

# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

APRIL, 1922.

## Special Services.

**Special Lent Service**—Wednesday, April 5th, at 8 p.m. Preacher—Rev. W. R. S. Clarendon, M.A., Curate-Assistant of Maralin.

**Holy Week**—Special Services will be held during Holy Week on each evening (except Saturday), at 8.

**Monday, April 10th**—Rev. George Bloomer. Subject—"The Barren Fig Tree."

**Tuesday, April 11th**—Rev. George Bloomer. Subject—"The Garden of Gethsemane."

**Wednesday, 12th**—Rev. George Bloomer. Subject—"Judas."

**Thursday, 13th**—Subject—"The Last Supper."

### GOOD FRIDAY.

11.30 a.m.—Morning Prayer, Litany and Sermon. Subject—"The Crucifixion."

8 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon. Subject—"The Message of the Cross."

The offerings on Good Friday will be in aid of the Jews Society.

### EASTER DAY.

8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

11.30 a.m.—Morning Prayer, Sermon, and Holy Communion.

7 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

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

Gifts of flowers for the decoration of the Church may be sent to the Church on Saturday morning (Easter Eve) at 10.30.

## The Mothers' Union.

On Tuesday afternoon, April 4th, a meeting will be held in Edenderry Parochial Hall at 4 o'clock for the purpose of starting a branch of the Mother's Union in Seagoe Parish. This is a most useful organisation, and has branches in many Parishes in Ireland and throughout the Empire. All the mothers in the Parish are cordially invited to attend. Don't wait to be asked. You will be heartily welcome.

Miss Hartford, the Head of the Women's Settlement in Belfast, has kindly consented to come and speak to the Mothers. Members will be enrolled at the close of the meeting.

## The Portadown Bridge.

This famous Bridge over the Bann has been doubled in width. The process of widening by the addition of steel girders has been proceeding for the past 12 months. The old stone arches on the Northern side remain as they have been since the Bridge was built. The extension has been made on the Southern side. The widened Bridge presents a magnificent roadway for the constantly increasing traffic. The new part of the Bridge was opened for foot passengers on Monday, February 20th, and the full width of the Bridge was opened for traffic on Thursday, March 23rd. The extension works cost £15,000. We might have expected that the Town Council would have arranged

for a formal opening ceremony. Perhaps it is not too late. Such an important event in the history of Portadown should be marked by some public ceremony.

## The Old Church Pillars and Gates.

The square Pillars and iron Gates which did duty at the entrance to Seagoe Church from 1816 to 1921 have been re-erected at Drumcree Churchyard extension. It seems strange to see them in a different Parish and Diocese, but we are glad they have not been put to any secular use. They were bought from Seagoe Vestry by Mr. John George Gracey, of Balteagh, and sold by him to Drumcree Select Vestry. Drumcree Churchyard extension is very finely situated, and the old Seagoe Gates form an imposing entrance to it. The Churchyard was consecrated by the Lord Primate on Sunday, March 5th, at 3.30.

## Our Sunday Schools.

Edenderry held its Prize Distribution on Thursday, March 23rd. The Hall was crowded with an eager gathering of the children. After tea a programme of music and Recitations was gone through, and was much enjoyed by all present. It had been arranged by the Misses Hawthorne and reflected great credit on them and the children who performed. At the close of the programme the Rector asked the Rev. A. O. Draper to distribute the Prizes to the successful pupils. A very large number received books and Church Services of Prayer Book and Hymn Book combined seemed the favourite prize. Miss Atkinson, Mr. Rennix, Superintendent of the Afternoon Sunday School; Mr. James Ford, Assistant Superintendent, and Mr. M'Clements, Superintendent of the Morning Sunday School, were among those present. A feature of the musical programme was a violin solo by Mr. Robert M'Clements, of Edenderry. A very happy evening concluded with a vote of thanks to all who had helped to make the evening so successful.

## Seagoe Girl Guides.

The Girl Guides have had several very interesting competitions recently. At an inter-squad Drill Competition held last month valuable Prizes, most kindly presented by Mr. James Shepherd, were handed by the Rector to the successful competitors. The troop is busy preparing for a forthcoming County Inspection. A competition for Assistant Patrol Leaders was held last Saturday.

