

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

APRIL, 1920.

It is not possible to express in words the feelings of the parishioners of Seagoe when rumours came through on the afternoon of Friday, March 26th, that Mr. Alan Bell had been ruthlessly assassinated in Dublin by a band of Sinn Fein murderers. Few people who have ever resided in our midst had gained such a place in the affections of the people as Mr. and Mrs. Bell. Coming here as strangers in the end of 1914, they soon proved by their kindness and thoughtfulness that it was the object of their life to make others happy, and from their house—Ashton—there radiated an atmosphere of Christian love and sympathy, such as had never been experienced before. Anyone who was in trouble, sickness, or bereavement found in Mr. and Mrs. Bell, and in Miss Nicholl most kind and true friends.

The many generous deeds done by Mr. Bell for the sick poor will never be fully known, for it was his habit to do all his kind acts as modestly and quietly as possible. Gifts of money, and of invalid delicacies were given liberally to all in need. The writer has several times met Mr. Bell carrying gifts with his own hand to the sick, and the anxiety he displayed whenever he was told of any one being in trouble, showed how deep and true was his sympathy. Mr. Bell was a most regular worshipper in Seagoe Church, and delighted to join with heart and voice in the Service of Prayer and Praise. He sought with unflinching regularity the grace that comes to the devout communicant. He gave with open-handed liberality to all the claims for Parochial and general church objects. Is it any wonder that when we heard of his approaching departure from the parish last December there was regret on every hand. We felt that we were losing one of our best friends, and this feeling was shared by all creeds and classes. Some of us felt anxious lest his position as a Resident Magistrate in the County Dublin, in these disturbed days, might bring his life into danger. No human life is sacred from the assaults of the fiends who would hurl to his death one who by his life and character had won the affections of all. It behoves us all to vindicate the cause for which Mr. Bell gave his life. We hope that some Memorial will be erected in our midst to commemorate those five happy and beneficent years which he spent among us.

The sympathy of the whole parish goes out to Mrs. Bell and Miss Nicholl in their awful sorrow, and our prayers will ascend to the Throne of Grace that they may be strengthened from on High to bear their sore burden of affliction.

The interment took place in Dean's Grange Cemetery, Kingstown, Dublin, on Monday, the 29th inst., the officiating clergy being the Rev. Thomas

Pearson, Rector of Christ Church, Blackrock, and the Rev. Dr. Elliott.

A meeting to express sympathy with Mrs. Bell and Miss Nicholl was held in Seagoe School on Thursday, April 1st, after the service in the Church, and a Resolution expressive of the feelings of the parishioners was passed. The Rector presided.

Reference was made on Sunday, March 28th, both at Morning and Evening Prayer in the Parish Church, to Mr. Alan Bell's tragic death. Before the beginning of Morning Prayer the Rector spoke of the horror of the crime felt by all, and dwelt on the high Christian character of Mr. Bell, and expressed sympathy with his relatives. The "Dead March" was played at the conclusion of the service both morning and evening.

THE EASTER COLLECT.

ALMIGHTY GOD, who through Thy only begotten Son Jesus Christ hast overcome death, and opened unto us the gate of everlasting life; we humbly beseech Thee, that, as by Thy special grace preventing us Thou dost put into our minds good desires, so by Thy continual help we may bring the same to good effect, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. *Amen.*

Easter.

A Festival in honour of our Lord's Resurrection has been observed from the very foundation of Christianity. Formerly the Festival lasted for 15 days. It was called the Pascha. During this period all law-suits were suspended, indulgence was granted to criminals, and special liberality was shown to the poor. It is one of the three great Christian Festivals, the other two being Christmas and Whitsuntide. A curious custom formerly observed at Easter was that of distributing the Pace or Pasche Egg. It is still perpetuated in the Easter Eggs, so popular at this season. That this custom had at one time a religious significance is proved by the existence of a remarkable prayer, found in a Mediæval Prayer Book, once used in Ireland. The Prayer is in Latin, and when translated is as follows—"Bless, O Lord, we beseech Thee this Thy creation of Eggs; that it may become a wholesome sustenance to Thy faithful servants, eating it in thankfulness to Thee on account of the Resurrection of our Lord." The egg was taken as a symbol of the Resurrection, inasmuch as it contained the germ of a future life.

