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Wednesday, 23rd September, 1896:— On the afternoon of this day a burglary was discovered to have been perpetrated in the Vestry, on Tuesday night or early on Wednesday morning. The safe was broken into, and the sum of £6.2/-, in silver and copper, was abstracted from ~~among~~ the drawers of the safe. The safe also contained a box holding the H. Communion Plate; this was taken out and opened, but none of the plate was removed. The principal implement used was a large strong pick-axe, which was kept by the Sexton in a closet under the belfry stairs, and was used by him to help in opening graves in the Church-yard. How an entrance was effected has not been ascertained, but the party was effected through the Vestry-door which was found latched but unlocked.

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Tuesday, 2nd February, 1897:— Meeting of Select Vestry, duly convened by Notice given by Rector & Churchwardens, held for Revision of Register of Vestrymen

Present - Very Rev. Dean of Armon, in Chair.
 Mr. A. Macan { Mr. Joseph Monro
 Mr. Geo. Calvert { Mr. Jas. Collins
 Mr. Jas. Albin { Mr. Tho. Montgomery

The Revision was proceeded with, giving the result that 253 Residents, 6 Owners of Property and 4 Accustomed Members of Congregation, in all 263 members, were registered for 1897.

The Chairman reported to the Vestry that the

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Baroness von Stieglitz had given to the Parish the sum of £371-2-1, to be added to the Capital of the Parochial Endowment Fund. This Fund, for the re-endowment of the Parish of Seago, was formed in the year 1876, mainly by the exertions and munificence of the late Major Stewart Blacher, of Carrickblacker, and his sister, the Baroness von Stieglitz. In addition to their joint gift of £1000, Major Blacher also advanced £1600, as a loan, and thereby, with donations from the Parishioners and friends, and by the permission of the Representative Church Body, the Select Vestry were enabled to cover the ~~the~~ Composition Balances of the two Curates of Seago, (Rev. Robt. W. Walter, and Rev. Stephen Walshe), and to secure in perpetuity a sum of £6,365-10-4. (2u p. 140 supra), as the basis of the Parochial Endowment Fund. Some additions were made to it, from time to time, and on 31st December, 1895, the Capital amounted to £6710-12-6. The loan was repaid in 1891, but interest due upon it accumulated in the hands of the R. C. B., until it reached the sum of £377-12-2. This amount was claimable by the Baroness von Stieglitz, as the Residuary Legatee of the late Major Blacher, but at the close of last year she gave the accumulation to the Parish, to be added to the Capital of the Parochial Endowment Fund, which was thus augmented to the sum of £7081-14-7, at which it stood on 31st December, 1896

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At the request of the Baronefs, and by arrangement with the R. C. B., the balance of Interest remaining after the discharge of the present claims upon the Fund is to be added annually to the Capital until it reaches an amount sufficient to yield the annual sum of £300 for the income of the Rector of Seago. It is known that it was the earnest desire of Major Blacker that this income, at least, should be eventually provided for the Rector of Seago.

On receiving this report from the Chairman, the following Resolution, proposed by Mr. A. Macdon, and seconded by Mr. Geo. Calvert, was unanimously adopted:—

Resolved—That we, the Select Vestry of Seago, Diocese of Down, desire to tender our most grateful thanks to the Baronefs for the gift of £371 to the Parish, to be added to the Capital of the Parochial Endowment Fund, which owed its origin mainly to the exertions and munificence of her Brother, the late Major Stewart Blacker, and herself. And furthermore, we desire to glorify God for His grace which has enabled the Blacker Family, for many generations, to abound in good deeds for the benefit of the Church and Parish of Seago; and we earnestly pray that their Benefactions may be had in everlasting remembrance before God.

Abraham Dawson
Chairman.