts¹ for 1654 record payments for the recasting of a bell at Woodstock. Bagley's catalogue, dated 1732, states that his foundry supplied one bell to Ewelme, which must have been either the predecessor of the present third or tenor. In the church guide it is stated that the former third was dated 1722.²

All the bells have false crown-staples except the third, which has the earliest type of independent crown-staple known to the author. The oak frame and fittings, types A and C, were not in good repair in 1948, and the bells are about to be rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.³

Visited : F.S., 29th September, 1948.

101.

EYNESHAM.

St. Leonard.

A north-western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 38 inches diameter, in A♭; and a sanctus bell.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Treble.	JOHN TAYLOR & CO. * FOUNDERS * LOUGHBOROUGH * * / (<i>Vine border.</i>) / W. NASH BRICKNELL, M.A. VICAR * / ALFRED BLAKE / HENRY GREEN } CHURCHWARDENS. / 1895. / AT PROPER TIMES MY VOICE I'LL RAISE / AND SOUND TO MY SUBSCRIBERS' PRAISE	3	3	23
Second.	(<i>Cross, Fig. J5.</i>) * * GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST * / (<i>Border all round bell.</i>) / * F. WHITE & SONS * BELLHANGERS * APPLETON * BERKS * 1895 * / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>)	4	1	7
Third.	NICHOLAS HEART THOMAS ALLIN (<i>Fig. A2.</i>) C W IK 1653	5	0	0‡

¹ The author has transcripts of these made by Messrs. L. H. Chambers and H. B. Walters.

² *A Short Guide to Ewelme Church*, (undated but recently published), p. 25.

³ It is proposed to tune and rehang the existing five bells in a new cast-iron side-pattern frame, and to add a treble to make six : a description of the new work will be given in a later chapter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Fourth.	JOHN TAYLOR & CO. * FOUNDERS * LOUGHBOROUGH * 1895 * / (<i>Vine border all round bell.</i>) / WHEN E'ER THE SWEET CHURCH BELL / PEALS OVER THE HILL AND DELL / MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED. / 1895	5	3	3
Fifth.	THOMAS ALLEN WILLIAM GOLD C W RK 1673	7	2	0‡
Tenor.	I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL * AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL * / (<i>Vine border all round bell.</i>) / (<i>Cross, Fig. J1.</i>) * F. WHITE & SONS * BELLHANGERS * APPLETON * BERKS * 1895 * / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>)	9	1	24
Saunce.	CM. GN. 1683. / M & S. LONDON. 1924.	2	0‡	

The saunce is by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The third is by James Keene, and the fifth by his son, Richard, who also cast the former saunce. The remaining four bells are from the Loughborough foundry, and the * in each instance is Fig. H8.

All the bells retain their canons, and hang with gear, type C, in a composite cast iron and oak frame installed by Messrs. White.

The treble was added in 1895 : prior to this date there were five bells in the ring. Of these the second and fourth are now the third and fifth of the ring of six. The treble of the old ring¹ came from the Chacombe foundry and was inscribed :—

WILLIAM BAGLEY HENRY BAGLEY
MADE ME 1708

The former third was by James Keene, and inscribed :—

NICHOLAS HART (*Fig. A2.*) THOMAS
ALLYN (*Fig. A2.*) C W 1654

The former tenor was by Richard Keene, and bore the inscription :—

ROBERT BVTLER WILLIAM
BRATHERTON C W 1659

Visited : F.S., 20th August, 1948.

¹ Walters' MS., Society of Antiquaries Library.

102.

FARINGDON, LITTLE.

(Dedication uncertain).

An open western turret containing two bells, 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 19 inches in diameter respectively, hung for chiming.

Each bell bears the inscription :—

JAMES WELLS ALDBOURN WILTS
FECIT 1805

Visited : L.H.C., August, 1920.

103.

FEWCOTT.

All Saints.

An open western turret containing one bell, weighing about $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., hung for chiming, and erected when the church was built in 1871.

104.

FIFIELD.

St. John-the-Baptist.

A circular western tower containing a ring of three bells†; tenor 29 inches diameter in D ; and an open bell-cote on the gable above the chancel arch containing a sanctus bell.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	:: THOMAS DEARING ATTEARLEECH ¹ CURCHWARDENS ¹ / IAMES BAGLEY MADE MEE 1746 (<i>Seven coins.</i>)	3
Second.	(<i>Trefoil, Fig. F5.</i>) (<i>Lion's head, Fig. F2.</i>) (<i>Coin, Fig. Q5.</i>)	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tenor.	WM. PARRET & ISAAC SNOWSELL CH-WARDENS 1725 (<i>Border, Fig. D2.</i>)	4 $\frac{3}{4}$

The treble is by a lesser known member of the Bagley family and was probably cast at Chacombe : a similar bell is to be found at East Hendred, Berkshire.² The second dates from the middle of the fourteenth century ; it was cast at the Wokingham foundry,

¹ *Sic.*

² Sharpe, *ut sup.*, § 96, and plate XII.

and has a flat moulding in its inscription-band, with founders' marks below, as on bells at Appleford and Didcot, Berkshire.¹ The tenor is a maiden casting by Abraham Rudhall II. These three bells have lost their canons, and hang in a two-tier oak frame : the gear is type A.

The saunce is probably a late medieval casting ; it bears no inscription, but has two narrow mouldings below the shoulder.

Visited : F.S., 21st September, 1935.

105.

FILKINS.

St. Peter.

An open western turret containing two bells hung for chiming. They are fitted with elm headstocks, strap gudgeons and iron levers, and instead of being placed in north and south apertures in the turret in the usual manner, are mounted one above the other. When viewed from the churchyard they appear to be of nineteenth century shape. According to *Kelly's Directory* the church was built in 1857.












Visited : W.M.E.S., 2nd April, 1949.

106.

FINMERE.

St. Michael.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells†; tenor 38 inches diameter, in A.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.
Treble.	     VENIADIBENADICCIODEI	4 1 19
Second.	THOMAS LESTER & THOS. PACK OF LONDON FECIT 1754 (<i>Border</i>). INO. KINCH & WM. HOBERAFT CH : WARDENS / REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE AND WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP. ROM: 12. 15.	7 0 19
Tenor.	      In Multis Annis Resonet Campana Johannis (<i>Fig. C1.</i>) (<i>Fig. C3.</i>) (<i>Cross, Fig. C2.</i>)	10 2 0

The name of the founder of the treble is unknown : the bell dates from the sixteenth century and is similar to one formerly at Midgham, Berkshire,² a scale drawing of the inscription on which is to be found in the Kimber collection at the Whitechapel

¹ Sharpe, *ut sup.* § 66.

² *Ibid.*, § 134.

foundry. The latter part of the inscription on the Finmere bell may mean "Come to the blessing of God." The second was recast in 1754 at the Whitechapel foundry, and the portion of its inscription recorded in italics has been incised. The tenor is a fine example from the medieval London foundry *circa* 1470 : the founder was probably William Chaimberlain.

The bells have lost their canons : they are fitted with gear, type L, and hang in a cast-iron "A"-pattern frame of unusual design, recently installed by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.¹

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles and a sanctus bell.*

Visited : F.S., 27th January, 1924, *et seq.*

107.

FINSTOCK.

The Holy Trinity.

An open western turret containing one bell, hung for chiming. The author regrets he has been unable to examine it. According to *Kelly's Directory* the church was built in 1841. The bell probably dates from this period.

108.

FOREST HILL.

St. Michael.

An open western turret containing three bells, 10, 20½ and 23¼ inches in diameter respectively, hung for chiming.

The two largest may be identified by their mouldings and large "sheet-metal" type numerals as the work of Ellis and Henry Knight ; each bears the date :—1652.

The smallest bell is the saunce ; it is inscribed :—

TAYLOR OXFORD 1852

and was erected in that year. The opening in the turret in which it hangs had previously been unoccupied for a considerable time, but bears evidence of having once housed the medieval saunce.

The bells were rehung by Mr. Richard White in 1933.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 small belles and one saunces bell a hand bell.*

Visited : F.S., 24th September, 1932.

¹ For additional details see F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, p. 24, and A. H. Cocks, *ut sup.*, p. 190.

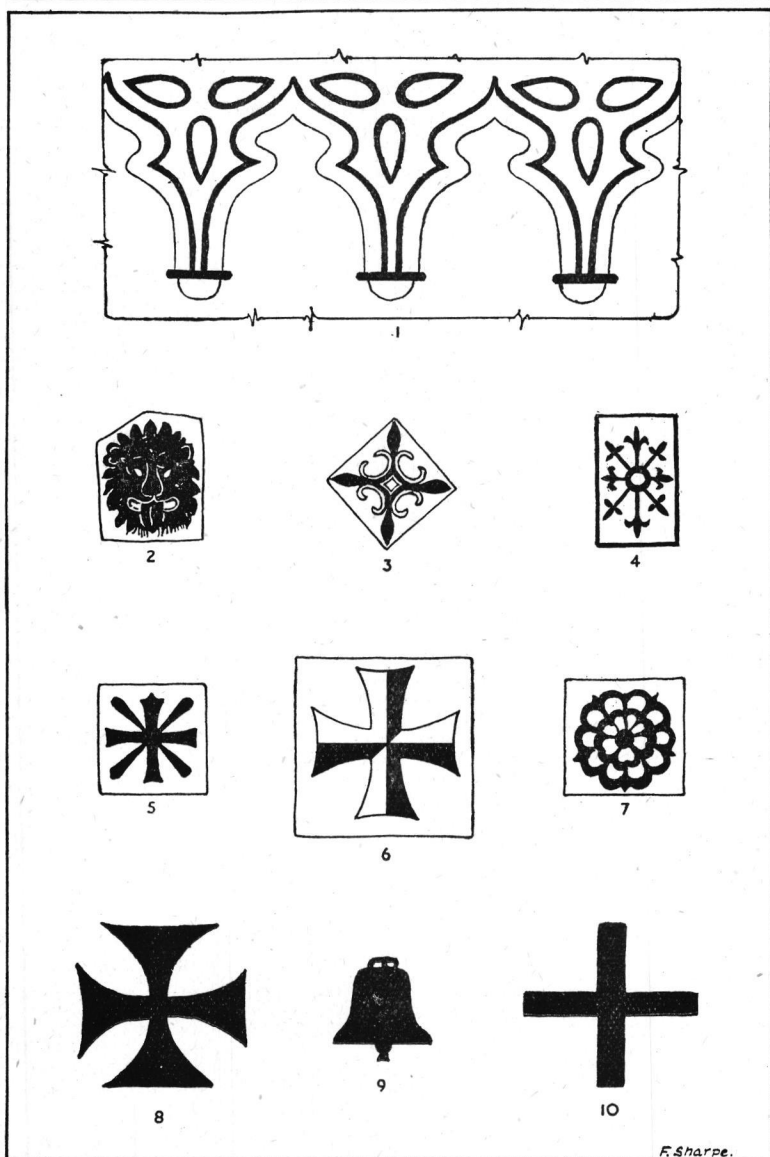


Fig. M1—M10. Half-scale details of founders' marks and ornaments. M1, Croydon foundry. M2, Bedford foundry. M3, London medieval foundry. M4 and M9, Burford foundry. M5 and M7, Buckingham foundry. M6, Reading foundry. M8 and M10, seventeenth century itinerant foundry.

F. Sharpe.

109.

FREELAND.

St. Mary.

A north-eastern tower, containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 31 inches diameter, in C.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. 1896. / A.M.D.G. / ANGELUS DOMINI NUNTIAVIT MARIE	3 0 23
Second.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1896. / A.M.D.G. / ET CONCERNIT ¹ DE SPIRITU SANCTO	3 0 25
Third.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1896. / A.M.D.G. / ECCE ANCILLA DOMINI	3 2 18
Fourth.	MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON, 1896. / A.M.D.G. / FIAT MIHI SECUNDUM VERBUM TUUM	4 0 2
Fifth.	MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON, 1896. / A.M.D.G. / ET VERBUM CARO FACTUM EST	4 1 27
Tenor.	MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON. / A.M.D.G. / ET HABITAVIT IN NOBIS / E DONO EMMÆ TAUNTON CUJUS ANIMÆ / PROPTIETUR DEUS. / MDCCCXCVI. / GULIELMO ULYAT, VICARIO. / THOM: LAY, AEDITUO.	5 3 17

A complete ring from the Whitechapel foundry. The tenor has a "Doncaster" head," the others have traditional-type canons : they hang in a two-tier oak frame, with the second and fourth in the upper tier.

Visited : F.S., 27th September, 1930, 2nd August, 1948.

110.

FRINGFORD.

St. Michael.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells ; tenor 38 inches diameter, in A^b; and a sanctus bell, 11 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	RICHARD CHANDLER MADE ME 1702	6
Second.	R A 1617	8

¹ Sic.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Tenor.	(Same as treble.)	10
Saunce.	R : WELLS	$\frac{1}{4}$

The ring is tuned in a minor scale. The treble and tenor are by Richard Chandler III ; the second is by Robert Atton, whose initials appear on it. The bells hang in an oak frame, having pits for five, installed in 1831 by Mr. John Walters of Kings Sutton¹: the gear is type A.

On the saunce the founder placed his name *inside* the bell, a feature peculiar to the smaller products of the Aldbourne foundry.² The bell is by Robert Wells I who owned that foundry from 1760 to 1780.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles and the saunce bell. Item 2 hande belles.*

Visited : F.S., 1923—1950.

111.

FRITWELL.

St. Olave.

A western tower containing a ring of four bells ; tenor 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter in B♭ ; and sanctus bell, 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Treble.	+ SANCTE OLAVE ORA PRO NOBIS / EDGAR GLANFIELD, M.A. VICAR. / JESSE ALLEN / A.W. WHITE / CHURCHWARDENS. / 1949. / MEARS AND STAINWAK, LONDON. (Whitechapel foundry mark.) / S. P. BENNET, (CLERK) / BISHOP, A. HARRIS, W. G. TURNER, D. WINNIE, C. WEECHER, / RINGERS.	4	0	5
Second.	ROBERT ATTON MADE ME (Fig. H3.) 1612 (Fig. H3.)	4	3	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Third.	IO ANW XIX V OV W V WO / G. MEARS & CO. FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1865.	5	1	12
Tenor.	(Cross, Fig. N8.) R A 1618	7	2	0 $\frac{1}{2}$

The treble was added to the ring in 1949 ; it was designed in the "Old Standard" style to blend with the other bells, and is a "maiden" casting from the Whitechapel foundry. The third was

¹ For further details see Sharpe, *ut sup.*, p. 26.

² A similar example may be seen at Coggs (p. 97).

recast at the same foundry in 1865, when Messrs. Mears appear to have carefully copied its original inscription. This unintelligible collection of letters looks like an attempt by some sixteenth century founder—possibly one of the Appowells—to reproduce a medieval inscription which he did not understand, or about which he wished to conceal his opinion. The treble and tenor are by Robert Atton.

The treble has a "Doncaster" head ; the others retain their canons and have been quarter-turned. The ring hangs in an oak frame, having pits for six bells, installed by Mr. Alfred White in 1865 ; the bells were rehung with new gear, type E, by his grandson Mr. Richard White, and his great-grandson, Mr. Frank White, in 1949.

The saunce bears no inscription ; it has four narrow mouldings below the shoulder, and, judged by its shape, may be a late sixteenth century bell, or, possibly, an early casting by James Keene. It is hung for chiming.¹

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles and a saunce bell hangyng in the stepule.*

Visited : F.S., 10th November, 1923, 18th November, 1949.

112.

FULBROOK.

St. James.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells ; tenor 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, in C ; and a sanctus bell, 12 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	THOMAS : IORDEN : AND : WILLIAM : CRIPES ² : CHVRCH = WARDENS : E(<i>Fig. C13.</i>)N 1662 :	3
Second.	WILLIAM PATRICK WILLIAM GARDNER C WARDENS H B MA MAJ732 ²	4
Tenor.	(<i>Same as treble.</i>)	5
Saunce.	RICHARD : IORDEN : AND : IOHN : BARTHELMEW : CHVRCHWARDENS : 1649 :	$\frac{1}{2}$

¹ Sharpe, *ut sup.*, p. 27.

² *Sic.*

The inscription on the second is an abbreviation for "William Patrick, William Gardner, Church Wardens. Henry Bagley made me 1732:" the other bells are by Edward Neale. All have been quarter-turned and hang in a *deal* frame : the gear, type A, is by Messrs. Bond.

Originally the ring was tuned in a minor scale ; but subsequently, and to the detriment of its tone, the strike-note of the treble has been raised a semi-tone by the removal of a considerable portion of its lip.

Visited : B.S.N., F.S., 23rd October, 1948.

113.

GARSINGTON.

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor $37\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in A \flat .

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	1696	3 2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Second.	PEACE & GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD A(Bell)R 1720	4 1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Third.	EDMVND HARPER HENRY MOLLENEVX CHVRCH WARDENS H B MADE ME J733	5 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fourth.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. (<i>Whitechapel foundry mark.</i>) / CAST 1732. RECAST 1929.	5 2 17
Fifth.	RECAST BY SUBSCRIPTION : 1825. RICH ^d . HARPER & THOS. POULTON CHURCH WARDENS. W : & J. TAYLOR FEC-T OXON.	7 2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tenor.	INO. MACKINESS & WM. PIKE CHURCH WARDENS 1788 I : RUDHALL FECIT (<i>Border.</i>)	9 2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$

Of these bells the treble is by Richard Keene and similar to bells at Ambrosden and Beckley ; the second is by Abraham Rudhall II, the third by Henry Bagley III, the fourth by Mears and Stainbank, the fifth by William and John Taylor, and the tenor by John Rudhall.

The former fourth was by Bagley, and inscribed :—

EDMVND HARPER HENRY TOWNSEND
CHVRCH WARDENS H BAGLEY MA M¹

1732

The bells hang in an oak frame : the gear was renewed by Mr. Richard White in 1929.

6 Edw. VI. *Item three greate belles. Item one lytle bell.*

Visited : F.S., 22nd October, 1932.

114.

GLYMPTON.

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a chime of five bells ; tenor 31½ inches in diameter ; and a sanctus bell, 12¼ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>
Treble.	CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON. / <i>The gift of H.B. and J.H.B.</i> / <i>to Glympton Church / 1883.</i>
Second.	<i>(The same, but with initials : H.B. and J.H.B.)</i>
Third.	<i>(The same, but with initials : H.B. C.C.B. and A.B.B.)</i>
Fourth.	<i>(The same, but with initials : H.B. C.L.F. and C.A.B.)</i>
Tenor.	ROBT . . WELLS ALDBOURN FECIT 1784
Saunce.	I NOS

The author has not examined these bells : they were inspected by Mr. H. B. Walters, 21st April, 1922, who noted :—²

“Before 1883 there were only the present tenor and saunce, which are hung in the ordinary way,³ but the four bells then added are hung ‘dead’ in a row, and are only chimed with hammers.”

“The initials are those of the donors, Mr. Henry Barnett, of Glympton, and members of his family. A tablet in the lower stage of the tower states that they were given in memory of Mrs. Barnett.⁴”

“The inscription on the sanctus looks like NOS, but is probably intended for 1705 ; the 7 is placed on its side, and the rounded 5 is like that on Chandler’s bell at Beckley. It is presumably his work, but does not do him credit.”

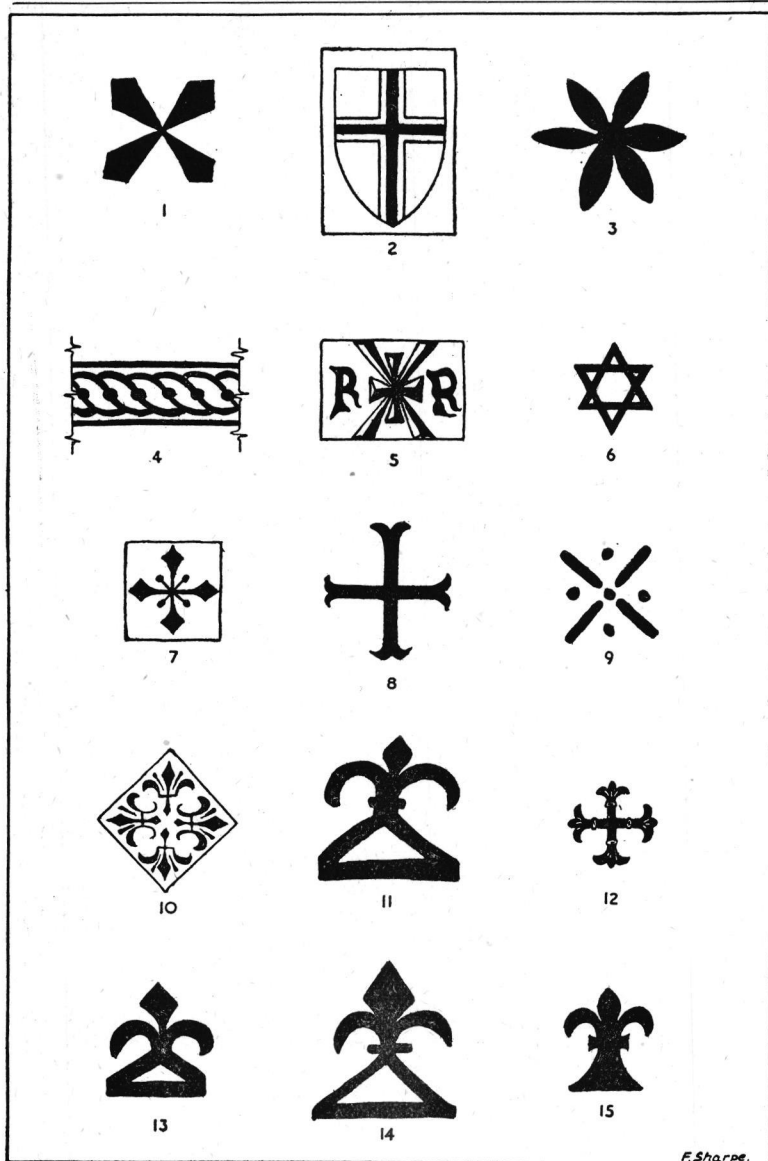
6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 belles hanging in the steple.*

¹ *Sic.*

² Walters, *Oxon MS. fol. 124*, Society of Antiquaries Library.