## The Easter Vestry.

The Annual Meeting of the Registered General Vestrymen and Vestrywomen of the Parish will be held (D.V.) in Seagoe School on Thursday, April 20th, at 8 p.m. New Churchwardens and a new Select Vestry will then be elected by the votes of the General Vestry. A punctual attendance of the members of the General Vestry is requested.

### The Weekly Envelopes.

The Envelopes are doing well, and Mr. James Twinem is greatly pleased at the success of the system. He has a good band of Collectors working with him, and the Parishioners are rallying to the support of the old Church as we felt they would do when its needs were put before them. Save the kind Collector the trouble of calling at your house by bringing the Envelope to Church yourself each Sunday. A good way to bring your Envelope to Church is to put it between the leaves of your Bible or Paryer Book and Hymn Book.

### Bible Class Social.

The Bible Classes had a very enjoyable evening in Seagoe School on Shrove Tuesday, March 1st. There was a large gathering. The Rector spoke on the advantages of membership in a Bible Class, and the Rev. H. O. Draper also spoke and invited those present to recruit new members for the classes. Particulars as to the places and hours of the Classes will be found on the Cover of the Magazine. "Genesis" is the book now under study by the classes.

### Parish Register for March. Baptisms.

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on the 4th March, 1922:—

**Simpson**—Joseph Russell, son of William and Deborah Maria Simpson, of Kilvergan.

*Sponsors*—Evelyn Russell, Deborah Maria Simpson.

**Sharpe**—Anne Beatrice, daughter of John and Margaret Sharpe, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Ellen Margaret Campbell, Margaret Sharpe.

**M'Murray**—Cassie, daughter of Thomas and Sarah M'Murray, of Drumgor.

*Sponsors*—Margaret Anne Woods, Sarah M'Murray.

**Johnston**—March 29th, 1922, David, son of David and Anne Johnston, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—David Johnston. Anne Johnston.

### Burials.

**Glassey**—March 5th, George Charles Glassey, of Edenderry, aged 1½ years.

**Armstrong**—March 8th, Margaret Armstrong, of Balteagh, aged 76 years.

**Cassidy**—March 9th, Rebecca Cassidy, of Lurgan, aged 71 years.

**Matthews**—March 10th, Anne Matthews, of Edenderry, aged 73 years. Interred at Drumcree.

**Coulter**—March 11th, Mary Anne Coulter, of Edenderry, aged 53 years.

**Webb**—March 13th, Mary Jane Webb, of Edenderry, aged 76 years.

**Geddes**—March 19th, Sarah Anne Geddes, of Breagh, aged 76 years.

### Obituary.

Death has been very busy in our midst last month, as our long list of Burials proves. We offer our deep sympathy to the bereaved. Though suffering and separation be our lot here below yet the darkness is brightened by the sure and certain hope of a Resurrection to Eternal

Life. Jesus said: "I am the Resurrection and the Life."

In Edenderry Mrs. Anne Matthews, Mary Anne Coulter, and Mrs. Mary Jane Webb were all well known, and will be sadly missed.

Mrs. Armstrong, of Balteagh, had recently come from Glasgow and passed away quite suddenly. Mrs. Geddes, of Breagh, had been failing in health for some time.

### Scout Display.

The Edenderry Troop of Scouts had a very successful "Display" in Edenderry Parochial Hall on Thursday, March 16th. The feature of the evening was a fine series of exercises on the Parallel Bars, in which Herbert Lavery won the Medal after a close competition. Mr. M'Crum, the Co. Armagh Scout Commissioner, said it was the best display he had ever seen. It reflects great credit on Mr. David Guy, the instructor. Mr. Howard Stevenson deserves to be congratulated on the success of the evening, towards which he worked strenuously.

### ITEMS.

Influenza has been very prevalent in the Parish. Whole families have been laid up with it, but fortunately fatal cases have been very few.

All the town schools were closed, but Seagoe School remained open, and there was no diminution in the daily attendance during the epidemic. This is a testimony to the healthiness of the School, where the children are educated in ideal surroundings.

Crows gained entrance to Seagoe Church Tower and were about to build when the Select Vestry intervened, and these intrusive birds have had to seek shelter elsewhere.

