THANKSGIVING FOR THE HOPEMAN CHIME

We bellmen of the Hopeman Chime press the right keys at the right time, to play the right tune for the spirit of the hour.

We release great force with a finger, powerful magnets to pull steel cables, and send bronze music far and wide.

It is heard beyond the trees, beyond the river, beyond what we see and know. It may be long remembered by those we never saw, in moments of joy or sorrow, danger or delight. There is no end to music; it goes on.

We choose tunes with care; knowing when to be allegro, when adagio; when to dance, when to march away. In songs of many nations, hymns of every faith, we voice our thanks for the past, our call to the future, our jubilance for life.

All this we can do with power and beauty not our own, because of the generous givers of the chime.

For a few minutes a day we are the voice of the University. Our bells have many moods and tenses, equal temperament, lovely minor thirds, perfect octaves, a majestic B-flat bass.

Nineteen voices in this choir sing glory. They tell time for all, and eternity for those few who understand.

So we are glad to ring the chime while we can; grateful for the chance to sound greater than we are.

John R. Slater