³ i.e. the tenor for ringing, and the saunce for chiming.

⁴ Cp. *Glympton, The History of an Oxfordshire Manor*, by the Rev. Herbert Barnett (Oxfordshire Record Society, 1923). As this work is going to press it has been learnt that the bells are about to be recast.



F. Sharpe.

Figs. N1—N15. Half-scale details of founders' marks. N1, N2, N7, N11, and N13—15, Reading foundry. N3, Wokingham foundry. N4, Woodstock foundry. N5 and N8, Buckingham foundry. N6, Hertford foundry. N9, Bicester foundry. N10 and N12, London medieval foundry.

115.

GODINGTON.

The Holy Trinity.

A western tower containing a service bell, 24 inches in diameter, having the strike-note F, and weighing 2 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.; and a sanctus bell, 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter.

The larger has a "Doncaster" type head, and is inscribed :—

HENRY BAGLEY MADE MEE 1717 /
RECAST A.D. 1911. / (*Whitechapel
foundry mark.*)

It was recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and hung for ringing with gear, type J, by Messrs. Webb and Bennett, in 1911.

The saunce hangs in an inaccessible position in the east window of the tower, and is inscribed :—

J : B : (*Ornament.*) 1793 :

The inscription may only be felt with the tips of one's fingers : the initials are those of the founder, John Briant. The bell is hung for chiming.

Dr. Rawlinson, who visited the church early in the eighteenth century, noted :—"three new bells." According to Bagley's bell catalogue two were cast by members of his family : one of these was the predecessor of the service bell.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles and the saunce bell.*

Visited : F.S., 1923, *et seq.*


116.

GORING.

St. Thomas of Canterbury.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells†; tenor 35 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in A ; and a service bell,† 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. Preserved in the church is a disused late thirteenth century bell.†

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	CAST 1929. / M & S. LONDON	3 0 4
Second.	CAST 1889, RECAST 1929. / M & S. LONDON.	3 1 4
Third.	THXS BELL WAS MADE x626 / RECAST 1929. / M & S. LONDON.	3 3 9
Fourth.	(<i>Same as treble.</i>)	4 0 26
Fifth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	4 3 16

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Sixth.	<p>  <i>a n c t e b l a s i</i> / RECAST 1929. / M & S. LONDON. </p>	5 1 2
Seventh.	<p> PRAXES YE THE LORD x624 / RECAST 1929. / M & S. LONDON. </p>	7 0 6
Tenor.	<p> CAST 1929. / MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. </p>	8 0 21

Four old bells were recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and four new ones were added to form this ring in 1929. Each bell bears the Whitechapel foundry mark ; and inscriptions, formerly on three of the four old bells, have been reproduced in fac-simile on the third, sixth and seventh.

The ring hangs in a wrought-iron side-pattern frame, installed *circa* 1914 by Messrs. Webb and Bennett. The treble and tenor have gear, type H, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank : the remainder of the gear, type J, is by Messrs. Webb and Bennett.

On the east wall of the ringing chamber is a bronze tablet, inscribed :—

THIS PEAL OF BELLS WAS / RECAST AND
 COMPLETED 1929, / THE COST BEING BORNE
 BY A / LEGACY BEQUEATHED FOR THAT /
 PURPOSE BY HENRY ALBERT / LACY SMITH,
 CHURCHWARDEN, / WHO DIED 1925.

The service bell is hung for chiming ; it was the third of the former ring of six, and under that heading is described below. The disused bell is described on pages 146—9.

In the following account of the ring which existed prior to 1929 the transcripts of the inscriptions have been taken from notes by the late Mr. H. B. Walters ; the other particulars are derived from the Whitechapel foundry records.

Details of the former ring of six bells†; tenor 33½ inches diameter, in B⁷.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	<p> CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1889. / AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM / CUM VOCO AD TEMPLUM VENITE. </p>	2 3 23
Second.	<p> THXS BELL WAS MADE x626 </p>	3 0 0†
Third.	<p> LOVE GOD 1630 </p>	3 1 0†

† *Sic.*

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.
Fourth.	ORATE : PRO : PETRO : EXONIENSE : EPISCOPO (Cross, Fig. N12.) / (Cross, Fig. N12.) RICARD : DE : WYMBISH : ME : FIST	4 0 0½
Fifth.	s a n t t e b l a s i	5 0 0½
Tenor.	PRAXES YE THE LORD x624	6 2 24

The treble, by Messrs. Warner, was added to the ring in 1889; the second, third¹ and tenor were cast by Ellis Knight I; and the fifth was by John Saunders, *circa* 1556. Bells dedicated to St. Blaise are rare, and of two other examples, by Saunders known to campanologists, one, formerly at Weston-on-the-Green, has been re-cast. Saunders was noted for the pre-Reformation character of his inscriptions.

The fourth is now preserved in the nave of the church; it was removed from the belfry in 1929 and hung on two wrought-iron brackets above the tower-arch. Round the shoulder of the bell above its upper inscription band is a narrow flat moulding of the type which became common in the fourteenth century; and, like most late thirteenth century bells, it is abnormally long waisted. The bell has lost its canons, and is secured to its headstock by means of bolts which pass through holes drilled in its crown. It is a maiden casting having the strike-note D natural; its diameter is 29 inches, and height from lip to shoulder 23 inches. The bell dates from *circa* 1290, and is one of the few surviving examples of the work of Richard de Wymbish. It is illustrated in Fig. 18.

According to Mr. Stahlschmidt the bell is supposed to have been a gift to Goring Nunnery by Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, who died in 1300; he was Lord of Wallingford and patron of the Convent.² The bishop mentioned in the inscription on the bell was Peter de Quivil, who held the See of Exeter from 1280 until his death in 1291. There was a link between Goring and Exeter at that time: Miss E. Carleton Williams tells us that from 1283 to 1298 the Prioress of the Augustinian Nunnery at Goring was Sarah de Exeter; and "Peter de Quivil appears to have taken an interest in Goring Priory as his name is appended as a witness in the grant made by the Prior of Wallingford to Prioress Sarah of the lease of a piece of land, known as Constable's land in Goring, in February, 1285."³ As the bell bears a prayer for the bishop, and not for his soul, it must have been cast during his lifetime.

¹ The present service bell.

² J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, *Surrey Bells and London Bell Founders*, 1884, p. 8.

³ E. Carleton Williams, *The Church and Priory, Goring-on-Thames*, 1948, p. 12.

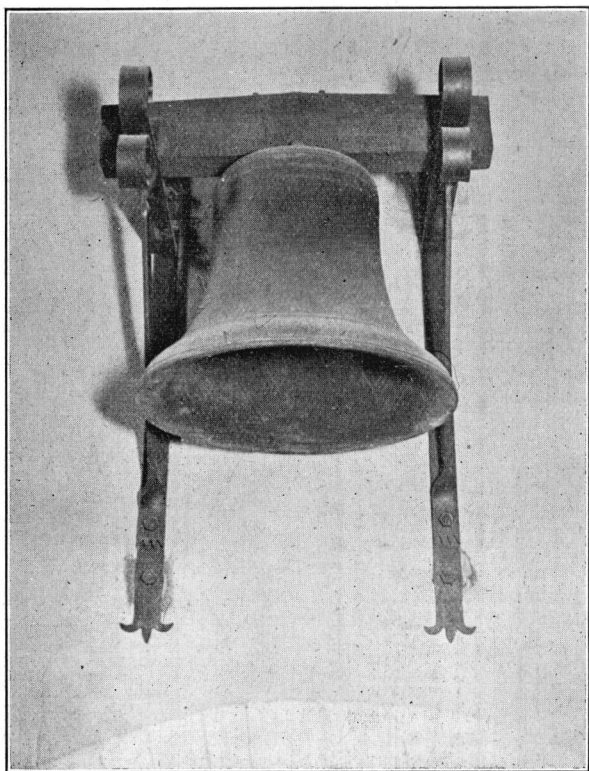


Photo:

F. M. Underhill, Esq., F.S.A.

Fig. 18. A disused late thirteenth century bell at Goring, cast by Richard de Wymbish, of London.

Richard de Wymbish was a member of a noted Essex family of bellfounders, at least three of whom, Michael, Richard and Ralph, and possibly a fourth, Walter, were founding in Aldgate in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. Richard's business career extended approximately from 1290 to 1315, and the Goring bell was one of his earliest productions. He appears to have owned a considerable amount of plant and to have had an extensive business. A 28 cwt. bell constitutes a casting of formidable size : there are only two larger bells in Oxfordshire today. Yet we find that Richard was commissioned to cast such a bell in 1312 for the Church and Convent of the Holy Trinity in London, and that he did it to the complete satisfaction of the authorities.¹ In addition to the Goring bell, and to one formerly at Berechurch, Essex², his surviving bells are to be found at Cholsey, Berkshire³, Burham, Kent⁴, Catesby⁵ and Slapton, Northamptonshire⁶, and Great Bradley, Suffolk⁷. On the Goring bell, Richard used the Norman-French form "FIST" as did another late thirteenth century founder, Paul the Potter, at West Challow, Berkshire⁸; but on all his later bells he used the Latin "FECIT." He possessed at least four different sets of moulding stamps of Gothic capitals. Portions of three of the alphabets formed by the use of these stamps are illustrated in Mr. Stahlschmidt's work on *Surrey Bells and London Bellfounders*⁹; the fourth is illustrated in Messrs. Deedes and Walters' *Church Bells of Essex*¹⁰. The lettering used at Goring is not known to occur elsewhere, but the initial cross, Fig. N12, is found on bells at Westminster Abbey, Iwerne Minster, Dorsetshire,

¹ J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, *ut sup.*, p. 7.

² C. Deedes and H. B. Walters, *The Church Bells of Essex*, 1909, p. 4.

³ F. Sharpe, *The Church Bells of Berkshire*, § 51, *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. XLIV., 1940, p. 29.

⁴ J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, *The Church Bells of Kent*, 1887, pp. 9 and 190.

⁵ C. Deedes and H. B. Walters, *ut sup.*, p. 4. This bell was not known to Mr. North.

⁶ T. North, *The Church Bells of Northamptonshire*, 1878, pp. 55 and 398.

⁷ J. J. Raven, *The Church Bells of Suffolk*, 1890, pp. 10 and 167.

⁸ F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, § 46, p. 22.

⁹ J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, *ut sup.*, plates II, III, and VII. The Goring lettering is illustrated on plate II.

¹⁰ C. Deedes and H. B. Walters, *ut sup.*, plate III.

and Magdalen Laver, Essex¹, with similar but not identical lettering.

In his history of Wimbledon, Bartlett makes the following curious statement :—"About twenty years ago, (i.e. in the year 1845) Mr. Niblett, of Exeter College, Oxford, visited Wimbledon, and there saw a bell, inscribed, "Orate pro Petro Exoniensi Episcopo—Ricardus de Vymbis me fist." As well as he remembers, it was lying in the churchyard.² It will be noted that the inscription is almost identical with that on the Goring bell.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 4 belles.*

The Mission Church at Crays Pond contains one small bell which has not been examined.

Visited : H.B.W., 1893. F.S., 14th August, 1948.

117.

GORING HEATH.

The Chapel of Allnutt's Hospital.

St. Bartholomew.

An enclosed central turret containing one bell, 17 inches in diameter, hung for ringing.

Below the shoulder of the bell are four narrow mouldings ; and above its soundbow is the inscription :—

HENRY ALNVT : J726

The letter "N" is reversed in both instances. The bell was *probably* cast at the Aldbourne foundry : the position of the inscription and the narrow mouldings below the shoulder are characteristic of products of this foundry ; but, on the other hand, it *may* have been cast by Thomas Dicker, a Reading clockmaker, whose bells are rare³. It retains its original clapper, and is fitted with an elm headstock, drive-in type gudgeons, keyed iron-work, and a wheel similar to the traditional pattern⁴ but lacking meeting-spokes. The gear was in a dilapidated condition when examined by the author.⁵

Henry Allnutt founded almshouses here in 1724.

Visited : G.V.W., F.S., 18th April, 1949.

¹ C. Deedes and H. B. Walters, *ut sup.* p. 6.

² W. A. Bartlett, *The History and Antiquities of the parish of Wimbledon, Surrey*, 1865, p. xvi. (Addenda.)

³ F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, § 109.

⁴ See Fig. 2.

⁵ While this work has been in the press the bell has been rehung with new gear by Messrs. R. White and Son.

118.

HAILEY.**St. John-the-Baptist.**

An enclosed south-western turret with spirelet containing one bell, hung for chiming, and inaccessible without the erection of long scaling ladders or scaffolding.

Preserved in the vestry is a drawing of the former church, which was demolished *circa* 1868, prior to the erection of the present building. The drawing shows that the old church possessed a western tower, under a cupola on top of which hung one small bell. The present bell may of course have been the one which hung in the former church, and the author regrets that he has been unable to examine it.

Visited : F.S., 21st April, 1950.

119.

HAMPTON GAY.**St. Giles.**

A western tower containing two bells, hung for ringing ; tenor 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter. The bells are illustrated in Fig. 19.

The treble bears no inscription, but on the evidence of its shape and mouldings may safely be assigned to the middle of the thirteenth century. It is one of the oldest bells in the county ; and, like all bells of its type, is shrill in tone. Its principal dimensions are :—diameter 16 inches, height from lip to crown 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches, circumference at shoulder 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and circumference at waist 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches ; it weighs 3 qrs. 12 lbs., and its strike-note is approximately a semi-tone above that of the tenor. By reference to Fig. 19 it will be seen that the bell has a long waist and that from the centre of the waist to the sound-bow it curves outwards ; the latter feature shows a marked improvement in design when compared with the shape of the early thirteenth century bell at Caversfield, illustrated in Fig. 12. The Hampton Gay bell also shows an improvement in moulding : its lip, although almost flat, and of the same type as that of the Caversfield bell, is moulded on the inside to the bottom edge, tapering very slightly on the inside towards the rim.

The tenor, which weighs 3 qrs. 18 lbs., was cast at the Gloucester foundry, and bears the inscription :—

T : RUDHALL FOUNDER 1782

Before and after the date are portions of the border, Fig. D14.

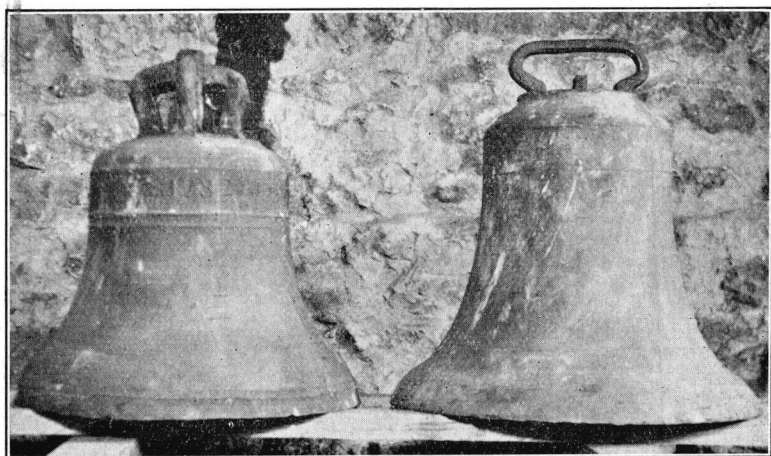


Fig. 19. The bells of Hampton Gay. The bell on the left is by Thomas Rudhall, of Gloucester, 1782 : the other is a mid-thirteenth century casting. The photograph was taken when the bells were dismantled for the purpose of being rehung in 1933 : the false iron canon on the older bell was subsequently removed.

Prior to 1933 the bells hung in two openings between the joists of the belfry floor ; the fittings, probably the work of Thomas Rudhall, were very badly decayed, and no one was aware of the age of the older bell. In that year they were rehung in a new oak frame at the expense of the patron, Col. S. Barry, of Long Crenndon Manor : the work was carried out to the author's specification by Mr. R. White, and the new gear is type D.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 litell sacring belles. Item 2 belles in the steeple.*

Visited : F.S., 15th May, 1933, *et seq.*

120.

HAMPTON POYLE.

St. Mary.

An open western turret containing two bells, 16 inches and 20½ inches in diameter respectively, hung for chiming.

The smaller bell is inscribed with its founders' names :—

J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1869.

The larger bell bears no inscription, but its normal inscription-band is filled with an ornamental border of the type used by the Bagleys in the first half of the seventeenth century, and by this it can be identified as a product of the Chacombe foundry.

6 Edw. VI. *Item five sacring belles. Item 2 belles in the steple.*

Visited : J.R.C., F.S., 13th March, 1926.

121.

HANBOROUGH.¹

SS. Peter and Paul.

A western tower with spire containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 45 inches in diameter ; and a sanctus bell, 15 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	JAMES STEVENS & JOHN LONG CHURCH WARDENS. JAMES WELLS ALDBOURN FECIT 1807 .	6
Second.	+ ROBERT ATTON MADE ME 1615	7
Third.	THIS BELL WAS MADE + C 1602	8
Fourth.	+ A N N O ◊ DOMI ◊ NI 1603 R(Bell.)P	10

¹ Or "Church Hanborough."

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Tenor.	WILLIAM BADCOCK. & GASPER ¹ WELLER. CHURCH WARDENS . . . ROBT. WELLS ALDBOURN WILTS 1786 FECIT	15½

The strike-notes of these bells have been tuned in a minor scale. The treble is by James Wells, the second by Robert Atton, the third by Joseph Carter, the fourth by Richard Purdue², and the tenor by Robert Wells II. The moulding stamps used on the third were those formerly belonging to Thomas Lawrence, which Carter had acquired.³ The date on the fourth is too early for Richard Purdue⁴, and is probably intended for 1623 : Purdue was then working in this neighbourhood⁵ as an itinerant bellfounder. All round the fourth above the inscription band is a vine border, which also occurs on the waist of the bell together with the Arms of Charles I, as Prince of Wales.

The saunce is hung for chiming ; it bears the date "1668," and was cast by Richard Keene.

Incised in the oak bell-frame is the inscription :—

GEORGE DAY & SON / CHURCH BELL
HANGERS / EYE SUFFOLK 1911

Visited : F.S., 23rd June, 1933.

122. HANBOROUGH, LONG.

Christchurch.

An open western turret containing one small modern bell, with peg-type argent, iron stock and lever ; it is hung for chiming. The author has not scaled the turret. When viewed from the ground the bell does not appear to bear an inscription.

Visited : F.S., 21st April, 1950.

¹ *Sic.*

² His identity is proved by the treble at Brailles, Warwickshire, inscribed :—
" + I ◇ AM ◇ HEE ◇ FOR ◇ RICHARD ◇ PVRDI ◇ MADE
◇ MEE + + ANNO DOMINI / 1624 R(Bell.)P / (Arms of James
I.) (Arms of Charles I, as Prince of Wales.)" H. T. Tilley and H. B. Walters, *The Church Bells of Warwickshire*, 1910, p. 123.

³ F. Sharpe, *The Church Bells of Berkshire*, Fig. 89, *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. XLVI, p. 17.

⁴ H. B. Walters, *The Church Bells of Wiltshire*, 1929, p. 288.

⁵ See under the headings : Alkerton, Chipping Norton, Headington and Upper Heyford.

123.

HANWELL.

St. Peter.

A western tower containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 34 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in B♭.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	J. BRIANT. / HARTD. FECIT / UNFEIGNED PRAISE TO HEAVENS ALMIGHTY KING, / FOR HEALTH RESTORED TO GEORGE THE THIRD WE SING. / HÆC SEXTA ACCESSIT A.D. 1789.	3
Second.	JOHN BRIANT. HARTFORD. FECIT. 1789.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Third.	JOHN BRIANT. HARTFORD. FECIT. 1789.	4
Fourth.	EXALTED HERE WE ARE ON HIGH. / EMBLEMS OF PARISH HARMONY. / J. BRIANT. HARTFORD. FECIT. 1789. / N. PERCY. T. TURNER. C. W. / W. GRETTON. VICO.	5
Tenor.	THOS. DAVIS & SAMUEL GRANT C. WARDENS. JOHN BRIANT. HERTFORD. FECIT. AN: DOM: 1790.	7 $\frac{1}{2}$

The bells cast for Hanwell, Oxford St. Ebbe, and Littlebury, Essex¹, appear to have been mixed up at John Briant's foundry ! The Hanwell treble, Littlebury former second, and St. Ebbe's fourth all bear the same inscription, but only the two last named towers contained six bells at the time. The Hanwell fourth and Littlebury fourth are inscribed alike, but the vicar's and churchwardens' names on each are those of Littlebury !