The Swallow, the Cuckoo and the Corncrake are due in April. Who in the Parish will be the first to note their arrival? Keep your eyes and ears open.

Read our Advertisements. It will be to your advantage. Good quality at a fair price is the secret of success in business, and satisfies both seller and buyer.

We are glad to see that it is proposed to erect a Memorial to the Fallen in Portadown.

At least two of our Seagoe men have recently been kidnapped and detained in Southern Ireland without any cause of arrest being assigned. They can claim compensation through the British Law Courts, and we hope they will.

A pleasant incident last month was the entertainment of the Choir on St. Patrick's evening in Seagoe School by some of the Parishioners. The evening was much enjoyed.

### Old Seagoe Notes.

\* **Census of Edenderry. 1841—81.**—The Townland of Edenderry for the Census Enumerations for 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, and 1881 was divided into two parts, Edenderry (a) being outside Portadown and Edenderry (b) inside Portadown. The figures for the latter are of great interest. The Population was as follows:—1841, 183 persons; 1851, 333; 1861, 995; 1871, 1241; 1881, 1478. Number of Houses—1841, 30; 1851, 63; 1861, 206; 1871, 275; 1881, 313. Apparently Edenderry grew with great rapidity between 1851 and 1861. It trebled in size and population during that period.

## WITH THE "NINTH" IN FRANCE.

By Lieut.-Col. S. W. BLACKER, D.S.O.

[Colonel Blacker's Letters published in this issue are of special interest as they cover the critical period of Easter, 1916, when the Rebellion broke out in Ireland. We also get a glimpse of that Easter at the front, the last for many of our lads, and the faithful work of the Padre, who held seven Services for the men. The good work done by Major Atkinson ("At.") and Lieut. Montgomery is also referred to in this section.]

(Continued from March Magazine.)

**Easter Sunday, April 23rd**—Am getting out the cows to graze to-day, 2 at a time, and tethered as there is quite a lot of grass. We had 1 man, Bryans, from Armagh, wounded last night, carrying rations; had 1 fear—M.G. bullet in back, and still here. Internal hemorrhage. Aeroplanes active to-day again, on both sides, first time for some days owing to weather. A fine drying wind. I hope will dry things up a bit. Bryans was in the last draft. Attwell, John, wounded slightly 21st. The Russkys seem to be pushing well. They are wonderful soldiers. When one considers the heavy knocks they've had, their recuperative powers are great. Poor young Bruce Armstrong, in Boyle's R.E. Coy., was killed yesterday by a Trench mortar, I hear. Instantaneous. Result of raids—15 prisoners, our casualties 5 wounded, Hun casualties I haven't heard. **Easter Monday, April 24th**—Had quite an active day, and it was a lovely sunny spring day. Went over to see Ricardo in p.m.—he is on our left. He had 2 killed and 16 wounded, including 3 Officers, the night before, and was rather sad about it. The Padre held 7 Services and walked miles. I visited the cooks with Berry in the morning, and various working parties. It was a pleasure to be out. Trenches drying up well under a drying breeze. I'm glad we are this side of the river. The other side did not strike me as being a pleasant spot at all. Am waiting in for Brig. and have Coy. Commanders Conference at 2 p.m., and to go to far end of line with R.E. at 3 p.m.

#### A Patrol, Under Montgomery,

met a Bosche patrol last night and outed one man. We had no casualties. Aerial activity on both sides this a.m., otherwise quiet and a quiet night, except for Hun M.G. fire on our Ration road. Certainly, when fine, this part of the line is pleasant, and except for the crowd in the cellar I prefer it to M—. A good deal more interesting. Pratt full of zeal for sniper posts, etc., and observation of the Bosches' doings through telescope. Elephant not ready yet, so still in old cellar. Trenches dried up grand and were delightful to-day. Had a long afternoon inspecting various places for projected work. We had a patrol under Montgomery, to the mill last night. Found nothing! Returned all right. Andrews, a new Officer, went sick to-day with Hun spots. Div. sports at H— to-day. We won wrestling on horse back and some flat race. Padre went to see Bryans in Hospital; he is going on well. **Tuesday, April 25th**—A cloudless, windless day, and pootzily warm. Bosche 'planes trying to get over. At 2 a.m. 'At.' came and reported while digging a new sap he'd come across a shaft shored

