

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

APRIL, 1913.

Churchwardens of Seagoe, 1912-13.



THOMAS J. ATKINSON, LL.B.,
RECTOR'S CHURCHWARDEN.



WILLIAM R. BICKETT
PEOPLE'S CHURCHWARDEN.

(Photos by Moffett, Portadown.)

The Easter Vestry.

THE Annual meeting of the General Vestry of Seagoe Parish was held in Seagoe Parochial School on Thursday, March 27th, at 8 o'clock. A meeting of the Select Vestry had been held at 7.30 on the same evening to receive the Statement of Accounts presented by the Hon. Treasurer for the past year. The meeting of the General Vestry was opened with prayer by the Rector and the reading of a portion of Scripture by the Rev. G. Bloomer, curate. The minutes of the last General Vestry Meeting having been read and signed, the Chairman (the Rev. J. E. Archer, B.D.) made a statement regarding the state of the Parish during the preceding twelve months. He referred to the satisfactory condition of the Day Schools and Sunday Schools and to the interest taken in the Sunday Evening District Services in Tamnificarbet and Drumgor. The contributions to Missions had been well sustained and the Bible Classes were doing a useful work and were largely attended. The attendance at Public Worship

and Holy Communion were not in due proportion to the number of the Parishioners; and the Sustentation Fund, although largely increased in recent years, was not yet adequate for the needs of the Parish. Mr. J. J. Dobson had come to the Parish to act as Lay Reader, and he would be engaged in visiting the populous districts of Edenderry and Drumgor, also doing general work in the Parish.

The Report of the Treasurer was satisfactory although there is a slight decline in the total amount of the Sustentation Fund for the year as compared with last year.

The office-bearers for the ensuing year were then elected. The Rector nominated as his Churchwarden **Mr. James Twinem**, of Lylo, and Mr. Twinem replied in a few words accepting the position. The election of a People's Churchwarden was then proceeded with, **Mr. William Best**, of Killycomaine, being unanimously elected, on the motion of Mr. George Calvert, seconded by Mr R. Gracey. Mr. Best suitably acknowledged his election to the office, and thanked the vestry for electing him.

The election of the Select Vestry followed, and the

voting resulted as follows:—

1. W. R Atkinson.
2. George Calvert.
3. T. E. Maginnis.
4. Stewart W. Blacker.
5. J. H. Stevenson.
6. Thomas Martin.
7. C. J. Collins.
8. T J Atkinson.
9. Joseph Monroe.
10. Robert Gracey.
11. J. G. Gracey.
12. T. J. Montgomery.

The following were elected as **Sidesmen**:—T. J. Atkinson, W. R. Bickett, D. Rock, W. J. Cox, R. T. Montgomery, and L. Bradshaw.

Major Stewart Blacker was nominated as Rector's Glebewarden by the Rector, and Mr. W. R. Atkinson was elected as People's Glebewarden under the new Glebes Act recently passed by the General Synod.

The meeting was brought to a close by the Chairman pronouncing the Benediction.

—:o:—

CONFIRMATION.

The Lord Bishop purposes holding a Confirmation in Seagoe Parish Church on Sunday, June 8th, 1913, at 7 p.m. Classes for Candidates are being arranged throughout the Parish.

Our New Churchwardens.

Mr. James Twinem, the newly appointed Rector's Churchwarden is well-known in Seagoe Parish. The name of Twinem is to be found in our Registers for many generations, and Mr. James Twinem worthily upholds the traditions of the family. He has taken an active part in Parish Work. On many occasions he has taken service on Sunday Evenings in outlying schoolhouses for the Rector. He is also a Sustainment Fund Collector and for a considerable time taught a Men's Bible class in Bocombra. He is a successful man of business and will we believe discharge the duties of Churchwarden with tact and efficiency. The first mention of the name of Twinem in Seagoe Registers is that of the Marriage of John Twinem with Margaret Calvert in the year 1770.