The ring hangs in an eighteenth century oak frame ; the gear, type J, was renewed just prior to Hitler's War by Mr. T. Bond, who unfortunately removed the canons from all the bells.

Prior to 1789 there were four bells ; in that year the Churchwardens presented :—"three out of four bells cracked."²

Visited : F.S., 4th November, 1933, 17th January, 1950.

¹ C. Deedes and H. B. Walters, *The Church Bells of Essex*, 1909, p. 328.

² *Oxford Archdeaconry Papers*, (Oxon MS., c. 73, fol. 49, Bodleian Library, Oxford.)

124.

HARDWICK.
(OR HARDWICK-WITH-TUSMORE.)

St. Mary.

An open western turret containing one bell, hung for chiming, and inscribed :—

+ AVE MARIA GRACIA PLNA¹ /
RECAST 1873

The lettering is a near reproduction of that on the former bell ; it resembles that on a bell at Thornton, Buckinghamshire,² cast by an unknown founder early in the fourteenth century.³

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 belles and a saunce bell.*

The church at Tusmore has long been destroyed. At Tusmore House, the residence of Lord Bicester, are two bells. The larger, now hung in the gallery on the second floor of the house, and used as a fire bell, is 18 inches in diameter and inscribed :—

G. MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1860

The smaller bell is hung in the gardens ; it is 12 inches in diameter, and bears the inscription :—

J. WARNER & SONS, LONDON.

Visited : F.S., 1923—1950.

125.

HARPSDEN.

St. Margaret.

A tower containing two bells, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 20 inches in diameter respectively. The author regrets he has been unable to examine them. The bells were inspected by the late Mr. A. H. Cocks in whose notes⁴ it is stated that the smaller then bore merely the date :—

1790

and was probably cast at the Whitechapel foundry ; and that the larger, cast at the Reading foundry *circa* 1550, was inscribed :—

Ⓐ 5 (*Shield, Fig. F9.*) Ⓐ (*Two illegible marks.*)
(*Lion's head, Fig. F3.*)

¹ *Sic.*

² A. H. Cocks, *The Church Bells of Buckinghamshire*, 1897, p. 15, and plate VII.

³ F. Sharpe, *The Church Bells of The Deanery of Bicester*, 1932, pp. 2, 28, 66 and 69.

⁴ Transcribed by Mr. H. B. Walters, and included in his MS. at the Society of Antiquaries Library.

The letters "N" and "R" were moulded by the use of stamps, formerly part of the plant of the medieval foundry at Wokingham.¹ The bell has lost its canons.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 belles.*

Visited : A.H.C., 25th July, 1885.

126.

HASELEY.

(OR GREAT HASELEY.)

St. Peter.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells†; tenor 41½ inches diameter, in F♯.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	RECAST BY GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 1925. / THOS. RUDHALL FOUNDER GLOSTER 1775. / I WAS RECAST TO THE GLORY OF GOD / AND IN MEMORY OF LIONEL MUIRHEAD 1925.	4 2 10
Second.	HONOR THE KINGE 1641	4 3 17
Third.	RECAST BY GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 1925. / THOMAS PLATER & ROGER HURST C W / WILL & ROB COR / RECAST AS A THANKOFFERING TO GOD / BY E. J. LOVELL. 1925.	6 3 14
Fourth.	FEARE GOD 1641	7 0 14
Fifth.	LOVE GOD 1641	8 3 16
Tenor.	I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL 1774	11 1 3

The treble and third were recast at the Croydon foundry in 1925; the tenor is by Thomas Rudhall, and the remainder by Ellis Knight I. The new bells were cast without canons and the canons have been removed from the others. The ring hangs in a cast-iron "H-pattern" frame, installed by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, and illustrated in Fig. 20. The gear is type H.

¹ A. H. Cocks, *ut sup.* p. 93.

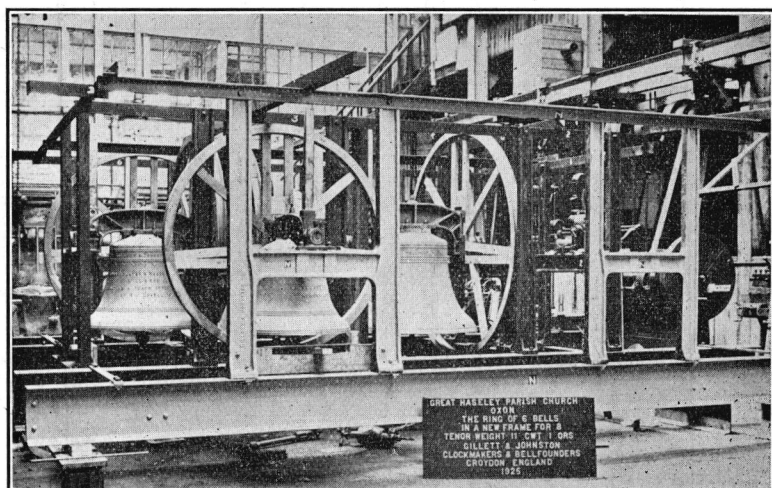


Photo :

Messrs. Gillett & Johnston.

Fig. 20. The ring of six bells in a cast iron H-pattern frame with pits for eight at Great Haseley.

Particulars of the former bells are derived from notes made by the Rev. T. A. Turner, on August 2nd, 1892. The treble was then inscribed :—

THOS. RUDHALL GLOCESTER
FOUNDER (*Fig. D8.*) 1775 (*Fig. D8,*
twice.)

The former third came from the Aldbourn foundry, and bore on its sound-bow the inscription :—

THOMAS PLATER & ROGER HURST
C W (*Fig. C15.*) WILL & ROB COR (*Fig.*
C15, three times.) 1710 (*Fig. C15, three*
times.)

7 Edw. VI. *Imprimis 4 belles.*

Visited : F.S., 16th April, 1932.

127.

HEADINGTON.

St. Andrew.

A south-western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 36 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, in A.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1792	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Second.	M D 1654	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Third.	JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1792	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fourth.	+ THOMAS \diamond WHORWOOD \diamond E \diamond SPVIRE ¹ \diamond LORD \diamond OF \diamond HED \diamond DING \diamond TONN ¹ / + ANNO DOMINI 1624 R(<i>Bell.</i>)P	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fifth.	Sancta Margareta Ora Pro Nobis (<i>Founder's mark, Fig. E3.</i>) (<i>Shield, Fig.</i> <i>C14.</i>) (<i>Cross, Fig. C2.</i>)	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Tenor.	EDWARD FFISHE ¹ OWEN GVRDEN 1613 / W(<i>Fig. F9.</i>)Y	8 $\frac{1}{2}$

The bells hang in an oak frame of seventeenth century type on the evidence of which it appears that the treble and third were recast by John Briant, and were not additions to the ring in 1792. A similar arrangement of bell-pits in groups of two at right angles

¹ *Sic.*

to each other also occurs in the older portion of the bell-frame at New College, Oxford, installed by, or under the direction of, Michael Darbie in 1655. Darbie's initials occur on the second at Headington, and the two frames may be by the same hand : the letters and numerals on the second are similar to those used by John Darbie. The fourth is by Richard Purdue, and similar to the fourth at Hanborough ; on the waist of the Headington fourth are two shields, one bearing the Arms of Whorwood, and the other the Arms of the Prince of Wales ; all round the bell above its inscription band is a border of interlacing fleurs-de-lys ; and the inscription is formed in "sheet-metal" type. A scale drawing of the inscription on the fifth is given in Fig. 21 ; this bell is a beautiful casting by the successors of John Danyell, of London, *circa* 1470, and is similar to the second of a ring of three at South Hinksey, Berkshire.¹ The tenor was cast by William Yare, and has an inscription in sheet-metal type ; the names on it are probably those of the churchwardens.

All the bells retain their canons, and have been quarter-turned: the treble has no argent. The gear, type C, dates from the nineteenth century and is the work of Mr. F. White. The bell-rope circle is anti-clockwise.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles.*

Lukis records the inscriptions on these bells.²

Visited : F.S., January, 1933.

128.

HEADINGTON QUARRY.

The Holy Trinity.

An open western turret containing two bells, hung for chiming. When viewed from the churchyard they appear to be mid-nineteenth century castings, and are probably contemporary with the church, which was erected in 1849.

129.

HEMPTON.³

St. John the Evangelist.

An open western turret containing one bell, hung for chiming. The author regrets he has been unable to examine it. The church dates from the middle of the nineteenth century.

¹ F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, § 100.

² W. C. Lukis, *An Account of Church Bells*, 1857, p. 92.

³ A hamlet in the parish of Deddington.

130.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES.

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells†; tenor 50½ inches diameter, in D ; and a sanctus bell, 24 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1813 (<i>Border, Fig. G11.</i>)	6 0 17
Second.	T . . MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1813 (<i>Border, Fig. G11.</i>)	6 2 18
Third.	(<i>Same as second.</i>)	6 3 8
Fourth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	7 3 14
Fifth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	9 2 27
Sixth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	10 2 19
Seventh.	(<i>The same.</i>)	15 0 1
Tenor.	THE REVd. EDWD. TOWNSHEND RECTOR JOHN PLUMBE MAYOR JOHN DOBSON JOHN PIPER IVE CHURCH WARDENS 1813 (<i>Fig.</i> <i>P9, five times.</i>) / T . . MEARS OF LONDON FECIT	21 2 0
Saunce.	T . . MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1813	3 0 0†

Although not indicated by inscription, or founders' marks, the treble was recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1928 : the lettering on this bell is a near copy of that used in 1813, but the founders omitted to reproduce the two full-stops after the initial letter. The treble was cast without canons : the others, by Thomas Mears II, have had their canons removed, and have been one-eighth turned. They were retuned at the Whitechapel foundry and rehung with gear, type H, in a cast iron side-pattern frame in 1928.

The Commissioners' Inventory taken in 1552 states :—*Item in the steeple fyve great belles and a sanctes bell*, and Burn¹ gives the weights of these as follows :—

	<i>Cwt.qrs.lbs.</i>
Treble	9 2 6
Second.	13 1 5 (<i>sic.</i>)
Third.	13 0 4
Fourth.	16 0 6
Tenor.	20 3 18

¹ W. Burn, *The History of Henley-on-Thames*, p. 213.

From the same source¹ we also learn the following :—

1493. John Mitchel of Wokingham was paid £9.3s.4d. "p[ro] fabric. magna (*sic*) campane"².
 1575. Two of the bells were recast at Reading.
 1602. The great (or tenor) bell was recast, and a new bell-frame installed.
 1657. The treble and the tenor were recast.
 1690. A rate was levied on the town and parish for new casting the bells "some of them being cracked and broken."

In March, 1813, *The Globe* newspaper reported :—

"Last week a complete new ring of 8 bells were dug out of the pit at Mr. Thos. Mear's celebrated Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, which turn out superlatively fine in tone, and so near in tune, that they may justly be called a maiden peal. The tenor bell, weighing 21 cwt., in the bold key of E, and are (*sic*) to ornament the Gothic Church tower of Henley-on-Thames."

From the same source we learn the weights of the bells prior to tuning and the subsequent removal of their canons, viz.:—

	<i>Cwt. qrs. lbs.</i>		
Treble.	6	2	7
Second.	7	0	19
Third.	7	1	19
Fourth.	8	2	4
Fifth.	10	2	27
Sixth.	11	2	11
Seventh.	16	0	0
Tenor.	22	2	10

The total cost of the new ring in 1813 was £965.15s.0d.

Visited : C.K., F.S., 2nd October, 1948.

131.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES.

The Holy Trinity.

An open western turret containing three bells, hung for chiming. They have angular canons of the type favoured by Messrs. Taylor and Messrs. Warner in the latter half of the nineteenth century, and when viewed from the churchyard appear to bear inscriptions. They are inaccessible without the use of scaffolding. A search through the records of the three leading modern bell-founders has failed to locate any reference to them, and therefore they are probably the work of Messrs. Warner.

Visited : C.K., F.S., 2nd October, 1948.

¹ *Ibid*, pp. 214—218. Burn is quoting extracts from the Corporation records.

² Also quoted by A. H. Cocks, *ut sup.*, 1897, p. 56.

132.

HETHE.

SS. Edmund and George.

An enclosed western turret with spirelet containing one bell, 24 inches in diameter, hung for ringing, and inscribed with its makers' names :—

GILLETT & CO. CROYDON. 1886.

The former bell is now at the school. It is 10 inches in diameter and bears the inscription :—

W A 1755

The letters and figures read from right to left on the bell and are formed in reverse similar to those on the thirteenth century bell at Caversfield. There is no clue to the founder.

6 Edw. VI. *Imprimis 2 belles and a saunce bell in the steple.
Item 2 small handbells and a litle saking bell.*

Visited : F.S., 8th December, 1923.

133.

HEYFORD, LOWER.¹

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 34½ inches diameter, in B ♯.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.
Treble.	M. & S. LONDON. (<i>Whitechapel foundry mark.</i>) / A.D. 1925. / GEORGE BOWYER VAUX, RECTOR. / GEORGE JAMES DEW, / WILLIAM RICHARD THOMAS, } CHURCHWARDENS.	3 1 23
Second.	MATTHEW ✿ BAGLEY ✿ MADE ✿ ME ✿ THE ✿ LEADER ✿ OF ✿ THIS ✿ PEAL ✿ TO ✿ BE ✿ J766 (<i>Fig. RI.</i>)	3 3 0½
Third.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS ² , LONDON. (<i>Whitechapel foundry mark.</i>) / A.D. 1925. / GEORGE BOWYER VAUX, RECTOR. / GEORGE JAMES DEW, / WILLIAM RICHARD THOMAS, } CHURCHWARDENS.	4 0 16

¹ Or Heyford-ad-Pontem.

² This word was inadvertently omitted from the account of these bells in my *Church Bells of the Deanery of Bicester*, 1932, p. 31.



Fig. 21. Headington. Half-scale details of inscription on the fifth bell of the ring of six, cast by the successors of John Danyell, of London, circa 1470.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt. Qrs. Lbs.</i>
Fourth.	HENRY : MINN : RICHARD : MAYCOCK : CHURCH : WARDENS : M : BAGLEY : MADE : MEE ♣ J766 (<i>Fig. R1, twice.</i>)	4 3 0†
Fifth.	W: KING & E: CREEK C: W. 1825 W: & J: TAYLOR OXFORD FECERUNT.	5 2 0†
Tenor.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / C. FORT, RECTOR. / W. P. KING, / R. WAITE, { CHURCHWARDENS. 1867.	6 3 20

In 1766 the two former bells were recast into a ring of five by Matthew Bagley, and of this ring two bells, the present second and fourth, remain: they were formerly the treble and third; and in their inscriptions the fleur-de-lys in each instance is *Fig. R2*.

The fourth of Bagley's ring¹ was recast in 1852 by William and John Taylor, and the tenor was recast at the Whitechapel foundry in 1867.

Early in the year 1926 the bells were rehung with gear, type B, in a new oak frame by Mr. Richard White, and augmented to six by the addition of a treble; at the same time the second of the old ring was recast to form the third of the six. The new bells were cast at the Whitechapel foundry in 1925 but were not hung until the following year.

Bagley's original second bore the inscription² :—
MATTHEW * BAGLEY * MADE * ME
* 1766 * RICHARD : MAYCOCK :
HENRY : MINN : C : W *

The former tenor was inscribed² :—
WILLIAM BRADLEY. CORPVS.
CHRISTY. COLLEGE. OXON. 1766.
I · TO · THE · CHVRCH · THE · LIVING
· CALL · AND · TO · THE · GRAVE · I
· SVMMON · ALL · PRAY · ATTEND ·
TO · WHAT · I · GIVE · THAT · SO ·
YOU · MAY · FOR · EVER · LIVE.

6 Edw. VI. *Item in the tower 3 belles and a sance bele.*³
Visited : F.S., 1926-1950.

¹ The present fifth.

² Information from the late Mr. G. J. Dew.













³ For additional details see F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, pp. 31-32 and 74-75.

134.

HEYFORD, UPPER.¹

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells ; tenor 36 inches diameter, in A ; and a sanctus bell, 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt. Qrs. Lbs.</i>
Treble.	IOHN LAVRENCE  RICHARD BARRVT  C  W  1630  / RECAST. 1946. (<i>Whitechapel foundry mark.</i>)	5 2 2
Second.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. 1866.	6 3 12
Tenor.	(<i>Vine border all round bell.</i>) /  A  NNO  DO  MI  NI  1624  R (<i>Bell</i>) P / (<i>Royal Arms.</i>)	8 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$

The treble and second were cast at the Whitechapel foundry ; the tenor is the work of Richard Purdue, an itinerant founder whose work is found at Hanborough and elsewhere in Oxfordshire ; his mark is illustrated in Fig. R11.

The former treble was by James Keene. Its inscription has been reproduced in facsimile on the new bell, and the fleur-de-lis is Fig. A2. From the Tyssen MS. at the Society of Antiquaries Library we learn that the former second bore the inscription :—

RICHARD GOFF : IOHN COGGINS : C :
W : HENRY BAGLEY MA² MEE 1711

This bell had been cracked for some considerable time. In the Oxford Archdeaconry Papers at the Bodleian Library, Oxford,³ are the following entries :—

1809. One bell cracked.
1843. 3 bells, one unsound.

The bells hang in an oak frame of mid-nineteenth century date. The gear, type B, was partly renewed by Mr. Richard White in 1946. The new treble is tuned in the Old-Standard style to blend with the other bells and has a "Doncaster" pattern head.

The saunce hangs in a separate frame at a higher level than the ring. The bell, which bears no inscription or marks, has lost one of its canons and has a false crown staple.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles and the saunce bell.*

Visited : F.S., 1924-1950.

¹ Or Heyford Warren.

² *Sic.*

³ Oxon MS., c. 75, fol. 344.

135.

HEYTHROP.**St. Nicholas.**

A south-western tower containing three bells, 22½, 23¾ and 26 inches in diameter respectively, hung for ringing. They were cast by Mr. T. C. Lewis, of Brixton, and each is inscribed :—

T: C: L. MDCCLXXX.

In the year 1880 the tower was built and an oak frame installed, having pits for eight bells. The three bells occupy the pits intended for the treble, second and third of the eight. The gear is type A.

Formerly there was one bell concerning which the churchwardens reported in 1831¹ :—

One bell and that cracked.

Visited : F.S., 10th November, 1934.

136.

HIGHFIELD.**All Saints.**

The church was erected in 1910. It is equipped with one small hemispherical bell² hung "dead" and sounded by means of a mechanically-operated hammer.

Visited : F.S., 1933.

137.

HIGHMOOR.**St. Paul.**

An open western turret containing one bell, hung for ringing. When viewed from the churchyard the bell appears to be of late nineteenth century shape. It is inaccessible without ladders. The church was erected in 1860.

Visited : F.S., 1948.

138.

HINKSEY, NEW.**St. John-the-Evangelist.**

An enclosed western turret containing one bell, hung for chiming. The church was built in 1900 : the bell is inaccessible without scaffolding. In the organ-loft is a disused bell, 16¼ inches in diameter, inscribed :—

J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1869.

Visited : F.S., 17th September, 1932.

¹ Oxford Archdeaconry Papers, Bodleian Library, Oxford. Oxon MS., c. 75, fol. 506.






² Or gong.

139.

HOLTON.

St. Bartholomew.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells ; tenor 36 inches diameter, in A.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	RICHARD WISE WILLIAM WILLINS C W 1662	5
Second.	 Sancta  Anna  Ora  Pro  Nobis (Cross, Fig. M3.) J (Coin.) S (Cross, Fig. C12.)	6½
Tenor.	t u S i i (Cross, Fig. P7.) S X ¹ (Fig. D11.) (Cross, Fig. J8.)	8

The treble is by Richard Keene and similar to bells at Ambrosden and Cassington. The second is a fine medieval casting from the London foundry ; it was made *circa* 1450 by John Sturdy, whose initials appear on it. The tenor is *probably* by William Watts, *circa* 1590 ; the use of the "Brasyer" foundry plant coupled with a meaningless inscription are characteristic features of bells by him². The bells are tuned in a minor scale, their strike-notes in descending order being *approximately* C, B and A. They retain their canons and the second has a false crown staple.

The oak frame, consisting of heads, cills, main braces and braced end-posts, probably dates from the end of the sixteenth century : the absence of centre-posts should be noted.

The elm headstocks, strap gudgeons and wheels are of eighteenth century type, as are also the tenor slider and the wooden cased tee-headed clappers ; the bearings and other gear date from the nineteenth century.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 bells and oon sanctus bell.*

Visited : F.S., 10th May, 1930, 24th July, 1948.

¹ *Sic.*

² See p. 88.

140.

HOLWELL.

St. Mary.

An enclosed western turret containing a set of five tubular "bells" in the key of F, installed early in the present century.

Formerly there were two bells, hung for ringing. The smaller, 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, bore the inscription :—

MEARS LONDON / HOLWELL CHURCH 1856

The larger, 21 inches in diameter, was inscribed :—

C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1847

Visited : H.T.T., T.A.T., 21st July, 1893 ; F.S., 23rd October, 1948.

141.

HOOK NORTON.