Seagoe Day School.

The School closed for the Easter holidays on Friday, March 26th, and will (D.V.) re-open on Monday, April 12th, at 9-30 a.m. A punctual attendance of all the children is asked for on that date.

Easter Day Services.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11-30 a.m.—Morning Prayer and Holy Communion.

Preacher—Rev. W. T. Grey, M.A., Librarian, St. Finn-Barre's Cathedral, Cork.

3-30 p.m.—Children's Service.

7 p.m.—Evening Prayer and Sermon.

Preacher—Rev. W. T. Grey, M.A.

Subject of addresses at Morning and Evening Prayer—"Sorrow turned into Joy."

The offerings at all services on Easter Day will be on behalf of the Parochial Sunday Schools.

The Easter Vestry.

The Annual Easter Vestry of the Registered Vestrymen of the Parish will be held on Thursday in Easter Week, April 8th, in Seagoe School at 8 p.m. A meeting of the Select Vestry will be held in the same place on the same evening at 7-30. We hope to see a large attendance of the General Vestrymen of the Parish. According to the laws of the church the Easter Vestry must be held within six days after Easter, and its special duties are to elect a People's Churchwarden, and 12 of their own number to act as a Select Vestry for the Parish during the ensuing year. The Rector's Churchwarden is nominated at the Easter Vestry by the Rector.

Visitors.

The Parishioners were much cheered by the presence amongst them during the past week of old and much esteemed friends and former Curates of the Parish, the Rev. W. T. Grey and the Rev. J. Taylor. Mr. Taylor preached on Palm Sunday, and Mr. Grey gave addresses at the special services each evening during Holy week. The week before Easter is the great mission week of the church, and we are glad that so many have spent at least some portion of their time in the House of Prayer during these solemn days.

Nature Notes.

The month of April is a time of much interest to the observer of Nature. The death of Winter is past, and the life of Spring is bursting forth. Our Summer migrants, the Swallow, the Corncrake, and the Cuckoo, will soon be seen and heard. Who will see and hear them first in the Parish? We hope in our next issue to give the names and dates. The children attending Seagoe School are becoming expert as Nature observers, and we look forward to a time when the study of nature will be intelligently followed by many in the Parish. Bud and Leaf, Bird and Butterfly, Cloud and Sunshine, Tree and Flower are full of interest to those whose thoughts are intent on God's handiwork in Creation.

C.M.S. Boxes—1919-20.

Seagoe, £1 17s 1d—Mrs Ramsey 2s 6d; Mrs Ephraim Collins 3s 6d; Mrs J. Best 4d; Mrs S. Porter, 3s 1½d; Mrs S. Dickson 2s 4d; Mr Bennix 9s 3½d; Seagoe Morning Sunday School, 5s 3d; Seagoe Girls' Bible Class, 10s 9d.

Carne, 18s 8d—Mrs Price 2s 6d; Mrs Caddell 2s 6d; Mrs Murray 5s 3d; Mrs Martin 2s; Miss Lavery 2s; Mrs G. Simpson 2s 11d; Mrs Andrew Costelloe 1s 6d.

Edenderry, £1 19s—Misses Atkinson 2s 8d; Mrs C. Magee 2s; Mr William Tedford 1s 6d; Miss A. Johnston 2s 8d; Thomas and John Metcalf 5s 11d; Mrs Ellis 2s 6d; Mrs Flannigan 3s 9d; Mrs H. Stoops 2s 6d; Mrs Stevenson 2s 6d; Miss I Atkinson 3s; Miss G. Atkinson 10s.