Mr. William Best our newly elected People's Churchwarden is well-known in Portadown. His father was a respected resident in Drumcree Parish and the family originally came from Richhill. Mr. Best for some time filled the responsible position of Parochial Nominator in St. Mark's Parish, Portadown. Since he came to reside in Seagoe Parish some years ago Mr. Best has taken an active interest in the welfare of the Parish. We congratulate him heartily on his unanimous election to the post of Churchwarden.

PARISH REGISTER FOR MARCH.

Baptisms.

"Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow."

Baptized on March 1st, 1913.

Best—Margaret Jane, daughter of Robert Henry and Margaret Anne Best, Edenderry.

Tate—Thomas Edmond, son of Thomas and Sarah Tate, Edenderry.

Burials.

"He hath abolished Death."

Wilson—March 2nd, John Wilson, Edenderry, aged 14 months.

Atkinson—March 5th, John George Atkinson, Upper Seagoe, aged 43 years.

Neill—March 10th, Martha Neill, Edenderry, aged 70 years.

M'Cann—March 18th, William M'Cann, Drumgor, aged 78 years.

Russell—March 19th, Margaret Russell, Drumgor.
Warnock—March 20th, Jane Warnock, aged 69 years.

Ferguson—March 29th, Agnes Ferguson, Ballinacor, aged 74 years.

Sympathy.

We express our deep sympathy with Mr. Dynes Atkinson and Mrs. Atkinson and family in the very sudden death of their son, Thomas George. His illness lasted only a few hours. He had rung the Church Bell for the Service on Sunday Morning, March 2nd, and passed away early on the following morning. He was always most ready and willing to help about the Church, and he will be much missed by his many friends.

Offertories.

"The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich."

Sundays—Mornings	...	£8	18	1
Evenings	...	2	15	1
Week days	...	0	18	4
Good Friday	...	0	17	5
Total,	...	£13	8	10

The Offertories on Easter day (included in above total) amounted to £4 17s. 7d., and were in aid of the Parochial Sunday School.

Part of the Good Friday offertories are given to the Jews Society.

Mission in Edenderry.

Captain Lancaster and Cadet Moors of the Church Army Van, begin (D.V.) a 10 days Mission in Edenderry Parochial Hall on Sunday, April 13th, at 8-30 p.m. The Services will be continued during the week at 8 o'clock each evening (except Saturday).

ITEMS.

The seed packets issued with the March number of this Magazine created great interest. They have already arrived in many parts of America and South Africa and are on their way to Queensland and New Zealand.

* * *

One of our readers in Boston, U.S.A., has kindly sent back a packet of American Flower Seed in return.

* * *

The seed will be planted in many different places. One person is sowing it on the grave of a relative in Seagoe Graveyard. Many are sowing it at each side of their cottage doorway. Our readers in Edenderry who have no gardens are sowing it in pots and boxes. Be careful to follow closely the directions on the Packet.

* * *

Messrs. McGredy have had a record demand for their Flower Seed Packets during the last few weeks.

* * *

We regret that many Parishioners failed to get a copy of the Magazine last month, owing to the fact that all were sold off within a few days.

* * *

Mr. Albert Simmons, late of the Church Army, has been re-visiting Seagoe. He is now a Student of Durham University.

* * *

Mr. J. J. Dobson, our new Lay Reader, is a distinguished athlete. When only 15 years of age he got a special certificate in the great Walking Race from Belfast to Ballymena, a distance of 30 miles, which he completed under six hours. He was the youngest competitor.

* * *

In a competition for spinning a Peg Top within a small circle marked out in Seagoe playground two small boys, Jimmy Hall and Albert Best, got first and second place.

* * *

Jack Hynes came out first in the Peg Top Spinning Competition in Seagoe Day School, and Norman Dickson won second place.

* * *

A full statement of the Contributions from Seagoe Parish to Foreign Missions will appear in the next issue of the Magazine.

* * *

The total contributions to Foreign Missions amounted to £55.