St. Peter.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells† ; tenor 48 inches diameter, in E ; and a disused sanctus bell, 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.
Treble.	1899 RECAST 1949 (<i>Border.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) / I AM DEDICATED / TO THE MEMORY OF / MARGARET DICKINS	5 1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Second.	1899 RECAST 1949 (<i>Border.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) / I AM DEDICATED / TO THE MEMORY OF / BARBARA DICKINS	5 2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Third.	1896 RECAST 1949 (<i>Border.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>)	6 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fourth.	RECAST 1949 (<i>Border.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) / ROBERT & JAMES WELLS ALDBOURN FECIT 1797 (<i>∴ thirteen times repeated.</i>)	7 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fifth.	IN MULTIS ANNIS RESONET CAMPANA IOHANNIS 1600 / i (<i>Fig. R2.</i>) t / RECAST 1949 / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>)	9 2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sixth.	William Hawkins Gabe Tenn Pound to the Making of This Bell 1599 i (<i>Fig. R2.</i>) t / RECAST 1949 / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>)	11 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$

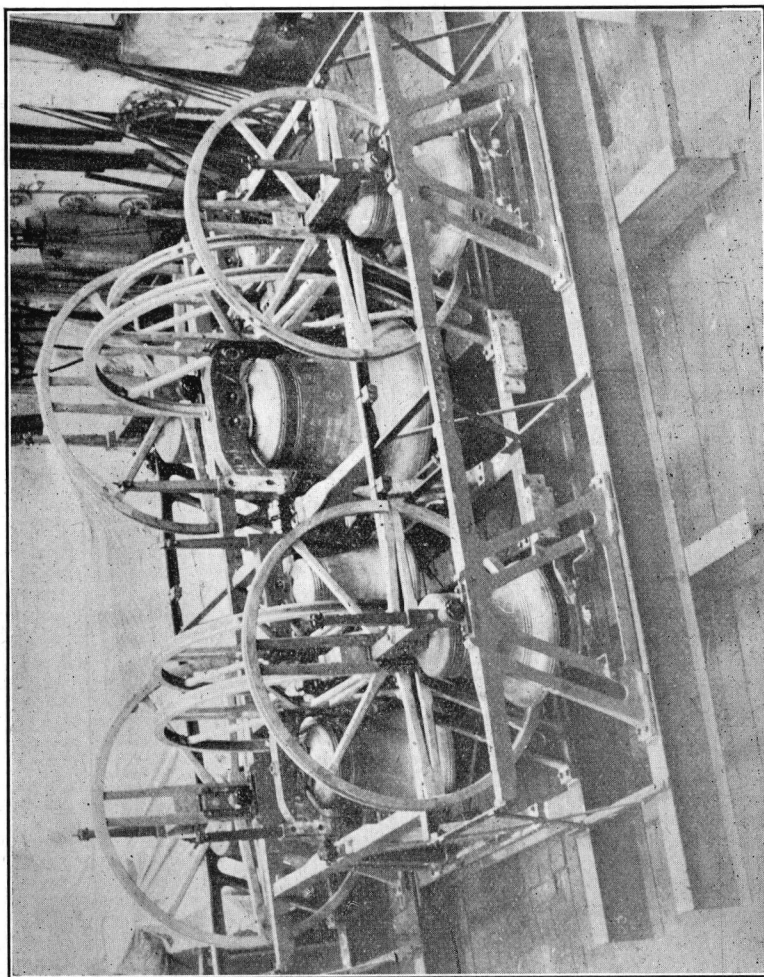


Photo :

Fig. 22. Hook Norton. The ring of eight by Messrs. J. Taylor & Co., 1949.

Messrs. J. Taylor & Co.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Seventh.	O PRAISE GOD IN HIS HOLINESS / RECAST 1869 / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) / AGAIN RECAST 1949 / (<i>Fig. H8, three times.</i>) / ERNEST H. NIND, RECTOR & RURAL DEAN / JOHN W. HARRIS / FRANK O. COPPAGE } CHURCHWARDENS	15 0 0†
Tenor.	THESE EIGHT BELLS WERE RECAST AND REHUNG BY J. TAYLOR & CO. IN 1949 / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) / THE GIFT OF THE PEOPLE OF HOOK NORTON / IN GRATEFUL THANKS / FOR THE END OF WORLD WAR TWO 1939-1945 / ALSO IN MEMORY OF / THE SONS OF HOOK NORTON WHO DIED / FOR THE SACRED CAUSE OF LIBERTY AND FREEDOM / YE PEOPLE ALL WHO HEARE ME RING: BE FAITHFUL TO YOUR GOD & KING ∴ D: LAMPETT & W: DEE C: WARDENS: R: WELLS FECIT 1788 ∴.	20 2 13

A complete ring from the Loughborough foundry. An illustration of the bells, cast-iron side-pattern frame, and gear, type M, is given in Fig. 22. The inscriptions on the former third, sixth and tenor have been reproduced in facsimile on their successors.

The saunce is cracked. It was cast at the Bicester foundry and bears the inscription :—

JOHN : PREEDY. WILLIAM : CLARIDGE.
CHURCH=WARDENS : / EDWARD : HEMINS.
BISSITER FECIT 1729. (*Fig. P11, three times.*)

Particulars of the former ring of eight bells†; tenor 47 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in E ♭.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	BARWELL FOUNDER BIRMINGHAM / A.D. (<i>Fig. Q10.</i>) 1899.	5 3 1
Second.	(<i>Same as treble.</i>)	6 1 7
Third.	BARWELL FOUNDER BIRMINGHAM 1896 / (<i>Fig. Q10.</i>)	6 2 26
Fourth.	ROBERT & JAMES WELLS ALDBOURN FECIT 1797 (<i>∴ thirteen times repeated.</i>)	8 0 13
Fifth.	BARWELL FOUNDER BIRMINGHAM / RECAST 1896 / (<i>Fig. Q10.</i>) IN MULTIS ANNIS JOHANNIS CAMPANA 1600 RESONET / i (<i>Fig. R8.</i>) t	10 0 11

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Sixth.	William Hawkins Gabe Tenn Pound to the Making of This Bell 1599 t (<i>Fig. R2.</i>) t	11 1 9
Seventh.	CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1869. / (<i>Royal Arms.</i>) / PATENT	13 3 16
Tenor.	YE PEOPLE ALL WHO HEARE ME RING : BE FAITHFUL TO YOUR GOD & KING : D: LAMPETT & W: DEE C: WARDENS: R: WELLS FECIT 1788 .	16 1 25

The fourth and tenor were cast at the Aldbourne foundry ; their inscriptions were placed above their sound-bows ; the sixth was by Joseph Carter, the seventh by Messrs. Warner, and the others by Messrs. Barwell. On the waist of the fifth was the crest of *John Martin*, of Worcester¹, between the initials of *Joseph Carter*, of Reading. The predecessor of this bell in 1600 was doubtless by Carter², who cast the sixth one year later, and the founder's mark appears to have been placed there in error when the bell was recast in 1896.

Before 1896 there were five bells in the ring. In that year a treble was added and the third of the five recast to form the fourth of a ring of six. Three years later two smaller bells were added to make eight, all of which were recast in 1949.

A tablet in the tower is inscribed :—

"Brave Ringers (look here?³) before you begin,
Let all the bells rest⁴ at Two, Six and Ten,
When the Chimes go, Cuff a tale Boys ! refrain
Or two Crowns you forfeit, th' officers claim.
For when (without fault) you ring ye bells round,
Chimes (Britain³ strike⁴ home) much finer do sound⁴.

W. N. Treadwell, Rt. Samons. C. Wardens. 1731."

By this we learn that in 1731 the tower possessed a set of clock chimes which played the tune "Britons strike home" at the hours of two, six and ten. Unless the bells were "at rest" there was risk of damage to the mechanism of the chimes at these hours.

Visited : F.S., 3rd July, 1948, 3rd December, 1949.

¹ The author has a plaster cast of this.

² Joseph Carter's business career extended from 1578 to 1609. John Martin established his foundry about the year 1644 and continued it until 1693.

³ *Sic.*

⁴ On the tablet long "s" is used except for final letters.

142.

HORLEY.

St. Etheldreda.

A central tower containing a ring of four bells†; tenor 36½ inches in diameter, in A ♮.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	CANTATE DOMINO CANTICOM ¹ NOVVM H B 1706	4
Second.	WILLIAM BAGLEY MA ¹ DE ¹ MEE H B 1706	5
Third.	(<i>As second, but letter D not reversed.</i>)	6
Tenor.	WHEN : YE : DOE : HEAR : ME : FOR : DEAD : TO : TOLL ♣ THEN : PRAY : TO : GOD : TO : RECEIVE : / THEIR : SOVL ♣ SAMVELL : GLAZE : IOHN : KINCH : CHVRCH : WARDENS : H ♣ B 1706	8

A complete ring by William and Henry Bagley in partnership as at Ducklington. Between each word of the inscription on the treble is the border, Fig. A9; the border, Fig. F1, is similarly used as a word-stop on the second and third. On the treble and tenor the letter N is reversed in each instance.

All the bells have lost their canons and are hung with gear, type J, in an oak frame of eighteenth century pattern.

Visited : F.S., 11th November, 1933, 12th November 1949.

143.

HORNTON.

St. John-the-Baptist.

A western tower containing a ring of five bells; tenor 34½ inches diameter, in B ♮.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	SING VNT0 THE LORD A NEW SONG H B MADE MEE J74J / (<i>Cable moulding all round bell.</i>) / (<i>Border, Fig. H12, all round.</i>) / (<i>Border, Fig. H1, all round.</i>)	3½

¹ Sic.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Second.	I : WATKINS : I : WALDEN : C : W : HENRY BAGLEY MADE MEE J74J	4
Third.	I : WATKINS : I : WALDEN : CHURCH WARDEN ¹ HENRY BAGLEY MAEMEJ74J ¹	4½
Fourth.	IAMES WATKINS : IAMES WALDEN CHURCH MARDENS ¹ H BAGLEY MADE MEE J74J	5½
Tenor.	I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL (<i>Fig. H1.</i>) AND TO THE GRAVE I SUMMON ALL H B J74J / (<i>Cable moulding all round bell.</i>) / (<i>Border, Fig. H12, all round.</i>)	7½

A complete ring by Henry Bagley III, of which the fourth is now badly cracked in the sound-bow. All the bells retain their canons.

The oak frame and the majority of the fittings date from 1741. The treble, second and fourth hang from their original elm headstocks, and all their ironwork is keyed. The third and tenor have bolted ironwork ; their headstocks were renewed in the nineteenth century. The strap gudgeons, brass bearings, wooden cased tee-headed clappers, and ground rollers are by Bagley. The bell wheels are of nineteenth century make and appear to be second-hand. Stays and sliders have never been fitted to the ring.

Visited : F.S., 11th November, 1933, 16th July, 1948.

144.

HORSPATH.

St. Giles.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 32 inches diameter, in B ; and a sanctus bell, 12½ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	+ DEUM : LAUDO : DIGNIS : PLAUDO. / GIVEN BY THE / REV. H. R. BRAMLEY, M.A. CURATE. / 1866. / MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.	3 0 1
Second.	PROSPERITY TO ALL OVR BENEFACTORS (<i>Border, Fig. D14.</i>) A(<i>Bell.</i>)R 1719 (<i>Border, Fig. D14.</i>)	3 2 0½

¹ *Sic.*

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt. Qrs. Lbs.</i>
Third.	JOHN CHANCELO & THO HEISTER CHURCHWARDENS 1719 A(Bell.)R (<i>Border,</i> <i>Fig. D14.</i>)	4 0 0†
Fourth.	This × Bell × Was × Made × 1602 J × t × / (<i>Fig. E2.</i>)	4 1 0†
Fifth.	TAYLORS BELLFOUNDERS OXFORD 1838 DEO ET ECCLESIAE	5 0 0†
Tenor.	THIS BELL WAS MADE 1611 / W(<i>Fig. F9.</i>)Y	6 0 0†
Saunce.	JAMES WELLS ALDBOURN FECIT 1811 (<i>Fig. D7₄</i>) (<i>Fig. D9.</i>) (<i>Fig. D7.</i>)	- 2 0†

The treble was cast at the Whitechapel foundry ; the second and third are by Abraham Rudhall II ; the fourth is by Joseph Carter, the fifth by William and John Taylor, the tenor by William Yare, and the saunce by James Wells. In the inscription on the fourth the cross in each instance has been placed saltirewise. All the bells retain their canons ; those on the fourth and tenor are ornamented, and these two bells have been one-eighth turned ; the second and third have been quarter-turned. The treble has gear, type A. The other bells have gear, type C, and were rehung in a new oak frame by Alfred White in the middle of the last century.

The inscription on the treble states that it was given in 1866 by the Rev. H. R. Bramley, but the bell *may* have had a predecessor. In the Oxford Archdeaconry Papers, now preserved at the Bodleian Library, Oxford¹, are the following presentments made by the churchwardens :—

1803. Treble bell cracked.

1810. Treble bell being recast by Stevens, Great Milton.

The bell referred to cannot have been the present second, which originally was the treble of the former ring of five, as this bell is perfectly sound. No bellfounder by the name of Stevens at this time is known in the annals of campanology : there was a John Stephens, bellfounder, of Norwich, in the first quarter of the eighteenth century, but this date is too early for him to be the man mentioned at Horspath. Either the churchwardens' entries

¹ Oxon. MS., c. 77, fols. 72 and 82.

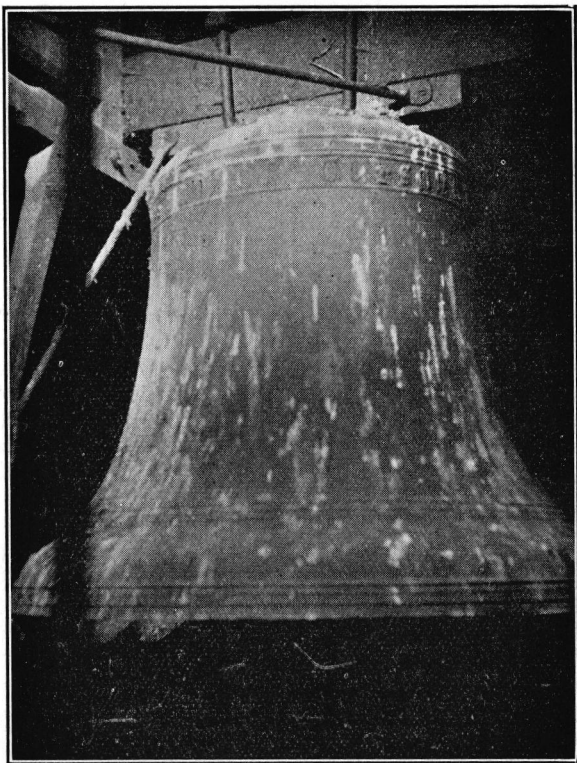


Fig. 23. Idbury. The second bell of the ring of three, cast by a founder who was working in or near Worcester between the years 1400 and 1420.

refer to minor repairs, and not recasting ; or a local man may have attempted the task and failed¹.

The bells are mentioned by Thomas Hearne, the diarist², who wrote :—

"Sept. 16, 1733. Mr. Sacheverel, who died a few years since, of Denman's Farm (in Berks.), near Oxford, was looked upon as the best judge of bells in England. He used to say that Horspath bells, near Oxford, though but five in number and very small, were the prettiest, tunablest bells in England, and that there was not a fault in one excepting the third³ and that so small a fault, as it was not to be discerned but by a very good judge⁴."

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 bells and oon lyttell bell.*

Visited : F.S., 24th November, 1934.

145.

HORTON-CUM-STUDLEY.

St. Barnabas.

An open western turret containing two bells, 14½ and 16 inches in diameter respectively, hung for chiming. Each bell is inscribed on its sound-bow with its makers' names :—

J. WARNER & SONS LONDON 1868.

At Studley Priory, a private mansion in this parish, is one bell which the writer regrets he has been unable to examine. Formerly the mansion contained a chapel which has long been converted to secular uses. The bell, however, continued to be rung every evening and was heard by the writer in 1933.

6 Edw. VI. *Item oon lyttell bell hangyng yn the topppe of the chapell.*

Visited : F.S., 13th July, 1933.

¹ A similar instance occurred at Blewbury, Berkshire, where John Hunt, a local blacksmith, recast the tenor. Twice he failed, and on the third and successful occasion placed on the bell the words :—"NIL DESPERANDUM." F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, § 27.

² *Hearne's Diaries*, Vol. 140, fol. 99. Quoted by H. T. Ellacombe, *The Church Bells of Gloucestershire*, 1881, p. 151.

³ The third bell of 1733 is now the fourth of the ring of six ; and since the days of Sacheverel the fourth of the original five has been recast and is now the fifth of the six.

⁴ Probably Horspath had some excellent ringers in 1733.

146.

IDBURY.

St. Nicholas.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells†; tenor 36½ inches diameter, in A; and a bell-cote on the gable above the chancel arch containing a sanctus bell, 17¼ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD A(Bell.)R 1749 (Border, Fig. D8.)	5½
Second.	(Cross, Fig. E5.) RIIIE (King's head, Fig. E4.) VIIEO (Queen's head, Fig. E6.) PIA (Fig. E4.) QVOS (Fig. E6.) CONOREO (Fig. E4.) SANCTA (Fig. E6.) MARIA	6½
Tenor.	(Cross, Fig. E5.) IESVS (Fig. E4.) HAZARENVS (Fig. E6.) REX (Fig. E4.) IVNCOXYM (Fig. E6.) ITII ¹ (Fig. E4.) DEI (Fig. E6.) MISERE (Fig. E4.) MEI	8½
Saunce.	(Cross, Fig. L2.) AVE : PLINA : GRACIA	1

The treble is a maiden bell by Abel Rudhall. The second and third are of the type known to campanologists as "Royal Head" bells, from the use of the founders' marks, Figs. E4 and E6, which represent the heads of King Edward III and Queen Philippa. They were cast by an unknown founder who was working in or near Worcester between the years 1400 and 1420². The second is illustrated in Fig. 23.

The saunce is also by an unknown founder, who is thought to have been a predecessor of the Ruffords, of Toddington, *circa* 1320. The lettering on this bell is similar to that on the saunce at Dunstable, and formerly on the second at Caversfield³.

The ring hangs in a composite cast iron and oak frame installed by Messrs. Bond, who rehung the bells and supplied new gear, type J. Unfortunately they removed the canons of the two large medieval bells. These canons were seen by Mr. H. B.

¹ Sic.

² H. B. Walters, *The Church Bells of Worcestershire*, 1930, p. 285 ff.

³ See p. 80. The lettering is illustrated in *The Church Bells of Buckinghamshire*, 1897, plate I, the lower set.

Walters in 1890 and noted by him as being of the ornamental type. The saunce retains its canons and is hung for chiming in its original bell-cote on the gable above the chancel arch. An illustration of the bell will be found in Fig. 24.

Visited : H.B.W., September, 1890 ; F.S., 21st September, 1935.

147.

IFFLEY.

St. Mary.

A central tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 38½ inches diameter, in A ; and a sanctus bell, 16 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>				<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>		
Treble.	THOMAS	JANAWAY	FECIT	J785	3	3	0‡
Second.	THOS.	JANAWAY	FECIT	J785	4	0	0‡
Third.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / <i>VIVOS VOCO. MORTUOS PLANGO. FULGURA FRANGO. / T. A. WARBURTON, VICAR / R. REID, J. FRENCH, WARDENS. / CAST 1592. / RECAST 1869.</i>				4	2	26
Fourth.	<i>pr ayse ye the lor de</i> <i>i (Fig. N1.) t 1592 (Fig.N1.)</i>				5	2	0‡
Fifth.	<i>(No inscription.)</i>				7	2	0‡
Tenor.	OVR	HOPE	XS XN	THE LORD	X626	10	0 0‡
Saunce.	GOD SEND VS PEACE	<i>(Border, Fig. D14.)</i>		AR	<i>(Bell.) 1709 (Border, Fig. D14.)</i>	1	0 0‡

The treble and second were cast at the Chelsey foundry. The third is from the Whitechapel foundry ; the portion of the inscription recorded in italics occurs on its waist and has been incised. The fourth is by Joseph Carter, the tenor by Ellis Knight I, and the saunce by Abraham Rudhall I. The shape of the fifth is that of a seventeenth century bell and it may be the work of Abraham Rudhall I, in the 1704 edition of whose catalogue it is stated that he had supplied one bell to Iffley prior to that date ; on the other hand Abraham Rudhall's bell may have been recast by Thomas

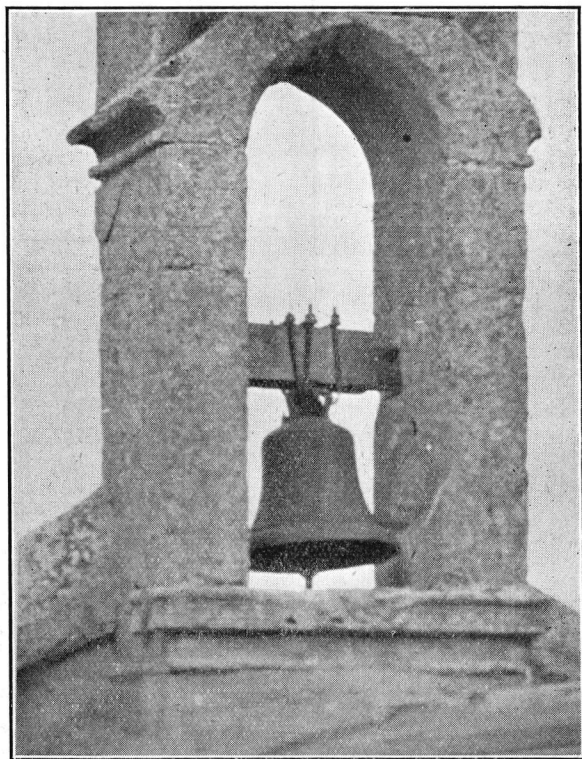


Fig. 24. Idbury. The early fourteenth century saunce, hanging in its original bell-cote on the gable above the chancel arch.