Drumgor, £2 1s 1½d—Mrs S. Best, 2s; Miss M. Gracey 1s 10d; Mrs Hopps 4s 2d; Miss H. E. Martin 6s 9d; Mrs W. Gracey 2s; Mrs McMullan 6s 6d; Miss Lizzie Gracey 7s 3½d; Mr J. Lavery 3s; Mrs Dickson 7s 7d.

Hacknahay, £7 4s 5d—Mrs H. Neill 7s 9d; Mrs T. Neill 2s 9½d; Mrs Quinn 10s 7d; Miss C. McMurray 3s; Miss R. Black 8s; Miss M. McCormick 3s 6d; Miss M. England 5s; Mrs Bradshaw 10s 3d; Miss S. Maginnis 10s 10½; Miss Rodgers 6d; Miss G. Best 3s 10d; Miss A. Guy 2s; Mrs Wm. J. Calvert 3s 7d; Mrs Neill 2s 6d; Mrs L. Wilson 2s 0½d; Miss Devine 1s; Miss Abraham 8s 1d; Mrs N. England 6s 3d; Miss June Currie 5s 7d; Master S. Jennett 6s 2½d; Miss Rebecca Calvert £2 1s 1d.

Received late for 1919.—Mrs Dickson, Drumnagoon 1s 6d; Miss Sarah Martin 3s 9d.

Total of Box Collection—£14 5s 6½d.

Information Wanted.

A sum of £1 10s for the Clerical Augmentation Fund, was handed to the hon. treasurer, Mr. W. R. Atkinson, about a year ago, but the name of the subscriber has been overlooked. Anyone who gave a subscription of that amount would much oblige by sending in their name to Mr. James Sands, hon. Treasurer, Killicomaine Road.

Penny-a-Week Fund.

The Penny-a-Week Fund started about a year ago in connection with Edenderry Parochial Hall, has been very successful, and we heartily congratulate the collectors who, under the capable guidance of Miss Atkinson, have succeeded in raising a sum of almost £50 towards the improvement of the Hall. It has been decided to spend this money on the re-seating of the Hall. At a recent meeting of the Select Vestry a Resolution was passed approving of the purchase of seats, with reversible backs, sufficient to provide seating accommodation for 200 people. The seats will be made of pine with iron standards, and the back-rest will be reversible, so as to facilitate the arrangement of the seats for Sunday School purposes.

M.S.M.

Hearty congratulations to Mr. Robert John Porter, of Lower Seagoe, who has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal for steady and consistent good work done during the Great War. Mr Porter was Petty Officer in the 63rd (Royal Navy) Division, "Anson" Battalion. He enlisted on October 14th, 1914, and was demobilised on 22nd January, 1919. He served in Egypt, Suez Canal, Gallipoli and France. He fought in the action at Beaucourt (France) on the 13th and 14th November, 1916, and was also in action at Gallipoli on the 4th January, 1915. He was twice slightly wounded.

Concert in Edenderry.

A grand Concert will (D.V.) take place in Edenderry Parochial Hall, on Thursday, April 22nd. It will begin at 8 o'clock. An attractive programme has been arranged by Mr T. H. Wilson, Organist of Seagoe, and we hear that already a great many tickets have been sold. The proceeds of the concert will be divided between two deserving objects, the purchase of a set of the new Church Hymnal with Music for the Choir, and whatever balance remains will go towards providing a Piano for use in Seagoe Day School. It is very difficult to get the use of a Piano for Concerts in the Parish, and one of our own would be of great use. It is hoped that the Parochial Hall will have been re-seated before the Concert is held.

PARISH REGISTER for MARCH.

Baptisms.

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church, on March 6th, 1920.

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

Sponsors—Sarah Watson, Sarah Tate.

Hunniford—David, son of Charles John and Elizabeth Hunniford, of Lylo.

Sponsors—Josephine Webb, Elizabeth Hunniford.