* * *

Magazine Distributors are asked to send in their returns for 1912 without delay to the Rector.

* * *

There are many bereaved families in the Parish this month to whom we tender our sincere sympathy. Especially sad and sudden was the death of Mrs.

Warnock of Bridge Street, who succumbed after a very brief illness.

* * *

Seagoe School has been carefully cleaned and renovated during the holidays.

Jumble Sale.

The Jumble Sale on Saturday, March 8th, proved very successful. It only lasted two hours, but in that time the Sale realised the following Profits—Receipts £10 11s. 2d., Expenses £0 19s. 6d., Net Profit £9 11s. 8d. We return our hearty thanks to all who helped. The proceeds go towards Seagoe School Improvement Fund.

Presentation.

On Tuesday, March 11th, the Choir held a Social in Seagoe School, and made use of the opportunity to present one of their number, Miss Margaret Frazer with a handsome Dressing Case on the occasion of her leaving Seagoe Parish for Belfast. The Rector presided, and the presentation was made by Mrs. T. H. Wilson.

The Easter Services.

The Easter Services were very bright and the Church looked very pretty with its floral decorations. The Anthem went very well. Miss Amy Walker sang the solo admirably, and the quartette by Messrs. D. Murray and D. Livingstone and the Misses A. Walker and M. Dickson was very effective. There was a larger number of Communicants than last year.

The services during Holy Week were well attended and the addresses given by the Rev. O. W. Scott on "The Seven Words" were very impressive.

Nature Notes.

The First Swallow was seen by Mr. Thomas Walker at Levaghery on Tuesday, March 25th. This is a very early record of the arrival of the summer migrants. It is remarkable that once again the first arrival of the Swallow has been noted in the southern end of the Parish. Who will be the first in the Parish to hear the Cuckoo and Corncrake this year?

* * *

A shower of Black Rain fell in the Parish on Friday, March 28th. About 10 a.m. the sky got very dark. For three days previously the wind had been blowing steadily from the East, then it suddenly veered round to the South-West. The East wind had carried with it the dense volumes of smoke from the Black Country in Lancashire and the rain-drops falling through the cloud carried the soot with them, and so the rain-water was quite black and sooty.

* * *

Venus has been a very beautiful object in the Western Sky during the past month, but she will

disappear altogether towards the end of the month to re-appear soon again as a Morning Star. A very fine object in the sky this month is the "Sickle" in the Constellation *Leo*. It is to be seen due South each night at 10 p.m.

Seagoe Day School.

Important Dental Scheme.

The Commissioners of National Education have sanctioned a scheme for the Dental Treatment of the children attending Seagoe Day School. The Manager (Rev. J. E. Archer) has entered into an agreement with Mr. G. Liddell, L.D.S., of Church Place, Portadown, which provides for a quarterly inspection of the teeth of all the children attending the school, and also for the stopping of decayed teeth or their removal if too much decayed. The charge for each child for twelve months will be sixpence paid in advance. The scheme comes into force immediately. We hope that in a short time there will be no more toothaches among the children of Seagoe School.

Hymns for April, 1913.

MORNING.

6th	13th	20th	27th
2nd after Easter	3rd after Easter	4th after Easter	Rogation Sunday
192	388	404	455
196	438	397	207
363	533	362	606
529	354	462	550

EVENING.

588	552	573	517
613	570	546	514
553	556	387	575
193	544	579	209
577	574	557	520

Old Seagoe Notes.

New Bell for Seagoe Church, 1859.—The following is a newspaper cutting of some interest giving a list of the Subscribers to the purchase of Seagoe Church Bell fifty years ago:—The old Bell of Seagoe Church, after near a century of service, having at last been broken, it has been resolved to open a subscription for procuring a new one. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners will defray the expense of carriage and putting up, but will not give any money towards the bell itself.