Janaway and the fifth made by some other seventeenth century founder. The former third, like the fourth, was by Joseph Carter¹, and inscribed :—

prapse pe the lorde 1592 *i* (*Fig. Fg.*) *t* (*Coin.*)

The ring was rehung in a new oak frame by Mr. R. White in 1911 ; the saunce is hung for chiming in a separate frame.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 gret belles asaunce bell and ahande bell.*

Visited : F.S., 17th September, 1932.

148.

IPSDEN.

St. Mary.

An open western turret containing two bells, 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ and 26 inches in diameter respectively, hung for chiming. Their inscriptions were transcribed in the year 1920 by Mr. C. H. Hawkins².

The smaller bell is by Henry Knight I, and inscribed :—

*+ Gloria * in * excelsus³ * deo* 1592

On the sound-bow of the larger bell is the inscription :—

JAMES WELLS ALDBOURN WILTS FECIT 1801

6 Edw. VI. *Item a handbell and a sacrynge bell. Item 3 belles in the steple.*

Visited : C.H.H., June, 1920 ; F.S., 8th April, 1950⁴.

149.

ISLIP.

St. Nicholas.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 38 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, in G ; and a sanctus bell, 18 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	G MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1859	4 2 0
Second.	(<i>Same as treble.</i>)	5 0 1
Third.	(<i>The same.</i>)	6 0 3

¹ From the Tyssen MSS., Society of Antiquaries Library.

² His notes are now among the Walters' MSS. at the Society of Antiquaries Library.

³ *Sic.*

⁴ On this occasion the author was only able to view the bells from the ground.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.
Fourth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	6 0 15
Fifth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	7 1 6
Tenor.	G MEARS FOUNDER LONDON / THIS PEAL ¹ OF BELLS WAS RECAST IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1859 THROUGH THE GENEROUS OFFER OF JOHN PARSONS ESQUIRE OF THE CITY OF LONDON TO DEFRAY THE WHOLE EXPENSE. FRANCIS TRENCH, RECTOR. / J. P. W. SYDENHAM, / THOMAS SMITH, } CHURCHWARDENS. / COME FOR ALL THINGS ARE NOW READY. LUKE XIV. 17.	9 1 12

A complete ring from the Whitechapel foundry. All the bells retain their canons and hang, with fittings, type B, in a wrought iron side-pattern frame installed by Mr. F. White in 1908.

The saunce hangs in a separate frame and is fitted with an elm headstock and half-wheel. The bell is by Humphrey Keene² and inscribed in James Keene's smaller lettering :—

H K   1652

The fleur-de-lis is Fig. A2.

From the notebook of Alfred White, the bellhanger, we learn that the former ring of five was composed of the following :—

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	THIS BELL WAS MADE 1611	5½
Second.	JAMES KEENE MADE MEE 1652	6
Third.	OMNIA PARATA VENITE ANNO DOMINI 1623	7½
Fourth.	MICHAEL DARBIE MADE ME 1655	10
Tenor.	JAMES BRADY RELPH HARWELL C. W 1652	14

Of these the treble was probably cast by either William Yare or William Carter, the second and tenor by James Keene, the third by Ellis Knight I, and the fourth by Michael Darbie³.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 4 belles and a saunce bell.*

Visited : F.S., 1924-1949.

¹ *Sic.*

² Stated in error on p. 60 of my *Church Bells of The Deanery of Bicester* to be by Henry Knight.

³ For additional notes see Sharpe, *ut sup.*, p. 60.

150.

KELMSCOT.

St. George.

An open central turret containing two bells, 20 and 22 inches in diameter respectively.

The larger bell was cast by Thomas Rudhall and bears the inscription :—

COME AT MY CALL TO SERVE GOD ALL : 1762

followed by the scroll border, Fig. D8.

The other bell is an interesting example of early thirteenth century bellfounding and similar to the disused bell at Caversfield already described¹. The Kelmscot bell however bears no inscription or marks ; it has lost its canons and is badly chipped at the sound bow ; apart from these defects it is still sound after seven and a half centuries of constant use, but like all bells of its shape is shrill in tone. Its principal dimensions are :—diameter 20 inches, height from lip to crown $20\frac{1}{4}$ inches, and thickness at lip 2 inches. Although the smaller of the two it has a lower strike-note than its companion.

The bells are hung "dead" to rolled steel headstocks and chimed by means of "Ellacombe" hammers. Rudhall's bell retains its canons.

Visited : P.J.A., F.S., 6th August, 1949.

151.

KENCOT.

St. George.

A western tower containing two bells, 24 and $29\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter respectively, hung for ringing. They were cast by William Culverden, of London, during the early years of the sixteenth century, and form the treble and tenor of a ring of three, of which the middle bell has long been missing². The strike-note of the tenor is approximately C #.

¹ See pp. 72-80, and Figs. 10-12.

² An exact parallel to this is to be found at Kings Repton, Huntingdonshire. T. M. N. Owen, *The Church Bells of Huntingdonshire*, 1899, p. 113.

In the *Oxford Archdeaconry Papers*, at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, there are references to the Kencot bells, by which we may learn the approximate date when the other bell disappeared, viz :—

1778. A bell out of repair. (*Oxon.*, c. 79, fol. 159.).

1833. Bell ordered by Archdeacon not finished. (*Ibid.*, fol. 238.).

1837. One bell broken. (*Oxon.* c. 40, fol. 140.).

1868. Only two bells. (*Ibid.*, fol. 164.).

The smaller bell is inscribed¹ :—

(Cross, Fig. QII.) Sancte (Coin.) Iacobe
Ora Pro Nobis (Shield, Fig. P8.) / these
iiij belles with the steple and porche / of this
chirche of kencote been of the gifte / and coste of
robert weston mercer of london / and margret
his wyfe

The larger bell is inscribed :—

Sancta (Cross, Fig. QII.) Anna (Coin.) Ora
(Coin.) Pro (Coin.) Nobis (Shield, Fig. P8.)

Both bells retain their canons, which are ornamented with mouldings, and have not been quarter-turned². The cross, shield and lettering on the tenor and on the upper inscription band of the treble are the well-known products of Culverden's foundry³; the lettering on the waist of the treble is found on the saunce at Fladbury, Worcestershire⁴, but is not known to occur elsewhere. The tenor is illustrated in Fig. 25.

Robert Weston may have lived in the parish of St. Mary at Hill, London, for which Culverden did some work in 1510⁵. The name of John Weston occurs in the accounts of this parish about that time.

The bells hang in an oak frame of interesting design coeval in date with them. The foundation beams span the tower from east to west; on them, placed north and south, are the bottom cills of the bellframe, on which are mounted the king posts which in turn are fitted with very short frame-heads; connecting the king posts with the cills on both sides are curved main braces and straight jack braces, and rope transomes running east and west connect the main braces of each bell pit with one another.

Both bells are hung to their original elm headstocks; the supporting ironwork of the tenor has been renewed and is now of the bolted type; the ironwork of the treble is original and

¹ The inscription on the Kencot treble is given *in extenso* together with a description of William Culverden's work by C. Deedes and H. B. Walters, in *The Church Bells of Essex*, 1909, pp. 42-43.

² A process which ought not to be long delayed if they are to be preserved.

³ J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, *Surrey Bells and London Bellfounders*, 1884, p. 90. J. J. Raven, *The Church Bells of Suffolk*, 1890, p. 37 ff.

⁴ H. B. Walters, *The Church Bells of Worcestershire*, 1930, p. 121.

⁵ C. B. Littlehales, *The Medieval Accounts of a City Church*, 1904, p. 275, quoted by H. B. Walters. MS., Society of Antiquaries Library.

nailed to the headstock¹. The clappers are the medieval stirrup-topped type, to which seventeenth century wooden heads have been added. The medieval half-wheels have been converted into complete wheels of non-traditional pattern by the addition of extra spokes and new raves and soles. The brass bearings of the tenor have been renewed : those of the treble are medieval. The tenor is fitted with a seventeenth century rope roller : the treble has a nineteenth century ground pulley².

Visited : H.B.W., 3rd April, 1899 ; W.M.E.S., F.S., 12th April, 1950.

152.

KIDDINGTON.

St. Nicholas.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells ; tenor 33 inches diameter, in B.

The treble, which weighs 4 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs., was recast in 1875 by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, who reproduced in facsimile its former inscription without adding their own names, founders' mark or the date of recasting³. The bell is inscribed :—

∴ SAMUEL : GOMM : IOHN : SLATTER : C : W :
MATTHEW : BAGLEY : MADE : MEE : 1757

The second is roughly moulded and poor in tone ; it bears no inscription and, judged by its shape, may be a sixteenth century casting.

The tenor is inscribed with its maker's name and date :—

✻ IAMES KEENE ✻ MADE ✻ ME ✻ 1629

The bells hang in an oak frame which has been patched up so many times that it is difficult to judge its age. The gear, type A, was renewed in 1875 by Mr. Alfred White.

¹ For an illustration of this type of supporting ironwork see *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, vol. xlv, plate xvii (A) and Fig. 91.

² For a diagram illustrating most of the technical terms used in this paragraph see *Oxfordshire Record Society*, vol. xxviii., p. 7.

³ On July 22nd, 1933, the writer was told by Mr. Richard White, the bell-hanger, of Appleton, that a Cumnor man, Charles Varney by name, used to tune bells for his grandfather, gratis, as a hobby, and that Varney had the misfortune to crack the former Kiddington treble while cutting out the crown-staple. According to Mr. White, Varney himself paid for the recasting of this bell in 1875. The particulars of the date and weight of this bell have been derived from the White-chapel foundry records.

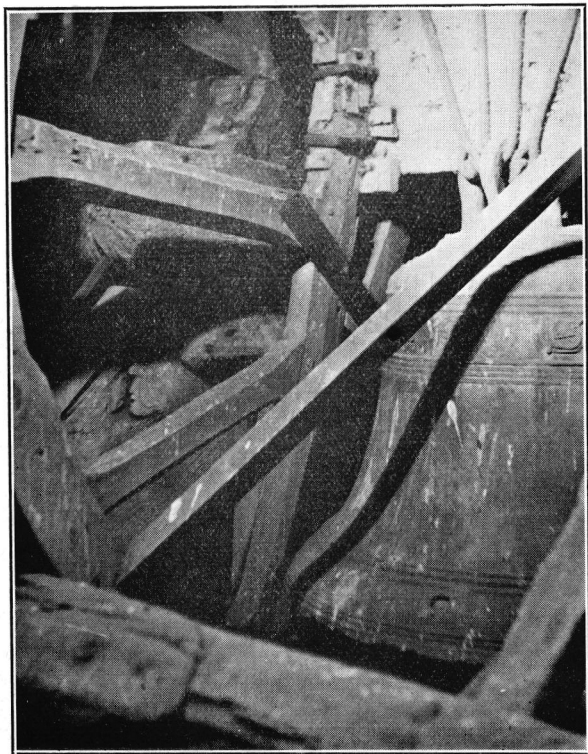


Fig. 25. Kencot. The early sixteenth century tenor bell with oak frame and majority of gear of the same date.

On the floor of the church stands the disused saunce ; it has lost one of its canons and is now cracked ; it also has a false crown-staple. Its principal dimensions are :—diameter $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches, height from lip to crown 10 inches, canons $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches high, and argent $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. The bell is inscribed :—

⌘ + ⌘

Its founder is unknown¹. Although not identical the cross is similar in shape to that used by J. Sturdy, a fifteenth century London founder.

Visited : F.S., 11th June, 1933 ; W.M.E.S., F.S., 15th April, 1949.

153. KIDLINGTON.

St. Mary.

A central tower with spire containing a ring of eight bells ; tenor $52\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, in D ; and a sanctus bell, 18 inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. 1897. / PRESENTED BY WILLIAM BRAIN, ESQ. / IN MEMORY OF HIS GRANDPARENTS / WILLIAM AND MARY BRAIN. / A.C.R. FREEBORN, VICAR. / W. BRAIN, E. H. MARTIN, } CHURCHWARDENS. / WEBB & BENNETT, BELLHANGERS, KIDLINGTON.	6 2 2
Second	(Same as treble, but with the last line omitted.)	7 0 21
Third.	RICHARD KEENE MADE ME 1661 / RECAST BY MEARS & STAINBANK, LONDON. 1897. / A. C. R. FREEBORN, VICAR. / W. BRAIN, E. H. MARTIN, } CHURCHWARDENS.	8 1 2
Fourth.	BARTHOLOMEW * ATTON * MADE * ME * THE * TREBLELL ² * TO * BE * 1621 / RECAST BY MEARS & STAINBANK, LONDON. / A. C. R. FREEBORN, VICAR. / W. BRAIN, E. H. MARTIN, } CHURCHWARDENS. / 1897.	9 2 3

¹ It is possible that the initials "M.W." stand for "Michell, Wokingham." John Michell was casting bells in that town at the end of the fifteenth century.

² Sic.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Fifth†.	WM: COSIER THO: DAWSON WM: TURRELL CH: WARDENS 1715 (<i>Border,</i> <i>Fig. D8.</i>) A(Bell)R (<i>Border, Fig. D14.</i>)	11	2	0½
Sixth.	THIS BELL WAS MADE 1610 W + P / RECAST BY MEARS & STAINBANK, LONDON. / A. C. R. FREEBORN, VICAR. / W. BRAIN, E. H. MARTIN, } CHURCHWARDENS. / 1897.	13	0	6
Seventh.†	IOHN SANDERS IOHN SPRINGALL LAURENC ¹ PENN C W 1700	18	0	0½
Tenor.†	THO: DAWSON RICH: STIMPSON. LAURENCE PENN CHURCHWARDENS A: R (Bell.) 1708 / (<i>Border, Fig. D14,</i> <i>all round bell.</i>)	23	2	0½
Saunce.	THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1800.	1	1	0½

The treble and second, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, were added to the ring in 1897. At the same time the treble, second and fourth of the former ring of six were recast at the Whitechapel foundry to form the third, fourth and sixth of the augmented ring of eight. The new bells have "Doncaster" pattern heads. The first line of the inscription on the third has been reproduced in lettering similar to, but not identical with, that used by Richard Keene on the former treble; the first line of the inscription on the fourth is formed in the same lettering. On the sixth an attempt has been made to reproduce the lettering formerly used by Thomas Lawrence, of London, in the first quarter of the sixteenth century, which William Yare, the founder of the predecessor of this bell, had acquired from Joseph Carter¹.

The third, fifth and tenor of the old ring are incorporated in the present one as the fifth, seventh and tenor². The seventh is by the Chandlers, of Drayton Parslow; the other two are by Abraham Rudhall I. The saunce is by Thomas Mears I².

¹ Thomas Lawrence's lettering is illustrated in Fig. 89 of *The Church Bells of Berkshire. The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, vol. xlv, 1942, p. 17. On the Kidlington bell the letters T and W differ from the Berkshire examples.

² Mrs. Bryan Stapleton, *Three Oxfordshire Parishes*, Oxford His. Soc., vol. xxiv, 1893, p. 53, states:—"1800. This year the Tenor or Sans bell was recast by Thos. Mears, of London, at a cost of £5.10.0." The tenor was not recast at this time, and the inscriptions recorded on p. 54 of Mrs. Stapleton's book are incorrect.

Prior to the construction of the ringing chamber floor in 1837 the bells were rung from the ground floor of the church¹. They were rehung with gear, type B, in a wrought iron side-pattern frame by Messrs. Webb and Bennett, of Kidlington, in 1897.

A tablet on the west wall of the ringing chamber commemorates the ringing of a record peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and is inscribed :—

"PRAISE HIM UPON THE LOUD CYMBALS. / (Bell.) / ON MONDAY MAY 22ND. 1899 / A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT / BOB MAJOR. CONTAINING 17,024 CHANGES / WAS RUNG ON THESE BELLS IN ELEVEN / HOURS AND FIFTEEN MINUTES BY / EIGHT MEMBERS OF THE OXFORD / **Diocesan Guild**. / HARRY G. JUDGE TREBLE / ALFRED F. REEVES 2nd / CHARLES R. LILLEY 3rd / JOHN TUCKER 4th / WILLIAM BENNETT 5th / FRANK HOPGOOD 6th / EDWIN HIMS 7th / JAMES W. WASHBROOK TENOR / Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK / WEIGHT OF TENOR 26 CWT.² / *This Is The Greatest Length In Any Method Ever Rung By Eight Men Only.*³ / THE REV. A. C. R. FREEBORN, VICAR. / WILLIAM BRAIN, A. H. CALCUTT, CHURCHWARDENS."

Visited : F.S., 4th November, 1944.

154.

KIDMORE END.

St. John-the-Baptist.

An open western turret containing one bell, hung for chiming. The turret is lofty and the author regrets that he has been unable to scale it. When viewed from the churchyard the bell appears to be of the usual mid-nineteenth century type. The church was built *circa* 1852.

Visited : F.S., 22nd April, 1950.

155.

KINGHAM.

St. Andrew.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells† ; tenor inches diameter, in F #.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Treble.	GIVE UNTO THE LORD THE GLORY DUE UNTO HIS NAME (Border.) / 19(Loughborough foundry mark.) ²⁴	3	2	5
Second.	WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS (Border.) / 19(Loughborough foundry mark.) ²⁴	3	3	17

¹ Mrs. Bryan Stapleton, *ut sup.*, p. 53.

² *Sic.*

³ Greater lengths have been rung on other numbers of bells.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt. Qrs. Lbs.</i>
Third.	PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>) A(<i>Bell.</i>)R (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>) 1723 / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) RECAST 1924	4 0 6
Fourth.	ABR RVDHALL CAST VS ALL 1723 (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) RECAST 1924	4 1 16
Fifth.	PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH (<i>Fig. D8.</i>) A(<i>Bell.</i>)R (<i>Fig. D8.</i>) 1723 (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) RECAST 1924	5 1 18
Sixth.	GEO DOWDESWELL GT. & THO : HACKER GT. CH WARDENS (<i>Fig. D10.</i>) A(<i>Bell.</i>)R 1723 / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) RECAST 1924	6 2 10
Seventh.	(<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>) A(<i>Bell.</i>)R (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>) 1723 (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>) / (<i>Vine border, Fig. D14, all round bell.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) RECAST 1924	8 2 17
Tenor.	I TO THE CHVRCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SVMMON ALL (<i>Border.</i>) 1723 (<i>Border.</i>) / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) RECAST 1924	12 1 4

A complete ring from the Loughborough foundry. The former six bells, cast in 1723 by Abraham Rudhall II, were recast and augmented to eight in 1924 by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., who admirably reproduced in facsimile on the new bells the inscriptions and marks formerly on their predecessors. At the same time they installed a new cast iron H-pattern frame, and gear, type M.

In the Walters' MS. at the Society of Antiquaries Library are notes by the Rev. T. A. Turner on the old bells. Turner states that there was formerly a saunce bell, 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, by Thomas Rudhall, inscribed :—

COME AWAY MAKE NO DELAY 1776










Visited : T.A.T., 22nd July, 1893 ; F.S., 15th June, 1948.

156.

KINGSEY¹.

St. Nicholas.

A south-western tower containing a chime of three bells ; tenor 39 inches diameter, in A \flat ²; and a sanctus bell, 14 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY, LONDON, 1896.	5	3	10
Second.	IAMES  KEENE  MADE  MEE  1625 A H  / (<i>Vine border,</i> <i>Fig. A6.)</i>	7	3	0‡
Tenor.	IAMES (<i>Border, Fig. A6.)</i> KEENE (<i>Border, Fig. A6.)</i>  MADE  ME  1628 	10	2	0‡

The treble was recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1896 and has a "Doncaster" type head. The former bell, by Ellis Knight I, bore the inscription³ :—

FEARE GOD 1632

Of James Keene's bells the second was probably cast at Bedford and the tenor at Woodstock ; the fleur-de-lys on the second is Fig. Q8 ; that on the tenor is Fig. A2. The saunce bears no inscription, and is not unlike Keene's castings. The three old bells retain their canons.

The church was rebuilt in 1893 and the three largest bells were then hung "dead" ; they are sounded by means of hammers worked from a clavier. The saunce is hung for chiming and retains its original headstock : the supporting ironwork is keyed and nailed.

6 Edw. VI. *Kyngfeye. iij belles in the styple. ij hand belles & a sacryng bell.*

At Tythrop House, the property of Messrs. W. S. Deeley and E. Pennington, are two bells which are not now hung.

The larger of these, 16 inches in diameter, weighing 105 lbs., and having the strike-note C², was cast at the Reading foundry and bears the date :—

1691

¹ Formerly in Buckinghamshire.

² Approximate strike-note.

³ A. H. Cocks, *ut sup.*, p. 437.