with wood, with a wire in it, and suspected mining shaft. I went out myself and made a close examination, and am convinced it's an old French shaft from our lines to a listening post, which has fallen in at entrance, which is a relief. While we were here a strange dog came nosing around, and in a few minutes we saw a small German patrol go back over a German parapet. Patrols evidently go out with a dog. It was a lovely dawn with a mist along the river, which should mean fine weather. Another Officer been posted, and on his way from the Base. Don't give us any information about him. We had our first case of accidental wound this morning. A man in 'C' Coy. shot himself in the foot. They put a lot of Trench mortars into Battalion on our right, about midnight. A certain amount of M.G. fire, otherwise a quiet night. There is an almost total absence of sniping, and the Bosche lot opposite are a peaceful lot just at present. We are grazing the cows daily now. One broke away on being first let out, broke rope, and careered up the hill. However, she was pursued and recaptured. **Wednesday, April 26th**—Another lovely day and warm. Too many people moving about the village yesterday! Result—it was searched with Whizz-bangs from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. A Whizz bang got a poor fellow called Hutchinson, from Richhill, and killed him. He was buried last night. He also was in the last draft, which have been singularly unlucky.

#### Tin Hats Were Too Hot to Touch

after an hour in the sun yesterday. They are, though, of course, much uglier than the French, more serviceable in every way, and give more protection. Blackwood goes for old 'A.' and very rightly. We shall never do anything while he's there, I'm sure. I must say I've enjoyed this tour in the Trenches, the weather since Sunday has been so glorious. Heaps of aeroplanes up and being fired at from both sides. They put 3 Trench mortars (large) into the village yesterday p.m., but luckily did no damage. Am just going to sally forth on the morning rounds. The fine weather has made every one very chirpy. The men who were not with us Xmas 1914 should not get the P.M. boxes. **Thursday, April 27th**—Relief went off all right, but I didn't get in till nearly midnight. There was a good deal of firing of all sorts going on up to 11 p.m. Another lovely day, but getting very hot. This place is crammed with people, and a great dearth of water. Much less comfortable than when we were here before. Guns everywhere. We had a capital show yesterday p.m. Huns were very busy on railway about 150 yards from us. We got How. Major to come down and he got his Hows. on and gave them 14 H.E.'s, 2 of which were most effective, and one saw baulks of timber flying in the air. Spoilt his little game for a bit and made him stuffy, and he just bursts off Trench mortars and Whizz Bangs into Battalion on our right during the evening. The How. Major, one Scott, was Geoffrey White's Capt. in Riding Troop. Very nice fellow; he is ——— Major, and has a very nice lot. Am going to visit his O.P. this p.m. While we were at lunch an H.E.

## Shell landed about 50 Yards Off,

near a working party of R.E., and killed a Sergeant. Another lot of men go on leave May 3, and the last lot of Officers May 8th. Then we begin again on 13th. Wonder what the Govt. will do with Sian Feiners, and Casement. Hope they'll shoot the latter. There must be great excitement in the North over the capture of Dublin. Very hot. About 11 a.m. the Bosches began to put Whizz-Bangs all over our sector with a good many 4.2 Hows. into some new works. Lasted till about 1.15. Na casualties. Movement about the area was difficult. No paper, so we don't know how Dublin is faring. Spent a most instructive 3 hours in R.A. Observation Post near here, and had a thorough examination of Bosche lines. Their line is marvellously strong. The Med. Officer of 12th was wounded in both hands to-day, in the line. Hope you're having this grand weather? Had tea with Scott and How. Bde. Schweder is one of his Subs. Notwithstanding water difficulties we bathed 150 men this p.m. I hope to do 200 to-morrow. Very warm evening again. Am trying to get 8 days relief. instead of 6, now the weather is good. One is just getting settled down to the work when one has to go out, and then the nightmare of relief. Monkhouse is Brigr. R.A. 29th Div. near here, I believe. **Friday, April 28th**—Another lovely day with a nice gentle breeze. Instead of resting the men while out of the line, we have to find large working parties every night, and the heavy work and the sudden increase of temperature is causing a certain amount of high temperatures. I have told the Bder plainly that unless the men get some rest there will be a breakdown. I did the idiot boy over a working party of 100 ordered for last night, and didn't send it, thereby causing excitement, and reasons in writing. However, we saved the men and they got 1 night's rest anyway. To-night we find 80 men.