The Churchwardens of Seagoe acknowledge to have received the following sums towards the purchase of a new bell for the Parish Church of Seagoe. All subscribers, or persons intending to subscribe, are requested to pay their Subscriptions without delay to the Churchwardens—Messrs John Watson and Walker—that the same may be duly acknowledged, and the SUBSCRIPTION LIST closed:—

1859.	PAID.	£	s.	d.	1859.	PAID.	£	s.	d.
Archdeacon Saurin	1	0	0		Dr. Bredon	..	0	5	0
S. Blacker, Esq. ..	1	0	0		Mr. G. Ruddell	..	0	5	0
Mr. G. Blacker ..	1	0	0		.. J. Robinson	..	0	5	0
.. John Watson ..	1	0	0		.. David Ruddell	0	5	0	
.. T. Shillington	1	0	0		.. Robert Moore	0	5	0	
.. Robert White	1	0	0		.. Robt. Balmer	0	3	0	
.. T. Armstrong	1	0	0		.. J. Wilson	..	0	2	6
.. John Macoun	1	0	0		.. Wm. Chase	..	0	2	6
.. W. Robinson ..	1	0	0		.. S. M'Ilveen	..	0	2	6
Mrs. Little ..	1	0	0		.. D. Gilpin	..	0	2	6
Mr. A. J. Lutton ..	0	10	0		.. John May	..	0	2	6
.. J. Montgomery	0	10	0		.. J. Cooke and				
.. David Irwin ..	0	10	0		.. A. Walker	0	11	0	
.. A Shillington ..	0	10	0		.. Levaghery				
.. A. Cowdy ..	0	10	0		.. Wm. Lutton	0	14	0	
.. Richard Clarke	0	10	0		.. Breach				
Rev. L. D. Elliott ..	0	10	0		.. C. Twinem	0	17	6	
Mr. W. Henry ..	0	10	0		.. Knockmenagh				
.. F. Ruddell ..	0	10	0		.. Thos. Spence	1	0	0	
.. L. Wilson ..	0	7	6		.. Hacknahay				
.. J. D. Mitchell	0	5	0		.. J. Macoun	0	15	0	
.. G. Kinhead ..	0	5	0		.. Tamnifiglasson				
.. Jas. Johnson ..	0	5	0						
Mrs. Walker ..	0	5	0						£21 15 6
Mr. W. Robinson ..	1	0	0						

Old Seagoe Games—"Nuts in May."—The games which we play in Seagoe are very interesting (as well as amusing) because each of them has a long history behind it. They have been played by our grandfathers and grandmothers in bygone days with just the same spirit and energy as we play them at our Socials and Excursions now-a-days. Many of them were brought to these parts from the East of England at the time of the Plantation of Ulster and others of them were of old Irish origin. One of the most popular games played by the Seagoe girls and boys is called "Nuts in May"—

Here we come gathering Nuts in May,
Nuts in May, Nuts in May,
Here we come gathering Nuts in May,
On a cold and frosty morning.

This is a very favourite game in many places. Its origin has been traced to Essex, and it was the Earl of Essex who helped to plant this part of Ulster, so very probably the game was first introduced in the days of the Plantation. Those who play it must sometimes have thought how hard it would be to gather *nuts in May* because nuts do not appear on the trees until much later in the year. And there is another difficulty, too, why should we turn the gathering of nuts into a game? The explanation is: "Nuts in May" was originally "Knots of May." It was the custom when May-day was approaching for groups of young lads to gather bunches of hawthorn blossoms to form the May Bush and to decorate their houses for May Day. They used to pay special attention to the house where the girl they liked best lived. Then when May Day came all the young people gathered together round the May Pole or May Bush and sang "Here we come gathering knots (or bunches) of May (Hawthorn blossom)." The bunches were usually gathered early in the morning hence the reference to "the cold and frosty morning."

We hope in our next issue to give the origin and history of some other of our popular Seagoe games.

A Few Words on Temperance.