Magee—Margaret, daughter of Joseph William and Emma Magee, of Kernan.

Sponsors—Caroline Magee, Emma Magee.

Marriages.

Partridge and Magee—March 5th, 1920, Benjamin Partridge, of Portadown, to Olivia Magee, of Kernan.

Hamilton and Allen—March 31st, 1920, Robert Hamilton, of Upper Seagoe, to Margaret Jane Allen, of Edenderry.

Burials.

Humphries 12th March, 1920, Martha Humphries, of Edenderry, aged 43 years.

Brownlee—17th March, 1920, Gladys Brownlee, of Drumnagoon, aged 2½ years. Interred at New Cemetery, Lurgan.

Ruddock—19th March, 1920, Sarah Ruddock, of Drumnacavaney. Interred at Kilmore.

ITEMS.

The Church will be decorated for Easter.

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The Choir will sing an Easter Anthem by Caleb Simper, "Worthy the Lamb."

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We congratulate Mr. John H. Twinem, of Lylo, on his enterprise in opening an establishment at No. 1, Edward Street, for the sale of Gentlemen's Outfitting and Boys' and Men's Ready-to-Wear Clothing. We wish Mr. Twinem much success in business. His family have been honoured parishioners of Seagoe for many generations.

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The Rev. W. T. Grey is very glad to be back once again in Seagoe. He is at present Librarian of St. Finn-Barre's Cathedral in Cork, and Curate of the Cathedral Parish. He also holds the position of Resident Preacher and "Thresher" Lecturer.

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We see that County-Inspector Wilbond, recently well-known in Seagoe and Portadown, has been appointed Divisional Commissioner for Connaught and Westmeath. Mr Wilbond was a most efficient Officer, and fearless in the discharge of his duty. We only hope that so valuable a life will be preserved in these dangerous days. The brave men who are confronting the Sinn Fein assassins deserve our sincere sympathy and most generous help in their arduous work.

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An epidemic of measles, happily of a mild form, has been prevalent in the Parish.

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The Swallow should be seen about April 20th. The Cuckoo should be heard about April 22nd, and the Corncrake about April 24th. White Butterflies may be seen about April 23rd.

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The Seagoe Corps of Girl Guides, under Lieutenant Agnes Guy, attended the Service in Seagoe Church on Monday, March 29th. This was their first appearance in public, and their smart turn-out very favourably impressed all who saw them. They have recently been officially Registered at Headquarters.

A Parish Social.

It is a long time since we had a Parish Social. The war with all its troubles and uncertainties made such social gatherings almost impossible, but now that peace has come, and things are getting back into the old way, it is well that the parishioners should have an opportunity of meeting together in social intercourse once again. At a recent meeting of the Select Vestry it was decided that a Parish Social should be held on Thursday, May 6th, in Seagoe.

School. A committee of Ladies is being formed representing the various districts of the parish to arrange the details of the meeting. Seagoe Parish is so extensive and populous that one end of it scarcely knows the other, and though we worship together in the Parish Church, yet there are few opportunities for meeting and knowing our fellow-parishioners. The Church is in the Scriptures described as the Household of God. As members of the same family, worshipping the one Heavenly Father, we should be bound together by the strong tie of Christian friendship. Meeting together under the one roof for a friendly cup of tea we will get to know each other better, and encourage one another along the road of life. The social is specially intended for the heads of households. The young people of the parish have many opportunities of meeting together, but on this occasion we hope to see in the old school-room, the scene of so many pleasant gatherings, a full attendance of the fathers and mothers of the Parish.

Tickets, 1/- each, will be issued at an early date.

OLD SEAGOE NOTES.

