

TELEGRAMS.

STRADIVARI, LONDON.

TELEPHONE.

GERRARD, 3225.

140, NEW BOND STREET,
W.

On Tuesday, June 11th, 1909. Together with other Liverymen of our ancient City Guild, the Musicians Company, I attended the funeral of our Junior Warden, the Rev. Robert Badden, Hon. Chaplain to the King and Vicar of St. Mark's, North Audley Street; whose death took place under such tragic circumstances.

On coming away from the grave-side, I expressed my regret to Alfred B. Littleton that we had no Musicians' Dirge, which could be performed on such an occasion, with the result that after thinking the matter over, he spoke to Elgar about it and the "Elegy" which is bound up with his note, was the outcome of their conference, and, at the next meeting of our Court, it was performed for the first time.

by a picked band of players!

I now make a practice, when a member of the Musician's Company, who happens to be on the Court; or to occupy a position of some eminence, dies, of having his Dirge performed at our next meeting, and I sincerely hope this practice may be kept up when I, too, am dead and gone!

On the conclusion of our annual service at St. Paul's, on St. Cecilia's Day, Nov. 1914, it was performed (for the first time in public) in memory of A. B. Littleton, C. E. Rebe, & W. O. A. G. Danckwerts, N. C., but did not sound half so effective on the organ as when played by a string-band.

Arthur F. Bell

Jan. 22nd
1916.

Violin maker and Past Master of the
Worshipful Company of Musicians.