The Church of Ireland Temperance Society is the Church's agent for battling with the Sin of Intemperance that is working such havoc in the land. Reader! Will you help? (1) By joining its ranks; (2) by giving it a subscription; (3) by taking and reading *The Visitor* each month.

The Rev. A. W. Barton, Head of the Trinity College Mission Staff in Belfast, in his excellent speech at the Second Annual Meeting very plainly indicated the chief difficulties that he and his helpers are confronted with. In the mission district—he did not say that it represented the whole of Belfast or that the conditions in that district were to be found everywhere in that city—there were three evils which the mission workers meet every day. Those were non-attendance at Divine Worship, intemperance, and gambling. From experience he could say that non-attendance at public worship was an evil among the poorer class that urgently required to be met. It was an evil that was bound up with the question of intemperance and gambling. In their district there are about 350 Church of Ireland families, to say nothing about Presbyterians and Methodists and other denominations, who go nowhere on Sunday. Perhaps the children come to the Sunday School more or less regularly. An important part of the work of the mission staff was to get these people to attend Divine Service. It was exceedingly difficult to persuade women to come to the Sunday Evening Service in their shawls and men in their working clothes. In spite, however, of rebuffs and disappointments, hope was entertained that they may yet be able to conquer the antipathy of these people against attending the Sunday Evening Services in their shawls and working clothes. Then there was the difficulty caused by intemperance. He never came across such intemperance. It was absolutely heart-breaking sometimes. But they were not able to touch the men until other branches of the work are more advanced. In order to reach them, however, he had visited their houses for the purpose of inducing them to come out to a Bible Class, and if they can be got to attend a Bible Class it would be possible to obtain some control over them. Their chief work, however, was among the lads of the district, and they have now forty or fifty boys who used to be roaming through the streets and gambling, playing games in a club, with which is connected a gymnastic club. In order to cope with the difficulty of getting new lads to join this club a drill night has been started, to which a number of smaller boys are admitted, in addition to the members of the club.

Mr. Drury, the Dublin Police Magistrate, made some strong remarks the other day about women's drinking. Joseph Kenny, a publican, was charged with supplying liquor to an intoxicated woman. Sergeant 21 A gave evidence for the prosecution to the effect that he saw defendant at the door looking down the street, and when witness entered he found the woman on the premises drunk. Defendant was examined, and said that the woman referred to was a person to whom he had not served drink for more than three years. On this occasion she entered the shop about 8 o'clock in the evening, being then apparently sober. She was accompanied by another woman, and left outside the door. A child began to cry. He declined to serve either of them, and they left. A good deal later the woman came back and went into the "snug." He ordered her out. She said, "Don't touch me and I will go." But she did not, and he had just caught hold of her to eject her when the sergeant entered. Corroborative evidence was given by a boy porter. The magistrate said he could not disbelieve the evidence of these witnesses. He dismissed the case, adding that in his opinion it was one that the Sergeant was fully justified in bringing. This was a case which provoked him to say that the state of things in Dublin with regard to the drinking habits of women was dreadful. He wished the law would make it a criminal offence to supply drink to women in publichouses by themselves. He thought positively that the majority of the people who are brought there charged with being drunk were women—women to whom was entrusted the rearing of the rising generation. Mr. Friend—I agree with your Worship. It is a shocking state of affairs. The Magistrate—If a woman is accompanied by a man a different state of matters exist, but it is my experience from cases between husbands and wives that what happens is that two or three of these women, when they get their husband's wages, go from publichouse to publichouse, and drink every shilling of it, their children starving, and their husbands neglected. Something ought to be done.