The Rev. Thomas A. Jones, Curate of Seagoe, 1873—1876—During the critical years 1873 to 1876 the Rev. Thomas Absalom Jones was Curate of Seagoe, and while here he made many friends among the parishioners, by whom he was very highly esteemed. He is one of the few whose names are frequently recalled even to the present day. He held the Curacy at the time when Archdeacon Saurin in advanced old age left the parish to reside in Rostrevor, where he remained until his death in 1879. Mr Jones was ordained a Deacon in 1870, and took Priests' Order in 1871. His first Curacy was at Moira, where he ministered from 1870 to 1873. In the latter year he was appointed Curate of Seagoe, and held that position until 1876, when he became Rector of Woods Chapel in the Diocese of Armagh. He continued there until 1882, when he became Curate of Killyman, and on April 24th, 1883, he was appointed Rector of Killyman. He resigned this Rectory on October 31st, 1886. It is interesting to note that Mr Jones held at one time the Rectory of Woods, which is now held by another Curate of Seagoe the Rev. George Bloomer.

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A Sporting Vestry, 1872—Easter Vestry Minutes, Monday, 1st April, 1872, moved by Mr James Atkinson, and seconded by Mr William Vaughan, that owing to the Registered Vestrymen preferring to attend Lurgan Races this Vestry stand adjourned to Monday, 8th April.

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The Roads of the Parish, 1781—At a Vestry held in the Parish Church of Seagoe, pursuant to a late Act of Parliament on Tuesday, the 4th day of September, 1781, by the Minister and Protestant

Parishioners, it was agreed that the sum of One Penny per acre be levied off the Townlands in the said Parish.

Towards the repairs of the Private Roads of the said Parish, the following persons to be the overseers, Applotters, Directors and Collectors. General Applotters—Richard Eustace, Thomas Gilpin. These Townlands in the Estate of Mr Brownlow are by Act of Vestry allowed to work according to the appointment of Mr Brownlow and Mr Eustace. William Richardson, High Constable, to be the Collector of the several sums lay'd on at said Vestry.

The road leading to Seagoe Church from the main road from Killicomaine, ending at Seagoe Church—Rev. Richd. Buckby, Thos. Gilpin, Directors and Overseers.

To repair from Richd. Wilson's Flush to the main road Lisnisky and Bocombra, Jas. Willson, Director, Richd. Willson and James Best, Overseers.

To repair the road from Clanrowl to Jane Tuft's and the Moss Lane. Directors, Thomas Gilpin and Joseph Ruddle. Overseers, Thomas Chambers, John Farrell.

To repair the road from George Midcaf's Bridge to Harrot's Bridge, Tarsan Townland. Overseers, Henry Midcaf and George Midcaf.

To repair the road in Tarson from John Erwin's from the Three Lane Ends to John Costly's. John Erwin and Joseph Lynas, Overseers.

To repair the road from Kilvergan Moss to Arthur Lavry's, Kilvergan, John McCollum, Overseer.

To repair the road from Felix Murphy's House End to the Big Stone next Widow Ruddles, Ballinacor. Director, Wm. Ruddle.

Richd. Buckby, Vic'r.
Stewart Blacker.

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Building and Furnishing an Isle, 1751—At a Vestry held in the Parish Church of Seago, on the 4th day of June, 1751 one, the late Churchwardens made up their Accounts to the satisfaction of the Parish.

It was agreed that the sum of Seventy Pounds, sterling, be laid out for the building and furnishing of an Isle, as shall be agreed upon by Wm. Blacker, Esq., Mr Wm. Robinson, and the Rev. Hugh Tisdall appointed Trustees by the Parishioners.

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The Singers of Seago, 1778.—At a Vestry held in the Parish Church of Seago on Tuesday, the 5th day of May, 1778, It was agreed that the front seat in the Gallery on the south side shall be, and it is hereby appointed for the use of the Singers of the Parish of Seago, and that the expences of repairing the said seat by Mr. William Lutton shall be paid by the Churchwardens as soon as it can be raised off the Parish.

To a spade and shovel for the sexton 5s 5d.

To repairing the Churchyard Gate 8s 3d.