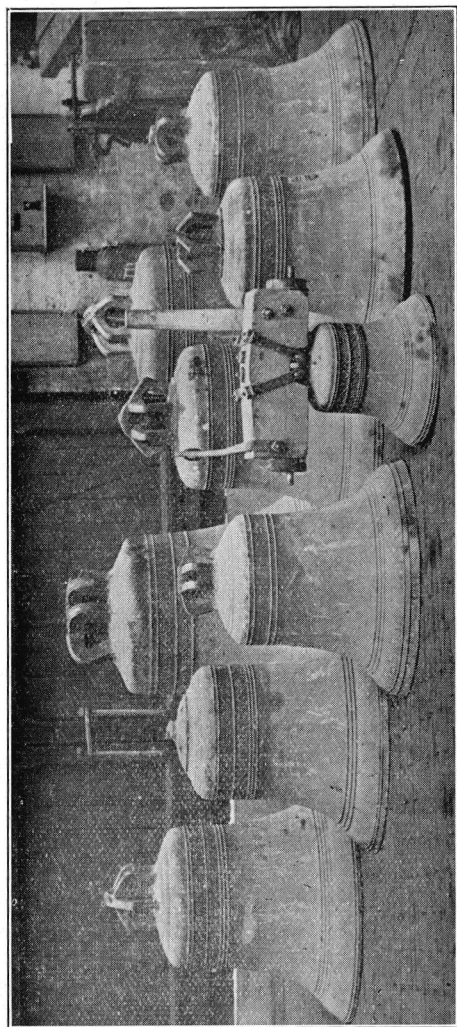


Fig. 26. Kirtlington. The ring of eight bells and sanctus bell at the foundry of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. The photograph was taken prior to the removal of the canons of the bells and the recasting of the treble and seventh.

Photo :

Messrs. J. Taylor & Co.

It was formerly the clock bell, and was also hung for swing chiming. The gear was coeval in date with the bell.

The other bell, 12 inches in diameter, weighing 40 lbs. and having the strike-note F¹, was formerly the fire bell. It was probably cast at the Oxford foundry and bears the date :—

1827

The bell has an argent and two canons only.

Visited : (Kingsley) F.S., 7th August, 1948 ; (Tythrop House) W.S.D., F.S., 1st June, 1950.

157.

KINGSTON BLOUNT².

St. John-the-Evangelist.

An open central bell-cote containing one modern bell with peg-type argent, iron headstock and lever, hung for chiming. The author has not scaled the bell-cote, but when viewed from the churchyard the bell appears to be of similar type to one at Whitchurch Hill.

Visited : F.S., 22nd April, 1950.

158.

KIRTLINGTON.

St. Mary.

A central tower containing a ring of eight bells†; tenor 47½ inches diameter, in E ; and a sanctus bell, 18 inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Treble.	ROBERT (<i>Fig. Q13.</i>) DASHWOOD (<i>Fig. Q13.</i>) E :: SQVIER (<i>Fig. Q13, twice.</i>) J7J8 (<i>Border, Fig. A9.</i>) ♣ (<i>Fig. A9.</i>) (<i>Fig. Q13.</i>) ♣ / + I WAS RECAST / BY GIFT OF / THE DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS / 1938 / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>) / (<i>Two shields, bearing Arms of Dashwood.</i>)	5	1	3
Second.	SR ♣ ROBERT ♣ DASHWOOD ♣ BARRONETT ♣ H ♣ B ♣ 1718 ♣ ♣ / RECAST BY C & G MEARS LONDON 1853 / (<i>Two shields, bearing Arms of Dashwood.</i>)	5	0	20

¹ Approximate strike-note.

² A chapelry in the parish of Aston Rowant.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Third.	O SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG. H. B. MA ¹ ME 1718. / RECAST AT THE EXPENSE OF THE PARISH 1870. / MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.	5 2 25
Fourth.	HIS ✻ SOUND ✻ SHALL ✻ BE ✻ HEARD ✻ IN ✻ THE ✻ HOLY ✻ PLACE J7J8 ✻ / HENRY ✻ BAGLEY ✻ MADE ✻ THIS ♣ RING ♣ TO BE SEEN IN THE : Y ¹ : O LORD ✻	6 1 20
Fifth.	AND (<i>Figs. J2 and A8.</i>) THE (<i>Figs. J2 and A8.</i>) FIFTH (<i>Figs. J2 and A8.</i>) SOVND ¹ ED (<i>Fig. Q13.</i>) H (<i>Fig. Q13.</i>) B (<i>Fig. Q13.</i>) J7J8 (<i>Fig. F1.</i>)	7 2 12
Sixth.	THE ✻ KINGDOMS ♣ OF ✻ THIS ♣ WORLD ✻ ARE ✻ OVR ♣ LORDS ✻ ♣ ✻ J7J8 ♣ ✻ / BE IT KNOWNE ♣ TO ✻ ALL ♣ THAT ✻ DO ♣ MEE ✻ SE ¹ THAT H BAGLEY HE MADE MEE ✻ / (<i>Two shields, bearing Arms of Dashwood.</i>)	9 0 13
Seventh.	CHRIST ✻ SHALL ♣ REIGN ✻ FOR ✻ EUER ♣ AND ✻ EUER ♣ H BAGLEY ✻ MADE MEE ✻ J7J8 ♣ / TO THE GLORY OF GOD / THIS BELL WAS RECAST AND REHUNG / AT THE EXPENSE OF THE BARRON BELL TRUST. / 1938. / EMMA BARRON, FOUNDER. / E. HOPKINS, C. M. WALROND, H. W. ELDRED, TRUSTEES. / (<i>Loughborough foundry mark.</i>)	13 0 4
Tenor.	I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL A(<i>Bell.</i>)R 1753 (<i>Border.</i>) / (<i>Floral border all round bell.</i>)	16 1 19
Saunce.	WALTER. PRIOR. THOMAS. KERBY. CHVRCH. WARDENS. H.B.MA. ¹ ME.J7J8. (<i>Border.</i>)	1 1 0‡

¹ *Sic.*

The treble and seventh were recast at the Loughborough foundry in 1938 ; their predecessors were by Henry Bagley III, who in 1718 cast the complete ring, of which the fourth, fifth and sixth remain ; he also cast the saunce. On the treble, second, fourth, sixth and seventh Fig. A10 is indicated by the sign ☼ and the fleur-de-lys is Fig. A8. The second and third were recast at the Whitechapel foundry, and the tenor at the Gloucester foundry. An illustration of the bells in the Loughborough foundry prior to rehanging is given in Fig. 26. Messrs. Taylor also supplied a new cast iron side-pattern frame and gear, type M.

Prior to 1718 the ring consisted of five bells which were then recast into six and two lighter ones added at the expense of Sir Robert Dashwood and his son Robert¹.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 5 belles.*

Visited : F.S., 1923-1949.

159.

LANGFORD.

St. Matthew.

A central tower containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 36½ inches diameter, in A.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	STEPHEN TRINDER LOUEDEN BOUCHER CHURCHWARDENS H B J74J / (Cable moulding and border all round bell.)	4
Second.	STEPHEN TRINDER LOVEDEN BOUCHER CHVRCH WARDENS H B J74J :	4½
Third.	STEPHEN TRINDER LOVEDEN BOUCHER C W H BAGLEY MADE MEE (Scroll.) J74J	5
Fourth.	: UNTO THE LORD LIFT UP YOVR (Scroll.) AND IN HIS NAME LET US REOYCE ² (Scroll.) H B J74J	6
Tenor.	STEPHEN TRINDER LOVEDEN BOUCHER CHURCHWARDENS H B J74J	8

¹ For further details see F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, pp. 33—40. The weights there given however are only approximate and are prior to tuning and removal of canons.

² *Sic.* The word "VOICE" has been omitted from this inscription ; its place is taken by the first scroll.

A complete ring by Henry Bagley III, probably cast at his Witney foundry. The tenor is cracked in the crown. The eighteenth century oak frame is largely constructed of second-hand timbers ; and both it and the fittings, type A, were in poor condition when examined by the author. A complete restoration is under consideration.

Visited : J.R.C., F.S., 11th September, 1949.

160.

LAUNTON.

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells†; tenor 33 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches diameter, in B ♯ ; and a sanctus bell, 14 inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Treble.	GILLETT & JOHNSTON, FOUNDERS, CROYDON. 1907 / (<i>Floral border all round bell.</i>) / IN MEMORY OF / RICHARD THOMAS STAPLES-BROWN / AND ANN HIS WIFE	2	1	17
Second.	1701. RECAST BY GILLETT & JOHNSTON, CROYDON. 1907. / (<i>Border, as on treble.</i>)	2	3	14
Third.	(<i>Same as second.</i>)	3	2	20
Fourth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	4	0	27
Fifth.	(<i>The same.</i>)	5	0	23
Tenor.	CHANDLER MADE ME 1712. RECAST BY GILLETT & JOHNSTON, CROYDON. 1907. / (<i>Border, as on treble.</i>)	7	0	5

A complete ring from the Croydon foundry. The five former bells were recast and a treble added in 1907. At the same time Messrs. Gillett and Johnston installed a cast-iron H-pattern frame and gear, type N. In 1936 the writer installed an apparatus by means of which ringing may be practised and the bells be heard in the ringing chamber while being inaudible one hundred yards from the church. Two years later new gudgeons and self-aligning ball bearings were fitted to the headstocks by Mr. Richard White.

The saunce hangs in the east window of the belfry and is still used (*inter alia*) for the purpose for which its medieval predecessor was installed. It retains its canons, has been half-turned and is hung for chiming. The present bell was cast at the Drayton Parslow foundry and bears in the well-known type used by the Chandlers the date :—

The former ring of five bells was also cast by members of the Chandler family, probably either by Richard Chandler II and his nephews, Richard III and George, or by any one or two of them. Rubbings of the inscriptions on these bells are preserved in the Turner Collection at the Society of Antiquaries Library. The treble, second, third and fourth were each inscribed with the date :—

1701

The tenor bore the inscription :—

CHANDLER MADE ME 1712

In a MS. compiled by a former rector, the late Rev. J. C. Bloomfield, historian of the Bicester Deanery, and now kept at Launton Rectory, are several references to the bells. Blomfield states that soon after the middle of the twelfth century (i.e., when the tower was built) there was one bell in addition to the saunce. He quotes a memorandum, found among the Court Rolls, in which it is stated that in the year 1416 two more bells, weighing between them 12 cwt. 11 lbs., were purchased. In the same document mention is made of one other bell, weighing approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., which was to be either cast or recast. That the medieval ring consisted of three bells, and that in addition there was also a saunce, is proved by the inventory made by the Commissioners of King Edward VI in the year 1552, in which it is stated that the church then possessed :—

Item. iij belles in the stepull and the saunce bell.

Evidence that the three bells in the ring were of such a size that their respective weights would be approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$, 5 and 7 cwt. exists in the belfry today. When the medieval bell-frame was dismantled the upper portion of the belfry was enlarged by the removal of the inner lining of the east wall, and the rope-transome¹ of the medieval bell-frame was converted into a lintel to support the wall above the portion thus removed. The transome reveals the holes much worn by the friction of bell ropes in bygone days, and from it we may ascertain the sizes and positions of the bell-pits. The frame appears to have been similar to that at Kencot, described on p. 183, but to have been installed with the bells swinging east and west instead of north and south as in the Kencot example².

¹ The beam connecting the curved main braces of a medieval bell-frame. Its function was to prevent the bell-pits spreading under live load and to keep the bellropes in the groves of the half-wheels.

² For additional details see F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, pp. 40—41. A much fuller account was published in *The Ringing World*, dated 3rd November, 1944.

At "Derwen" in this parish the author has a ring of four bells ; tenor 13 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter, in E ♭ .

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>
Treble.	1942
Second.†	MEARS & STAINBANK (<i>Loop ornament.</i>) F. SHARPE. / (<i>Cross, Fig. B1.</i>) (<i>Whitechapel foundry mark.</i>) 1947. / INTACTUM SILEO PERCUTE DULCE CANO
Third.	1766
Tenor.	UOX (<i>Fig. P11, twice.</i>) MEA (<i>Fig. P11, twice.</i>) SONAT (<i>Fig. P11, twice.</i>) / (<i>Fig. P11.</i>) EDWARD HEMINS FECIT MAY THE 28 J743

The treble is by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston ; it has four canons in lieu of six. The second was cast at the Whitechapel foundry from the metal salvaged from the canons of the seventh bell at Ambrosden. These were removed when the bells were rehung in 1928 and became the property of the bellfounders as part of their contract for the rehanging of the ring. Messrs J. Taylor and Co., however, gave them to the late Rev. C. C. David Oake, who gave them to the writer. A similar Latin inscription to that on the second is found on a silver bell belonging to The Ancient Society of College Youths, a London Ringing Society, founded in 1637, of which the writer is a member. The third may be either the work of Thomas Swain or a product of the Aldbourne foundry. It is a rough casting with canons and argent of the traditional type. It was discovered in 1940 by F. M. Underhill, Esq., F.S.A., in a smithy at Pangbourne, and until that date had rarely been used. The tenor was formerly the clock bell at Caversfield House. It has lost one of its canons and is badly indented in two places on the sound-bow by the action of the clock hammer. It bears the same date and portions of the same inscription as that on the fifth bell at Ambrosden¹, and both bells were probably cast at the same time in the Bicester foundry. At the time of going to press the treble is hung for ringing with gear, type G, in an oak frame : the others are at the moment dismantled².

¹ See Vol. I, p. 16.

² These four bells, together with the two from Tythrop House described on p. 190, the author's handbells and a large collection of medieval bellfounders' marks, plaster casts, lead casting patterns, rubbings of bell inscriptions, drawings and photographs, were exhibited at Christ Church, Oxford, on 15th July, 1950.

The author has also a collection of fifty-three musical handbells¹ cast at various dates from the seventeenth century to the present day. They include two by William and Robert Cor, 1696, each bearing the founders' mark, Fig. Q12, representing a dabchick, above the letters "W R COR". One of these retains its original wooden handle of the type used prior to the introduction of leather straps and crown pads : the other has been turned to fit into the author's main set of handbells. There are two bells by William Cor, 1699, bearing the dabchick mark between the initials "W.C." One has been tuned to form part of the main set of handbells ; the other is preserved in its original condition and possesses a primitive form of crown staple and three-pronged clapper. These four bells have hemispherical heads and are some of the earliest examples of musical handbells known to campanologists. Another rare casting bears a fleur-de-lys mark between the initials "E.H." : it is the only known example of a musical handbell by Edward Hemins and dates from *circa* 1730. Nine bells by Robert Wells may be classified into two groups : those without pattern numbers date from *circa* 1760 ; those with pattern numbers date from *circa* 1780 : the majority bear his initials cast in relief inside the bell similar to those on the saunce at Fringford and have been tuned to form part of the writer's set. Of twenty-four bells by Henry Bond, *circa* 1870, about half have at present been tuned ; they bear a pattern number with, or without, the maker's mark "H.B." The bourdon bell, note G, size 25, is by John Shaw, of Bradford, *circa* 1880. Modern bells in the set consist of examples by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., Messrs. J. Warner and Sons, Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, and ten cast at various dates between 1931 and 1949 by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. Mr. Richard White supplied one bell in 1926. In addition to these, four bells in the main set are by unknown founders ; they bear no marks or pattern numbers. These bells have often been used in the Parish Church, and the choir has on many occasions sung to the accompaniment of the largest ones, a set of twelve with a tenor, size 21, in D natural. Consideration for space prevents the inscriptions on these bells being given *in extenso*.

¹ So called to distinguish them from small house bells, or handbells such as used by Town Criers and others which are not tuned, and which are usually shrill and penetrating in tone. Musical handbells have far deeper and softer notes than other small bells of the same size.

161.

LEAFIELD¹.

St. Michael.

A western tower with spire containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 40½ inches diameter, in A ♭ .

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>		
Treble.	J : TAYLOR & Co., FOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1874	4	3	11
Second.	(Same as treble.)	5	1	16
Third.	J: TAYLOR & Co., BELLFOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1874	6	2	24
Fourth.	(Same as treble.)	7	0	25
Fifth.	J: TAYLOR & Co., BELLFOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1874 / GIVEN BY JOSEPH GAMES GIBBS M.A. VICAR / AND SAMUEL HORSFALL EDELSTEN CHURCHWARDEN / TO THE HONOUR & GLORY OF ALMIGHTY GOD / A.D. 1874.	8	3	11
Tenor.	J: TAYLOR & Co., BELLFOUNDERS LOUGHBOROUGH 1874 / GIVEN BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA / TO THE HONOUR & GLORY OF ALMIGHTY GOD / A.D. 1874. / I TOLL THE FUNERAL KNELL / I RING THE FESTAL DAY / I MARK THE FLEETING HOURS / AND CHIME THE CHURCH TO PRAY	11	2	21

A complete ring from the Loughborough foundry. As testified by its inscription, the tenor was the gift of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, whose interest in the church may be explained by the situation of the former celebrated royal forest of Wychwood within the parish. The oak frame and gear, type A, are by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.²

Visited : F.S., 27th October, 1934.

¹ Or Leafield-cum-Wychwood.

² The author thinks the gear may have been renewed since the date of his visit.

162.

LEIGH, NORTH.¹

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 38 inches diameter, in G ; and a sanctus bell.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1875. / "REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS"	4	0	16
Second.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1875. / "HALLELUJAH"	4	3	3
Third.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1875. / "PEACE ON EARTH"	5	1	22
Fourth.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / "GOOD WILL TO MEN" / REV ^D . R. W. FISKE, VICAR / JAS. LONG, THOS. TOWNSEND } CHURCHWARDENS. / A.D. 1875.	5	2	24
Fifth.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON 1875. / "O COME LET US WORSHIP"	7	2	20
Tenor.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1875. / "REJOIC ² IN THE LORD ALWAYS"	9	3	15

A complete ring from the Whitechapel foundry. The bells hang in an ancient oak frame and are fitted with gear, type A. Kelly's *Directory* states that the six bells were cast from the previous five at a cost of £130. In the Walters' MS. is a note that the former ring was by Richard Keene, but no references are given for this statement.

The saunce is approximately 12 inches in diameter and is hung in an inaccessible position in the east window of the tower : there is no inscription on the portion of the bell visible from inside the belfry.

Visited : F.S., 1st April, 1933.

163.

LEIGH, SOUTH.³

St. James.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells ; tenor 40 inches diameter, in G ; and a sanctus bell, 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, LONDON. 1907. / GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO.	3	2	24
Second.	MEARS & STAINBANK, LONDON. 1907. / ET IN TERRA PAX HOMINIBUS.	3	2	27

¹ Or Northleigh.

² *Sic.*

³ Or Southleigh.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>			<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Third.	MEARS 1907. /	& STAINBANK, LAUDAMUS TE.	LONDON.	4 0 16
Fourth.	MEARS 1907. /	& STAINBANK, BENEDICIMUS ¹ TE.	LONDON.	5 0 4
Fifth.	MEARS 1907. /	& STAINBANK, ADORAMUS TE.	LONDON.	5 2 27
Sixth.	MEARS 1907. /	& STAINBANK, GLORIFICAMUS TE.	LONDON.	5 3 21
Seventh.	MEARS 1907. /	& STAINBANK, GRATIAS AGIMUS TIBI.	LONDON.	7 3 1
Tenor.	MEARS 1907. /	& STAINBANK, AGNUS DEI QUI TOLLIS / PECCATA MUNDI MISERERE NOBIS	LONDON.	10 1 26

A complete ring from the Whitechapel foundry. The bells have "Doncaster" pattern heads and hang with gear, type B, in a wrought-iron side-pattern frame made by Messrs. Webb and Bennett.

The saunce is hung for chiming in a separate frame above the ring. Its principal dimensions are :—diameter $15\frac{3}{4}$ inches, height from lip to crown $13\frac{1}{2}$ inches, canons $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high plus argent, and thickness of sound-bow 1 inch. It is an early fourteenth century casting of similar type to the saunce at Cholsey, Berkshire², with inscription band placed very high on the shoulder angle ; it has a false crown staple and has been quarter-turned. Unfortunately it bears no inscription or founders' marks.

Details of the former ring of three bells ; tenor $37\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, in G³.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>			<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	STEPHEN · WISE : RICHARD · SMITH : C : W : HENRY · BAGLEY · MADE · ME : MAY J730			6 2 24
Second.	EDWARD SPIER RICHARD FOSTER C W HENRY BAGLEY MADE MEE 1709			7 3 5
Tenor.	RAPH ♣ TRINDAR ♣ THOMAS HVNT ♣ GARDIANS ♣ IAMES KEENE MADE ME 1627			8 3 21

¹ *Sic.*

² F. Sharpe, *The Church Bells of Berkshire*, § 51, *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol XLIV, 1940, p. 29, and plate v.

³ A. White's *Notebook*, fol. 17 ; and Walters' MS., fol. 167.

The treble and second were by Henry Bagley III ; the tenor came from the Woodstock foundry. Three eighteenth century clappers are preserved in the tower.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles. Item the saunce bell.*

Visited : A.W., circa 1850 ; F.S., 22nd October, 1949.

164.

LEW¹.**The Holy Trinity.**

A southern tower with spire containing one bell. The author regrets he has been unable to examine it, but in the Walters' MS.² is a note stating that it was inspected by Mr. L. H. Chambers, in April, 1920, and that it bears the inscription :—

THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON 1841

165.

LEWKNOB.

St. Margaret.