* *

A comprehensive address by Dr. C. W. Saleeby on "Alcohol and the Health of Women" was the principal feature of the concluding day's meeting of the County Union of the National British Women's Temperance Association in Hull. In the modern civilised world, he said, alcohol was the chief enemy of women. Under the influence of alcohol men, women, and children were liable to infection by microbes in general which they would otherwise have resisted. As a student of consumption he asserted that alcohol increased susceptibility to it, that public-houses were plague spots of the disease, and that the man who frequented them, having his susceptibility increased by his drinking, contracted the infection and was

liable to hand it on to any one who lived in the same house, and, above all, to anyone who occupied the same bedroom. Hosts of wives were infected in that way. If alcohol be the chief enemy of women, not merely through its action upon them directly, but through its action upon their fathers, husbands and sons, and above all through their husbands, it seemed to him that any woman was something like a traitress to her sex who was prepared to marry a man who was not a total abstainer.

* *

Dr. A. W. Chapple, M.P., speaking at a conference of day school teachers at the Liverpool University, on the subject of intemperance, said that the great evil they had to contend with was not drunkenness, but drinking. The drinker, the man who was continually absorbing alcohol without ever getting drunk, was doing himself and posterity more harm than the drunkard, for in the latter case nature insisted on abstinence after a severe bout, and thus gave a chance for the poison to be eliminated from the system. The human body was nothing but a mass of cells, and in normal cases the tendency weakened the structure of the nerve cells, and rendered a person less able to cope with disease when attacked. Answering questions that were put in the discussion that followed the lecture, Dr. Chappel said that alcohol was of no use whatever as a stimulant, and he had given up prescribing it. A doctor who took alcohol himself would be less efficient at the bedside than if he was an abstainer.

* *

Speaking as a medical man, the Mayor of Worcester recently said his view of alcohol was that it was a bad foundation upon which to commence a day's work. With non-alcoholic refreshment it was different. They might take a cup of coffee as early as they liked in the morning and they would find it extremely invigorating. It was the best invigorator he knew; it stimulated without muddling. It increased one's power and capacity for work. The curious effect about alcohol was that instead of warming those who took it, it cooled in the reaction by depressing the system. He remembered when in Lancashire that a contract was given out for a very dirty job—cleaning out a canal. The offensive puddling had to be done at night time. One-half of the men on the shifts took alcohol; the other half coffee. The men who drank the beer invariably were the most exhausted at the close.

* *

In a recent report the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths, and Marriages for England and Wales gives a total of 4,667 deaths from Alcoholism, Delirium Tremens, and Cirrhosis of the Liver. Of these 2,674 were men and 1,993

women, more than half being under 55 years of age. There perished in the "Titanic disaster" 1,503 people. The recorded victims of excessive drinking are equal to three "Titanic" disasters—all drowned in the sea of Drink. In the last ten years the recorded cases of such deaths in England and Wales have exceeded 60,000. As Mr. G. B. Wilson points out: "These figures only represent a small fraction of the drink-caused mortality in this country. There is a natural disinclination on the part of the medical profession to pain the survivors in a family by placing on a public document a record of the moral tragedy involved in a death due to excessive drinking, and the figures given above, therefore, only represent the cases where circumstances compelled a plain statement of fact."

* *

In connection with the strike on the North-Eastern Railway in December last it is interesting to note the system that prevails in Germany—a country that is not specially noted for Temperance fanaticism. The railroad service in Germany is, says an Alliance Press note, a semi-military organisation, and therefore is more easily under discipline and control. The Prussian Railway management has issued orders forbidding any engine-driver, switchman, or despatcher all use of beer and spirits when on duty, and the order closes with the statement that total abstainers will be given preference in the matter of promotion and permanency of employment. The sub-officers of divisions have issued more stringent rules, requiring total abstinence of all persons holding responsible positions, stating that no one need apply unless his character as a temperate man can be sustained.

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In the course of his address to the Diocesan Synod of Ossory, on Friday, 23rd July, 1909, the Right Rev. C. D'Arcy, D.D., now Lord Bishop of Down, said:—"In order to realise our unity as a Church, we should keep ourselves informed about the work of the Church all over the country, and the problems which she has to face. The only effective way of doing this is to take the CHURCH OF IRELAND GAZETTE and read it regularly. . . . Every Church household should take the GAZETTE, and so keep in touch with the life of the Church as a whole."

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