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WHY THE BELL RINGS

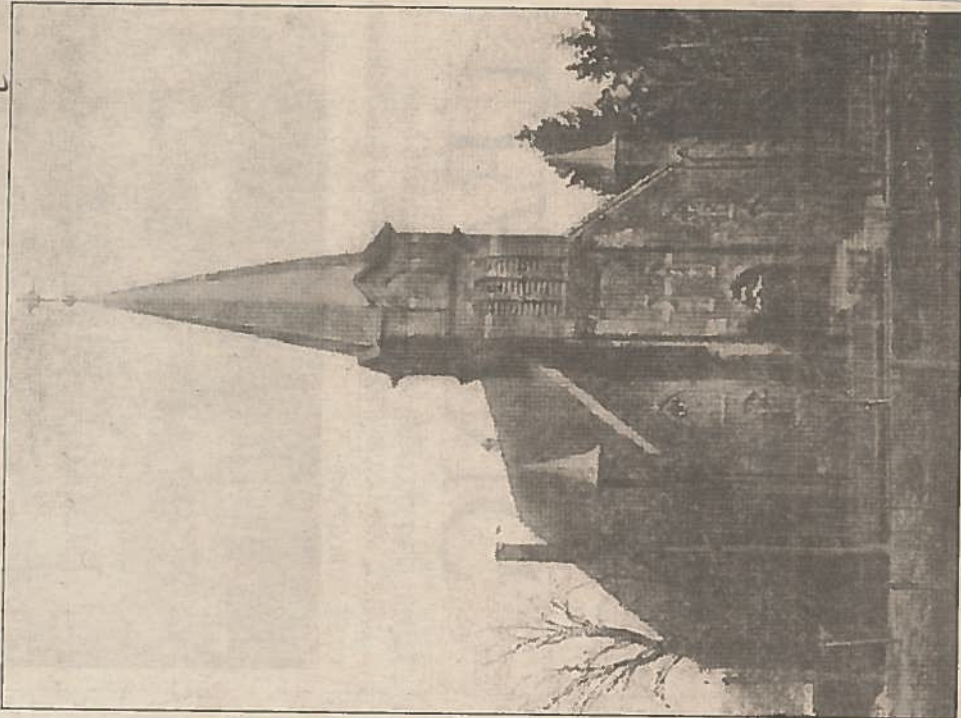
BY C. W. LATTIN

The following clipping was recently found in an old scrap book. It is entitled "Why the Bell Rings" and was published in an Albion newspaper around 90 years ago.

"Why does the Polish church bell ring so frequently during the day? Is a question often asked. We put the query to one of our Polish citizens the other day and he said: 'At the hour of work it rings to remind them that God has given them strength to labor. When it sounds at noon, the Poles are again reminded of the Giver of temporal blessings, and at night it calls for expressions of thankfulness for what God has done

for the people through the day. In the old country at home the church bells are always rung in this way. It is a beautiful custom, surely, and is full of significance to a person of devout mind."

The world-famous painting by Millet known as "The Angelus" is representative of the noon bells when we see in this great work two French peasants who have paused from their work to give thanks for their blessings. Millet shows in the distance a church spire from which "the angelus" is rung. This consists of nine rings in three groups of three representing the Holy Trinity. This is something Roman Catholic churches would have been doing 90 years ago.



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