A western tower containing a ring of five bells³ ; tenor 45 inches in diameter ; and a sanctus bell, 17 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	SR ⁴ ROBERT ⁴ NOWLS ⁴ FR ⁴ KNOWLS ⁴ X636	5½
Second.	FEARE GOD	6½
Third.	HOPE XN GOD	7½
Fourth.	PRAYES GOD	10
Tenor.	PRAYES GOD X636	15
Saunce.	J744	½

The ring is by Ellis Knight I ; the saunce may be either by Henry Bagley III or Thomas Lester. The oak frame and gear are by Mr. Richard White.

7 Edw. VI. *Item 4 belles and a santus bell.*

Visited : F.S., 16th April, 1932.

¹ A chapelry in the parish of Bampton ; also known as Bampton Lew.

² Walters' MS. Society of Antiquaries Library.

³ As this work is going to press it is learnt that the number of bells in the ring is to be increased to six.

⁴ *Sic.*

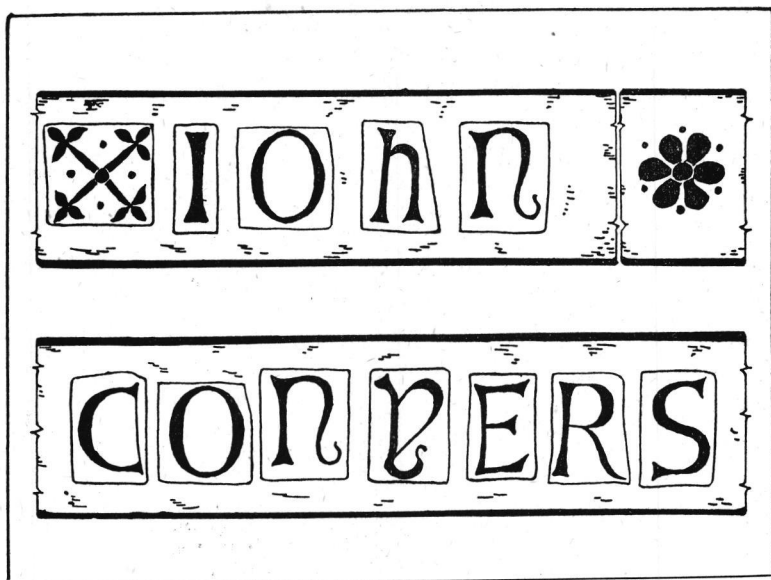


Fig. 27. Mollington. Half-scale details of inscription on the sanctus bell.

166.

LITTLEMORE.

SS. Mary and Nicholas.

A northern tower containing one bell, $34\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, hung for ringing. It was cast by C. and G. Mears in 1848 and bears an incised inscription :—

LITTLEMORE CHURCH 1848.

Visited : A.R.P., 6th May, 1948.

167.

LYNEHAM.

St. Michael and All Angels¹.

The church, an iron structure, contains one small bell, which the author regrets he has been unable to examine.

¹ A chapelry in the ecclesiastical parish of Milton-under-Wychwood.

168.

MAPLEDURHAM. •

St. Margaret.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 36 inches diameter, in A.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	RECAST ANNO DOMINI J787 IOHN ALLAWAY CHURCH WARDEN * T: JANAWAY (<i>Border.</i>) / FECIT	3½
Second.	RECAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS LONDON 1907	3½
Third.	LET YOVAR HOPE BE XN THE LORD E ♣ K X623 ♣	4½
Fourth.	1664 SEX SVMVS. ET QVAMVIS RARA EST CONCORDIA FRATRVM. / NOS SEX CONCORDES. HARMONICIQVE SVMVS.	4½
Fifth.	WALTER CRESSELL C W COELESTAS ¹ TEMET SPHAERAS AVDIRE PVTARES / SI NOS AVDIRES PYTHAGORAE SENEX 1690 ABARAM ¹ ILSLEY + / SK +	6
Tenor.	ROBERT WELLS : ALDBOURNE : FECIT : 1764.	8

The treble was cast at the Chelsea foundry, the second at the Cripplegate foundry, the third, fourth and fifth at the Reading foundry, and the tenor at the Aldbourne foundry. The initials on the third are those of Ellis Knight I, and those on the fifth of Samuel Knight. On the third the letter N is reversed. The inscription on the tenor occurs on the sound-bow. The former second was also by the Knights, of Reading, and inscribed²:—

NON BRVTVM ; AST HOMINEM
DELECTAT MVSICA ; QVIDNAM EST
IGITVR QVEM NON MVSICA NOSTRA
IVVAT 1664

The ring hangs in an oak frame of unusual design, and probably of local make, and is fitted with gear, type A.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 bellys.*

Visited : H.B.W., 1893 ; F.S., 18th April, 1949.

¹ *Sic.*

² Walters' MS. Society of Antiquaries Library.

169.

MARSTON, OLD.**St. Nicholas.**

A western tower containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 31 inches diameter, in C. The four smallest bells bear no inscriptions ; the tenor is inscribed :—

THIS PEAL¹ WAS RECAST BY W. & J.

TAYLOR OXFORD OCTR 17. 1823.

JOHN CANNON & WILLM LEAKE C.W.

In the Walters' MS. at the Society of Antiquaries Library is a note stating :— "The churchwardens' accounts here begin in 1529, and go down almost continuously except for a gap in the middle of the seventeenth century. I am however informed by Dr. G. N. Clark that there are no interesting entries at Marston, relating to the bells, merely small repairs, the earliest being in 1547. It would seem that the predecessors of the present ring were either medieval bells, or else recast in the period 1620-1660."²

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 small belles in the steple and oon sanctus bell.*

Visited : F.S., 12th April, 1930. Subsequently, the bells were rehung with gear, type E, in a new oak frame by Mr. Richard White.

170.

MARSTON, NEW.**S. Michael and All Angels.**

A western campanile containing one bell, hung for chiming and fitted with deadstock and lever clapper. When viewed from the ground the lower part of the bell may be seen through openings in the lantern at the top of the campanile and it appears to be of modern shape. The author regrets that he has been unable to examine the bell more closely.

Visited : F.S., 2nd September, 1950.

¹ *Sic.*

² The Churchwardens accounts covering the period 1529—1631 were published in *Oxfordshire Record Society's* Vol. VI., 1925. Ed. F. W. Weaver and G. N. Clark.

171.

MERTON.**St. Swithin.**

A western tower containing two bells, $34\frac{3}{4}$ inches and $17\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter respectively, hung for ringing.

The larger bell, formerly the tenor of a ring of six¹, bears the inscription :—

RICH KEENE CAST THIS RING 1694

The smaller bell is inscribed :—

GILLET & Co. CROYDON, 1887. / GOD
SAVE THE QUEEN.

The tenor was rehung with gear, type D, by Mr. Richard White in 1934. The seventeenth century oak frame has pits for six bells, and five were sold in 1796 to assist in defraying the cost of taking down the spire which had become dangerous². The saunce, which was independent of the bells in the ring, was recast in 1887.

6 Edw. VI. *Imprimis 3 belles and a sance bell. Item a hand-bell and a sacryng bell.*

Visited : F.S., 1923-1949.

172.

MIDDLETON STONEY.**All Saints.**

A western tower containing a ring of six bells† ; tenor $38\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in A ♭.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.³</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO. / IN USUM ECCLESIAE. / D.D. VICTOR ALBERT COMES DE JERSEY. / A.D. MDCCCLXXXIII.	4 0 13
Second.	CANTATE DOMINO CANTICVM NOUVM ✠ L CARLTON ⁴ 1717	4 12 0†

¹ In 1696 a faculty was asked for to sell 5 out of 7 bells to meet cost of taking down the spire and roofing the tower. MS. Oxon, b 25, fol. 238, 243-246. Bodleian Library, Oxford. The seven bells comprised a ring of six and the saunce.

² For further details see F. Sharpe, *ut sup.*, 1932, p. 42.

³ The weights recorded here are those prior to the removal of the canons of the bells in 1910.

⁴ *Sic.*

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Third.	HENRY ✠ BAGLEY ✠ MADE ✠ THIS ✠ RING ✠ 1717 (<i>Border, consist- ing of Figs. A10, J2, A8, L7, A10, J2, A8, L5, A10 and A8.</i>)	5 0 0‡
Fourth.	ANTHONEY ¹ CONY THOMAS ROBINS CHVRCHWARDENS ✠ 1717 ✠	6 0 0‡
Fifth.	LORD CARLETON. ANTHONY CONY, THOMAS ROBINS, C. WARDENS, 1717. / RECAST BY GIFT OF THE EARL OF JERSEY 1885. / W. H. DRAPER, RECTOR. / JERSEY, / J. TODD, { CHURCHWARDENS. / MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.	6 3 21
Tenor.	H. BAGLEY MADE MEE 1717 / LET ARONS ¹ BELLS BE CONTINVALLY AMONGST VS RVNG / THE WORD STILL PRCHED ¹ AND HALLALVIAH SVNG / RECAST 1883. / W.H. DRAPER, RECTOR. / JERSEY, / J. TODD { CHURCHWARDENS. / MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.	9 2 12

As may be seen by the inscriptions, five bells were cast for this church by Henry Bagley III, in 1717; to these a treble was added in 1883 by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who recast the fifth and tenor. On the three remaining Bagley bells the fleur-de-lys in each instance is Fig. A8. The reference to Aaron's bells on the tenor is a Bagley favourite, and refers to the first mention of bells in the Bible².

A new wrought-iron frame and fittings, type J, were installed by Messrs. Webb and Bennett in 1910.

There was formerly a saunce, 18½ inches in diameter, by William and Thomas Mears, inscribed with the date:— "1788". The metal of this bell was included in the new treble³.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 gret belles in the tower and one saunce bell and 2 handebelles.*

Visited: F.S., 1923-1949.

¹ *Sic.*

² Exodus, XXVIII, 33.

³ For other details, see Sharpe, *ut sup.*, p. 45.

173.

MILCOMBE.**St. Laurence.**

A western tower containing a ring of three bells ; tenor 37½ inches in diameter ; and a sanctus bell, 18 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Treble.	+ GOD SAVE KING IAMES 1607 (<i>Fig. H3.</i>)	5½
Second.	THOS: COLEMAN INO: BREATHERTON CH=WARDENS A(Bell)R 1750 (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>)	7
Tenor.	+ vBC ❀ E ❀ AOH IKI W ❀ NOd OR S	9

The treble is by Robert Atton, the second by Abel Rudhall, and the tenor by an itinerant founder of 1570-1600, who is also found at Wendlebury and in most of the south-midland counties.

The inscription on the saunce is roughly formed and appears to be :—

+ n o (?) n i i n a

It is probably meant to be "anno" and a date. Its founder is unknown, but a similar bell at Little Brickhill, Buckinghamshire, was placed by Mr. Cocks¹ in a list of conjectural bells by John Appowell.

The centre portion of the oak bell-frame is probably medieval. It was originally constructed for one bell and is now occupied by the tenor. Pits for the treble and second have been formed by inserting short pieces of oak on the east and west window cills. At the end of the last century Mr. F. White fitted a curious oak superstructure to the frame and renewed the gear, type C. The saunce hangs in the south window ; it has seventeenth century keyed ironwork.

Visited : F.S., 9th May, 1934.

¹ A. H. Cocks, *The Church Bells of Buckinghamshire*, 1897, p. 189.

174.

MILTON, GREAT.

St. Mary.

A western tower containing a ring of eight bells ; tenor 46 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in E ; and a sanctus bell, 18 inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	THOS : RUDHALL GLOCESTER FOUNDER 1771 (<i>Border, Fig. D8.</i>)	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Second.	FEAR GOD HONOUR THE KING (<i>Fig. D8.</i>) T (<i>Bell.</i>) R 1771 (<i>Fig. D8.</i>)	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Third.†	PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH (<i>Fig. D8.</i>) T (<i>Bell.</i>) R 1771 (<i>Fig. D8.</i>) / (<i>Border, Fig. D8, all round bell.</i>)	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fourth.†	X AS TREBXL BE GXN	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fifth.†	ELLIS AND HENRY KNIGHT OF READING MADE MEE 1673	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sixth.†	WILLIAM TRINDALL & JAMES FRUIN CH : WARDENS. / CAST BY W: TAYLOR OXFORD DECR: 9: 1848.	9
Seventh.†	(<i>Same as fifth.</i>)	12
Tenor.†	I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVEING ¹ CALL AND TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL : T (<i>Bell.</i>) R 1772	18
Saunce.	JOHN FRANKLIN & SAML: COOPER CHURCHWARDENS. JANRY: 8. 1825	1 $\frac{1}{2}$

The history of the ring is comparatively easy to trace. The Commissioners' inventory of 1552 states :— *Imprimis 4 belles and a sauntus bell.* These probably existed down to 1631 when they were replaced by a "stock" ring of five cast by Ellis Knight I². The evidence for this is found in the inscriptions on the present fourth³ and the predecessor of the sixth⁴. Of this ring of five the second and fourth⁵ were recast by Ellis and Henry Knight in 1673. At some time between the years 1631 and 1764 one more bell was added to augment the number in the ring to six, a fact proved by a quotation from the *Oxford Journal*, given on p. 210, announcing a six-bell ringing contest. The three lightest bells were cast in 1771 by Thomas Rudhall, who in the following year recast the tenor.

¹ *Sic.*

² Other rings of this type were installed at Marsh Baldon, Thame and Whitchurch. qq.v.

³ The treble of Ellis Knight's ring.

⁴ According to W. Parker, *A Guide to the Architectural Antiquities near Oxford*, 1846, p. 312, the predecessor of the sixth was inscribed :— "I AS THIRD RING 1631".

⁵ These two bells are now respectively the fifth and seventh of the ring of eight.

Of these the present third was cast from the metal of the bell mentioned above which had been added to the ring prior to 1764. In the following century the saunce and sixth were recast at the Oxford foundry. Although the tenor had been recast in 1772 this was not known to a contributor to *The Gentleman's Magazine* for 1820 who writes :

"The tenor bell is inscribed with the names of 'Christ. Pettie, Simon Neale, Thos. Prince, Sam. Knight, 1684.' The family of Pettie had formerly very handsome property in this parish and neighbourhood ; upon the last of whom, Christopher Pettie, esq., Dr. Rawlinson makes an observation in his notes to this effect ; that he was much addicted to bell-ringing, cudgel-playing, wrestling, and the like ; he carried about the country with him a set of silken bell ropes, and a party of dissolute companions, by whose assistance he was reduced to poverty and finally kept an ale-house at Thame."

The treble and second have cabled canons and have been quarter-turned ; the saunce has plain canons and is hung for chiming ; the remainder have had their canons removed. The ring was rehung in a new wrought-iron side-pattern frame with fittings, type B, in 1902, by Messrs. Webb and Bennett.

Ringing competitions of a type common in the eighteenth century¹ were often held here. They were advertised in the local press and the winners received prizes. The *Oxford Journal* of 3rd March, 1764, contained the following announcement² :—

"To be Rung for. At the Red Lion in Great Milton on Holy Thursday next a Silver Cup of Two Guineas Value. A free gift. Each set of Ringers to bring their umpire with them to agree on articles before dinner which will be on the Table at one o'clock, and begin Ringing at two. No less than four sets of six each to ring for the above prize and no Gt. Milton men will be allowed to win."

Visited : F.S., 28th March, 1932, 24th July, 1948.

175.

MILTON, LITTLE.

St. James.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor 41 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in F# ; and a sanctus bell, 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / JOHN STEVENS GAVE ME, 1867.	4	3	15

¹ For some Berkshire examples see *The Berkshire Archaeological Journal*, Vol. XLVI, 1942, pp. 18-19.

² Quoted by W. P. Ellis, *Extracts from Oxford Journal 1755-1850 about Oxford*, 1917, p. 313. Bodleian Library, Oxford, Ref. R.13. 713.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Second.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / THOMAS FRANKLIN GAVE ME, 1867.	5 2 24
Third.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / W. T. FRANKLIN GAVE ME, 1867.	6 1 21
Fourth.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / W. G. SAWYER, INCUMBENT, / E. J. GALE, AND J. FRANKLIN, CHURCHWARDENS, / GAVE ME, 1867.	7 2 20
Fifth.	MEARS & STAINBANK FOUNDERS LONDON / "NOT UNTO US O LORD, BUT / UNTO THY NAME GIVE THE PRAISE" / 1867	9 1 2
Tenor.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. / "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST." / 1867.	12 2 8
Saunce.	(<i>Five narrow mouldings all round bell.</i>) / (<i>Ox.</i>) / W. & J. TAYLOR. 1832	1 2 0½

The saunce is by Messrs. Taylor and is hung for ringing. It formerly hung in a chapel-of-ease, which existed prior to the formation of the parish of 1844, and was subsequently removed to the parish church.

The ring was cast at the Whitechapel foundry, and hangs in an oak frame. The gear, type B, has recently been overhauled by Messrs. R. White and Son, who supplied new self-aligning ball bearings for the two largest bells, and renewed the brass bearings to the remainder. All the bells retain their canons.

Visited : F.S., 24th July, 1948.

176. MILTON-NEXT-BLOXHAM.¹

St. John the Evangelist.

A central tower containing two bells, 22 and 24 inches in diameter respectively, hung for ringing.

The smaller is inscribed :—

J WARNER & SONS LONDON 1867 /
(*Royal Arms.*) / PATENT

and the larger :—

J WARNER & SONS CRESCENT
FOUNDRY LONDON 1867 / (*Royal
Arms.*) / PATENT

Visited : F.S., 26th July, 1947.

¹ A chapelry in the parish of Adderbury.

177. MILTON-UNDER-WYCHWOOD.












SS. Simon and Jude.

An enclosed turret containing a chime of four bells. The author regrets he has been unable to examine them, but according to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's catalogues the bells were cast at the Whitechapel foundry between the years 1854 and 1886, and the weight of the tenor is approximately 3 cwt.

178. MINSTER LOVELL.

St. Kenelm.

A central tower containing a ring of three bells†; tenor 37½ inches diameter in G; and a sanctus bell, 17½ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	IAMES  KEENE  MADE  ME  1626   (Fig. B2.)  (Border, Fig. B2, all round bell.)	6
Second.	BOND & SON  FOUNDERS  BURFORD  1928 	7
Tenor.	EDWARD GREEN & EDWARD HOLLIS (Fig. L6.) CHURCH : WARDENS (Fig. L6.) ROBERT WELLS ALDBOURNE FECIT (Fig. L6.) ∴ 1787 ∴ (Fig. L6.) ∴	9

The treble is by James Keene, the second by Messrs. Bond, and the tenor by Robert Wells II¹. The fleur-de-lys on the treble is Fig. A2; the cross on the second is Fig. L4; and on the shoulder of the tenor are five narrow mouldings. All the bells are maiden castings, and are not tuned diatonically: their strike-notes are approximately B, B♭, and G. Evidently Messrs. Bond thought it more desirable to have a maiden ring than to tune the second to A natural. The canons have been removed from the treble and tenor; the second was cast without canons. New gear, type J, was fitted in 1928.

The ring hangs in an interesting early seventeenth century oak frame. It is of "braced-king-post" construction with heads, cills, and moulded end posts².

¹ He was in partnership with his brother, James, at the time. H. B. Walters, *The Church Bells of Wiltshire*, 1929, p. 314.

² The frame removed from the tower of Burford Church in 1949 was of similar type.

The saunce bears no inscription, but below its shoulder are five mouldings, the uppermost, third, fourth, and lowest of which are narrow, and the second of the series is a concave moulding similar to those on fifteenth century bells from the Wokingham foundry. The bell was doubtless cast there; it has a medieval stirrup-topped clapper, refitted with busk-board and baldrick in 1928 by Messrs. Bond, who also renewed its elm headstock, and strap gudgeons, and refitted its iron lever.

The former second was by James Keene¹, and inscribed :—

JAMES KEENE ♣ MADE ♣ ME 1628 ♣
/ (Border, Fig. B2, all round bell.)

Visited : F.S., 18th September, 1948.

179.

MIXBURY.

All Saints.

A western tower containing a ring of three bells; tenor 40 inches in diameter, in G.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	+ d ² A M W W Ξ ² SR ³ IYI ²	6
Second.	9OD ² (Fig. H3.) SAVE (Fig. H3.) KIN ² (Fig. M7.) CHARLS ² (Fig. H3, twice.) 1627 (Figs. R5 and M7.)	8
Tenor.	GOD (Figs. H3, H3, R7 and P4.) S ³ AVE (Figs. H3 and P4.) KING (Fig. H3.) IAMES ³ (Figs. H3 and P4.) 1609 (Fig. P4.)	11

The treble was probably cast by one of the Appowells, of Buckingham: the other two bells are from the Buckingham foundry, the second is by Robert Atton, and the tenor either by his father, Bartholomew, or by both in partnership. The three bells have been quarter-turned, and have gear, type A, by F. White; they hang in a seventeenth century oak frame consisting of heads, cills, main and jack braces.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 belles and a saunce bell. Item 2 hande belles.*

Visited : F.S., 27th January, 1924, 22nd September, 1950.

¹ Walters' MS., Society of Antiquaries Library.

² *Sic.*

³ On the bell these letters are formed the reverse way round.

180.

MOLLINGTON.

All Saints.