## Oh! These Working Parties,

such an amount of needless fatigue for the men. No letters again to-day, due to this Dublin business, I suppose. We've only got Wed's papers which gives no more news than Tuesday. I visited another Battery near here, Com. by a Capt. who came out as a Sub. in B By. Seemed a very capable fellow. He was full of praises of the gunners. We have a working party lengthening a sap and wiring it in the front line to-night. 30 men and 2 Officers from Pioneers rolled up this p.m. to assist in work generally. **Saturday, April 29th**—Another fine sunny day. More wind, and dust blowing in clouds. The night party returned without mishap, having dug their sap and wired it. The 16th were rattled at first by a few Whizz-Bangs going over head. They had evidently done no trench work, and were rather at sea generally. No wonder, as they were making railways in rear for the last six months. Wonder how long postal arrangements to Ireland will be interrupted by this Dublin show; expect for some days, and we've got to do without letters, owing to this rotten Govt. What troops have they got to deal with the situation? They might send the 10th down. How they'd enjoy it! 3 p.m.—Huns been shelling Battery behind our H.Q. about 400 yards. From

12 to 5 p.m. put in 60 shells, 6 of which were duds, and no damage done. Very interesting watching it from our garden. **Sunday, April 30th**—4 days, no letters. Suppose Troops from England occupy all available boats. Another attempted raid on our part last night, preceded by a 2-hour Artillery strafe, which made sleep impossible. The raid was from the 29th Div. to wipe out their former fiasco, but alas! it failed. The Bosche was ready for them and drove them back. We had a Service in a forge this a.m., and got about 250 men there. Padre gave us a splendid sermon. They left this place alone last night and only put

## A Few Shirapnel Bouquets

at the guns, making 120 odd shots at them in the day. The result of the 120 shots, most of them 5.9, on the Battery behind us, was one man wounded and he went out to mend his wire. Went down to see Brew and his lot yesterday p.m. They are holding an outpost in a wood and seemed very happy. The wood was quite lovely— young beech, and a carpet of anemones, blue bells and cowslips. No primroses. The river near them where they bathe; quite an ideal existence in this weather. Thursday's and Friday's "Times" came yesterday. Interesting as to Government defeat over the Recruiting Campaign, but destitute of much news about Ireland. Sudden thunderstorm came up out of a cloudless sky, dust blowing and heavy peals of thunder, but rain not begun yet. It will lay the dust, which has been very bad. 10 p.m.—No letter again to-day. Yesterday's "Daily Mail" gives a 2 page account of the Dublin rising. I'm relieved to see Ulster is absolutely quiet. It seems to have come to a head a little prematurely, but is part of a large conspiracy engineered by German money. I see Enniscorthy and Gorey are centres of trouble. **Monday, May 1st**—Another glorious day and very warm. Walked to H— and saw Bull and Brig. Yesterday was quiet except for a Hun strafe of about half an hour S. of this some way. Saw Sunday's "Daily Mail." Dublin still seems to be in rebel hands, and 6,000 rebels in Wexford. Am anxious about Woodbrook. Kut has fallen, alas! after a gallant struggle. According to present arrangements we shall remain going in and out in this bit till about 20th, when we go back for a fortnight and then into this bit again. Wonder when letters will get through. Another lot go on leave to-day. Wonderful tales of rebels shooting women and children; wonder are the U.V.F. doing anything. They should be

## Organised for the Defence of Ulster

I know you'll let me know all the news you hear. 4 p.m.—Your letter of Wednesday just arrived. Great relief. You are evidently more in the dark than we are! 12th sent up S.O.S. signal about 8.45 p.m. Apparently they were being bombarded with trench mortars. However, after quarter hour all was quiet again. You appear to have had very heavy rain, hope you are having this glorious weather now. It banked up for thunder again this evening, but nothing came; the evening is close. We go in again to-morrow for 6 days.

(To be continued.)