

named Dick Thomas was knocked down and had his arm broken. At night there were fire works in the Horse Fair ending with a picture of Duke and Duchess in fire which I was held up to see.

The next royal event was the Diamond Jubilee in 1897. In commemoration of this a new clock with Westminster quarters and three additional bells with a carrillon machine to play twenty-one tunes were placed in the tower of St Mary's Church. This was the memorial of the whole town to the event. The opening of their new clock and chimes was the actual event of the day. I remember looking out from an upstairs window in the house where we then lived, now part of the Cromwell Hotel, facing Parsons Street, and watching the Procession go by with the Lady on the White Horse with attendants on cock horses.

The Mayor and Corporation escorted by the Banbury troop of the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars and Volunteers were received at the church yard gate by the clergy and choirs of the four churches St Mary's, St Paul's, Christ Church and St Leonard's, at 11.45. We could hear the hymn sung in Procession in the Church Yard. Then the National Anthem was played on the bells by Mr Sykes, the Manager of the Westminster Bank, a member of the committee for the erection of the chimes. After this followed a short service and then the cutting of a ribbon by the Mayor, Mr Lake, at twelve o'clock, the hour [f.12] chime being played by the clock. Following a short ceremony in which this time the ribbon was cut by the Vicar, the chimes were started and all twenty-one tunes were played. Crowds of people had gathered in the Horse Fair and North Bar to hear the chimes for the first time. the clock chimes continue but the tunes are no longer played. After some years they became out of tune and constantly needed repairing. They played every three hours night and day and there were complaints from people staying in hotels and houses near who found the chimes disturbing. The old machine is still in the tower, perhaps beyond repair by now.

A series of Entertainments which gave pleasure to a number of people was given on Saturday nights in the Cadbury Memorial Hall in Bridge Street. They were known as the "Penny Pops" for only a penny was charged. Quite a good class of entertainment was given by musical people in the town.

In my early days children living in cottages in the streets of the town and having no gardens or park to play in always went out into the street to play. The games varied according to the season, skipping ropes by girls and marbles and tops by boys came out with the Spring. Tops were