A western tower containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 30 inches diameter, in C ; and a sanctus bell, 12 inches in diameter.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.Qrs.Lbs.</i>
Treble.	MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. 1875.	3 0 16
Second.	(<i>Same as treble.</i>)	3 1 6
Third.	JOHN BRIANT HERTFORD FECIT 1789	3 2 0‡
Fourth.	GOD SAVE THE KING (<i>Fig. R13.</i>) HENRY BAGLEY ¹ (<i>Border, Fig. B10.</i>) 1631 (<i>Bell, Fig. A5, three times.</i>)	4 0 0‡
Tenor.	(<i>Same as treble.</i>)	4 3 18

The tenor was recast and the treble and second added to the ring in 1875 ; the second is by John Briant, and the fourth by Henry Bagley I.² The bells hang in an eighteenth century oak frame which was extended to take the two "trebles" in 1875. The gear, type A, was renewed at the same time.

The saunce is hung for chiming. It was cast by John Conyers, of Hull, and inscribed :—

JOHN (*Rosette, Fig. F12.*) **CONYERS**

(*Cross, Fig. F10.*)

A scale drawing of the inscription is given in Fig. 27. There are similar bells by Conyers in Yorkshire.

Visited : F. S., 11th August, 1945.

181.

MONGEWELL.

St. John the Baptist.

A western tower containing one bell, 16½ inches in diameter, in D, hung for ringing with gear, type A, in an oak frame. The bell was cast at the Gloucester foundry and bears the inscription:—

COME AWAY MAKE NO DELAY 1760

6 Edw. VI. *Imprimis 2 belles.*

Visited : C.E.W., July, 1940.

¹ *Sic.*

² Two bells at Souldern bear the same date as the fourth at Mollington ; these are the earliest known examples of Henry Bagley's work and mark the opening of the Chacombe foundry.

182.

NETTLEBED.

St. Bartholomew.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor $32\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in B ; and a disused bell, $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Cwt.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Treble.	C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1846	3	1	17
Second.	(Same as treble.)	3	2	2
Third.	(The same.)	3	2	25
Fourth.	(The same.)	4	3	15
Fifth.	(The same.)	5	0	23
Tenor.	C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON / REVD JAMES HAZEL INCUMBENT / EDWARD SARNEY / JAMES CHAMPION } CHURCHWARDENS 1846	6	3	27

A complete ring from the Whitechapel foundry. The bells were rehung with gear, type E, in the nineteenth century oak frame in 1928. Prior to 1846 there were three bells, weighing altogether 18 cwt., which were returned in part payment for the new ones.¹

The disused bell was lying on the floor of the ringing chamber at the time of the writer's visit. It is inscribed :—

C & G MEARS FOUNDERS LONDON 1844






Visited : C.K., F.S., 2nd October, 1948.

183.

NEWINGTON.

St. Giles.

A western tower with spire containing a ring of four bells ; tenor $36\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter ; and a sanctus bell, $17\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	ovre hope is in the lorde 1592 R (Fig. N3.)E	4
Second.	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  Sancta (Coin, Fig. Q5.) (Shield, Fig. F7.) </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Maria (Coin, Fig. Q5.) (Shield, Fig. F7.) </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Ora (Lion's head, Fig. F2.) (Cross, Fig. F4.) </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Pro (Lion's head, Fig. F2.) (Cross, Fig. F4.) </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  Nobis (Lion's head, Fig. F2.) (Cross, Fig. F4.) </div> </div>	5

¹ E. G. Pallot, *St. Bartholomew's Church, Nettlebed*, 1946, p. 16.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Approx. Weight. Cwt.</i>
Third.	RICH : PEPLOE & WILL : WILMOTT CHVRCH : WARDENS 1719 (<i>Fig. B10.</i>) A(Bell.)R (<i>Fig. D2.</i>)	6½
Tenor.	+ Henri Knight Made This Bell 1608	8½

The treble is by Robert Eldridge of Wokingham, and is the only bell in the county by a member of this family of bell founders at present known to campanologists. The second is by Roger Landen, *circa* 1450, the third by Abraham Rudhall II, and the tenor by Henry Knight I. On the latter the letter "j" is reversed in a way only possible with the "sheet-metal" foundry stamps favoured by the members of the Knight family. The second and third are "maiden" bells.

These bells hang in an oak frame originally of medieval construction but altered and enlarged, probably in 1592, to take five bells : there is a pit for an additional treble, which has never been occupied.

The treble hangs from its original elm headstock which is fitted with "drive-in" type gudgeons ; the gudgeons of the second were similarly fixed, but at a later date two bolts have been inserted through the elm headstock below them. The bell-wheels are unique : each is of a different design and all are probably of local make. The remaining gear is similar to type A ; but the ironwork is of three distinct periods : nailed, keyed, and bolted. The tenor headstock is riddled with plug holes showing that the bell has been "trussed" many times, with the straps in different positions on each occasion.

The saunce hangs out of an opening in the base of the spire. When seen by the writer it had one canon broken and another cracked and was in a dangerous condition. It was afterwards rehung by Mr. Richard White who was reluctantly obliged to remove the damaged canons in order to make it safe. The bell is inscribed in the well-known sheet-metal type used by Ellis Knight I :—

EX DONO MARIA DVNCHE 1639

7 Edw. VI. *Imprimis 3 belles in the steeple.*

Visited : F.S., 30th September, 1933.

184.

NEWINGTON, SOUTH.

St. Peter ad Vincula.

A western tower containing a ring of five bells ; tenor 37 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in G.

<i>Bell.</i>	<i>Inscription.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Treble.	IOHN BOX IOHN IRONS CHURCH WARDENS HENRY BAGLEY MADE MEE J733	4	1	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Second.	1656	5	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Third.	G. MEARS & CO FOUNDERS LONDON 1861. / REVD. HENRY DUKE HARINGTON VICAR / RICHARD HALL / JOHN FORTNUM } CHURCHWARDENS	5	2	17
Fourth.	(Same as third.)	6	0	12
Tenor.	(The same.)	8	1	16

The treble, by Henry Bagley III, was probably cast at Chacombe, although Bagley was residing at Witney at the time. The second is by Richard Keene¹, and the remainder by Messrs. Mears & Co. All the bells retain their canons and have been quarter-turned. The treble has a false crown-staple.

New elm headstocks, strap gudgeons and self-aligning ball-bearings were fitted by Mr. Richard White in 1930 ; the remaining gear, type A, is by Mr. Alfred White, 1861. The oak frame dates mainly from the seventeenth century, probably from 1656, the date of the second bell. Incorporated in it are a few fragments of an earlier three-bell frame : it was in a dilapidated condition in 1949.

Visited : F.S., 14th April, 1934, 8th October, 1949.

185.

NEWNHAM MURREN.

St. Mary.

An open western bell-cote containing two bells, hung for chiming. They were inspected through field glasses by Mr. H. B. Walters, who states that both appear to be of seventeenth century shape, and that when viewed from the churchyard no inscriptions were visible.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 belles.*

Visited : H.B.W., 24th April, 1914.

¹ In the Walters' MS. at the Society of Antiquaries Library is a note that the former third, fourth and tenor were also by Richard Keene and inscribed like the second. Mr. Walters gives no reference for this statement.

186.

NEWTON PURCELL.

St. Michael.

An open western turret containing two bells hung for chiming.

The bell with the higher strike-note is 18½ inches in diameter, it is 15 inches high, and weighs 1 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.¹ It bears no inscription or founder's marks, but it has two early fourteenth century type broad mouldings between two sets of narrow mouldings below its shoulder. Drawings showing the section and elevation of these mouldings are given in Figs. 27B, and 27C.

The other bell is 18 inches in diameter, and 16 inches high ; it weighs 1 cwt. 1 qr. 7½ lbs., and is inscribed :—

(Cross, Fig. D13.) **AVE** (Fig. C4.) **MAA**
 (Shield, Fig. G2.) **IA** (Fig. C4.) **ORAC**
 (Fig. G2.) **IA** (Fig. C4.) **PLENA**
 (Fig. G2.)

A scale drawing of the inscription is given in Fig. 27A. The bell dates from the middle of the fourteenth century, and is probably of local manufacture ; it is one of nine of similar type discovered within eleven miles of Buckingham by Mr. Cocks.² A bell with the same inscription in lettering identical with that at Newton Purcell was found by him at Little Linford, Buckinghamshire, and at Barton Hartshorn in the same county the smaller of two bells has an inscription in similar lettering and the chevron shield, Fig. G2, also occurs on it. The initial cross, Fig. D13, appears with slightly different lettering on the treble at Thornton, Buckinghamshire, which can be dated between the years 1315 and 1347³.

Both bells at Newton Purcell have lost their canons : they were rehung in 1948 by Messrs. R. White and Son.

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 belles in the steple.*⁴

The parish of Shelswell is annexed to that of Newton Purcell for ecclesiastical purposes. According to the Edwardian Inventories the old parish church of Shelswell, which fell into decay and ruin in the seventeenth century, possessed two bells.

At Shelswell House is a clock bell, 19½ inches in diameter, inscribed with the date :—

J757

Its canons are intact, and it is fitted with an elm headstock, strap gudgeons, and a nineteenth century clapper.

Visited : F.S., 1923-1950.

¹ Although it is larger and heavier than its companion its strike-note is approximately a semi-tone higher than that of the other bell.

² A. H. Cocks, *ut sup.*, pp. 14-15.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ The present two bells.

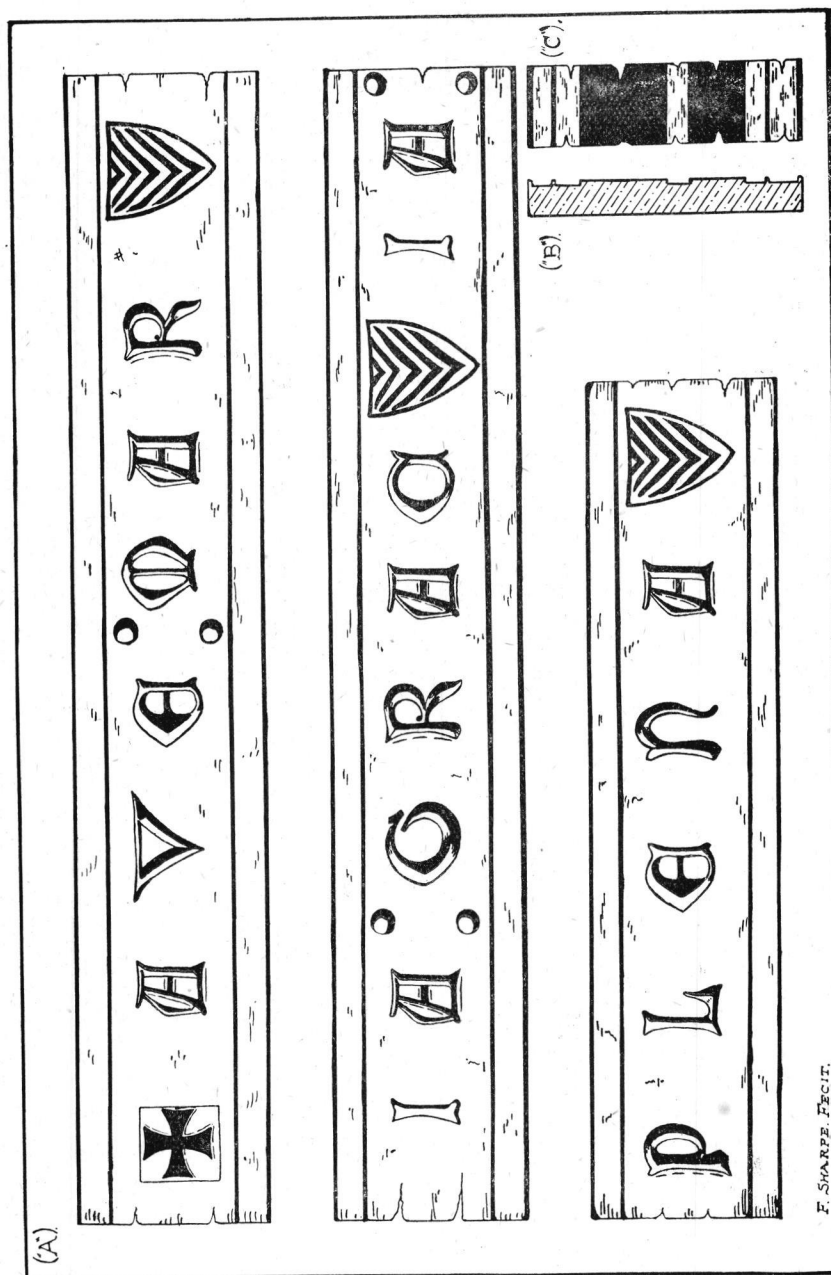
F. SHARPE. *FECIT.*

Fig. 28. Newton Purcell. (A) Inscription on mid-fourteenth century bell; (B) Section, and (C) Elevation of mouldings on early fourteenth century bell.

187.

NOKE.

St. Giles.

An open western turret containing two bells, $17\frac{1}{2}$ and 18 inches in diameter respectively, hung for chiming. The smaller bears the inscription :—

+ HENRX KNXGHT MADE MEE ANO
X6X5 / XB XH

The larger bears no date or inscription but is obviously by the same maker as the other bell ; their shape and mouldings are similar.

Formerly there was a saunce, $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, also with no inscription.¹

6 Edw. VI. *Item 2 littell belles in the st(e)p(le.)*

Visited : C.C.D.O., F.S., 10th September, 1932.

188.

NORTHMOOR.

St. Denys.

A western tower containing a ring of six bells ; tenor $39\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter, in A ♭.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	WHEN YOU US RING, WE'LL SWEETLY SING T(Bell.)R 1764 (Coin.)	$4\frac{3}{4}$
Second.	PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH (Fig. D8.) T(Bell.)R 1764 (Border, Fig. D8.)	$5\frac{1}{4}$
Third.	FEARE GOD HONOUR THE KING T(Bell.)R 1764 (Border, Fig. D8.)	$6\frac{1}{4}$
Fourth.	WILLIAM KENT & HENRY WEST CHURCH WARDENS T(Bell.)R 1764 (Border, Fig. D8.)	7
Fifth.	PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOVRHOOD (Fig. D2.) A(Bell.)R 1717 (Border, Fig. D2.)	8

¹ G. J. Dew, *Notes on Oxfordshire Bells*, circa 1890, No. 12.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Tenor.	RICHARD LYDALL GAVE ME 1693 IF I BREAKE AND MUST BE CAST PUT ON HIS NAME THAT IT MAY LAST (<i>Border, Fig. D14.</i>) / I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL & TO THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL T(<i>Bell.</i>)R 1764	11 ¹

These bells were cast at the Gloucester foundry ; the fifth is by Abraham Rudhall I, and the remainder by Thomas Rudhall. All have been quarter-turned. The treble and second have cabled canons : the others have moulded canons. The treble has a false crown-staple.

The oak bell-frame dates from the early part of the eighteenth century, and has undergone several alterations. Incised on the head of the third bell pit is :—

WW 1700 RL

The initials "RL." are probably those of Richard Lydall, the donor of the tenor.

The gear, type C, has been renewed at various times during the past one hundred years by members of the White family.

In the nave of the church on the north side of the western gallery is incised :—

RICHARD LYDALL : GAVE A NEW BELL /
AND BVILT THIS LOFT FREE / AND THEN
HE SAID : BEFORE HE DYED. / LET
RINGERS PRAY FOR ME / J70J

On the west wall of the north transept is a tablet in memory of this Richard Lydall, who died here on April 20th, 1721, aged 79. In his will² are the following bequests :—

"Item. I give to six Ringers to carry me to church and to Ring on all the day of my Funeral Ten Shillings to be equally divided amongst them.

"(I bequeath) an amount which will be sufficient to New Cast the Bell I gave to the church of Northmoor and therewith with other necessary metal and materials to make a great bell or Tenour over the other five bells in the Church of Northmoor aforesaid and to defray all other necessary expenses for hanging up the said great Bell or Tenour and to buy and sett up a good Church Clock to strike on the said Great Bell.

¹ 1830 edition of the *Rudhall Bell Catalogues*, Whitechapel Foundry, London. This edition gives the weights of tenors to the nearest cwt., and the Northmoor tenor may be just under 11 cwt.

² For a transcript of this I am indebted to Mr. L. H. Chambers.

"I desire that the same inscription which is put on the said Bell that I gave may be put word for word in greater letters on the said Great Bell or Tenour and that money shall be set apart and apply'd for keeping the Tower and the several Bells and clock in good repair and for making such yearly allowance to some proper person for taking care of the said Bells and Clock."

By the mention of "a great bell or Tenour over the other five bells" it appears that in 1693 Richard Lydall had given a treble which had not proved a success, and that he wished the other five bells to remain and to recast his treble with additional metal to form a tenor.

Northmoor is not mentioned in the earlier editions of the Rudhalls' bell-catalogues, which proves that Lydall's treble was not cast at the Gloucester foundry. In the 1751 edition of their catalogue is the entry :—

"North-More (Tenor) 1 bell."

The present fifth is the bell referred to in the catalogue. It was recast during Lydall's lifetime, and as testified by the entry quoted above was then the tenor.

To take away the treble and add a tenor to the five remaining bells in accordance with the terms of Lydalls' bequest would not be possible without some alteration to the other bells. If a tenor were added the third of the ring would have to be made a semi-tone lower, and considerable alterations would be necessary to the bell-frame. It is not surprising to find that the work was not done immediately, and that eventually a much larger scheme was carried out. In 1764 all the bells, with the exception of Abraham Rudhall's bell of 1717, were recast by Thomas Rudhall. These included Lydall's bell of 1693 which was then recast with additional metal to form the present tenor in accordance with the terms contained in his bequest.

Among most campanologists the ring is considered to be one of the best toned light rings of six in the county. The bells certainly are very sweet in tone and their sound is heard to an advantage both by reason of the situation of the church near the river and also by reason of the medieval type shutters fitted to the belfry windows in place of louvres.

Visited : F.S., 10th April, 1950.

189.

NUFFIELD.

The Holy Trinity.

A north-western tower containing two bells, which have not been examined by the writer. In the Walters' MS. at the Society of Antiquaries Library are the following notes :—

"Nuffield. Both (bells) are devoid of inscription, with four plain mouldings close together round shoulder, and the same on sound bow; rather long-waisted, but probably not ancient; primitive clappers, much rusted. The tone of the smaller is poor. Pits for three bells."

Visited : H.B.W., 29th April, 1914.

190.

NUNEHAM COURTENAY.

All Saints.

A bell-cote containing one bell, 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, bearing no inscription or marks. It was examined by Mr. H. B. Walters in 1914.

The present church was erected *circa* 1880 : the former church, built by Simon, 1st Earl Harcourt, has been converted into a private chapel. The ancient church was demolished in 1764 : it contained a ring of bells from the Gloucester foundry. The 1751 edition of Rudhall's catalogue states :—¹

"five (bells) the gift of Simon Lord Harcourt."

I am indebted to Miss M. Barratt, of Oxford, for the discovery of the following among the *Visitation Returns*² of 1774, in which the Vicar writes :—

"Good Lord Harcourt sometime past sold a pretty sett of Bells out of / the Church consisting of Five. There was a Font in the old Church but not / one is to be seen in the New Church. As for the three Monuments in / the old Church they were taken down and are now secreted in a private / Place. I had two Pews in the old Chancel but in this Chancel I can't / find one. I had once a Church Yard, and knew its Boundaries very well, / but now I don't as Lord Harcourt has thrown down all its Mounding, / and turned it into his Pleasure Ground, for he mows and rolls it at his Pleasure. /

¹ *Catalogue of bells cast by Abel Rudhall*, Bodleian Library, Oxford.

² Bodleian Library, Oxford.





"N.B. Lord Harcourt got a grant from the late Bishop to sell part of / the Bells towards rebuilding the Church, but He was so modest that he / takes the whole Sett only consisting of five Bells & leaves the Saints' Bell / & so greatly deceived the Bishop, who expected that he would have hung up / a Bell sufficient to call the Parish together, but he did not. As the / Saints' Bell can't be heard at the Town so that the Clarke or his Deputy is / obliged to advertise the Parishioners of Church time by going up and down the / Town with an hand Bell, the like not to be meet with in all England."

191.

ODDINGTON.

St. Andrew.

A western tower containing a ring¹ of three bells ; tenor 36 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, in A \flat ² ; and a sanctus bell, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.

Bell.	Inscription.	Approx. Weight. Cwt.
Treble.	1609	5
Second.	THOS. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1804 (<i>Border, Fig. GII.</i>)	7
Tenor.	JAMES  KEENE  MADE  MEE  1626	9

The treble, a very rough casting, is probably by some itinerant founder ; the second is from the Whitechapel foundry, and the tenor from the Woodstock foundry. The oak frame and gear, type A, are much dilapidated.

The saunce hangs in the apex of the tower roof and is difficult of access. It bears no inscription and is cracked. In the church-wardens' accounts for 1614 are entries relating to its recasting :—

"Itm pd for the casting of the sauntes bell the 25 of June last and for putting in more mettell . . . xxijs." "Item for tymber to hang the sauntes bell . . . ijs vjd."

6 Edw. VI. *Item 3 belles and 2 handebelles.*

Visited : F.S., 26th June, 1924, *et seq.*

¹ Although described as a "ring" it is impossible to ring these bells owing to the dilapidated condition of their gear.

² The strike-note of this bell is a semitone flat : the bells thus comprise either the treble, second and fourth of a major ring of five, or the treble, second and tenor of a minor ring of four.

b

J. Smart & Co., Printers.
Brackley, Northants.