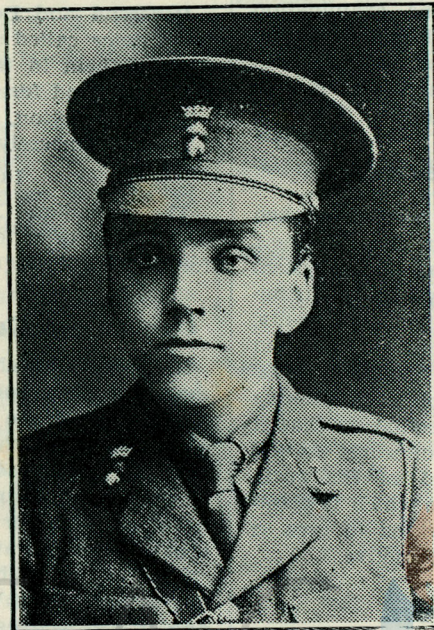


Seagoe Parish Magazine.

AUGUST, 1924.



Rev. Robt. W. Johnston, L.Th.

(By kind permission of the "Portadown News.")

We present our readers this month with a photograph of the Rev. R. W. Johnston, now one of the Curates of Seagoe. Mr. Johnston was ordained for the Curacy in St. Aidan's Church, Belfast, on Sunday, July 6th. This photograph was taken in 1916 when Mr. Johnston was a Lieutenant in the 9th Battalion of the Royal Irish Fusiliers. He served with the Battalion from the end of July, 1916, until the fatal Sixteenth of August, 1917, when so many of those who had survived the disastrous July 1st, 1916, were wounded or killed. On that day Colonel Somerville, who had succeeded Colonel Blacker in command of the Battalion, was killed, and also Lieutenant Shillington.

Royalty in Seagoe.

It is not often that Royalty visits the Parish of Seagoe, but on Tuesday, July 22nd, the Duke and Duchess of York alighted from their train at Portadown Station and spent a busy 15 minutes receiving an Address, inspecting the guard of honour, and smiling at the hearty welcome from the children and their parents. Seagoe Parish was well represented in the crowd. The Duke and Duchess seemed to be greatly pleased with their reception. The Station was beautifully decorated with flags and banners, and everything passed off with great success.

Edenderry.

Now that the Rev. R. W. Johnston has come to help us in our work in the Parish we hope to see a great development of Church life in Edenderry. Every Church home in that great district should be a centre of loyalty to the Church and the Divine Head of the Church. There are 205 Church households in the District. The Afternoon Sunday School is now very large, and quite fills the Parochial Hall. In our next issue we hope to give an outline of our special work arranged for the coming winter months. In the meantime we ask all our Edenderry people to help us by prayer and work so that our efforts may have the Divine blessing.

Seagoe at Wembley.

A large number of the Parishioners have already visited the great Empire Exhibition at Wembley and have enjoyed this wonderful picture of the activities of the British Empire. Two of the pupils of Seagoe School have successfully passed the examination held last month for free passes to London and the Exhibition; they are Willie Livingston and Jack Hill. We congratulate them on their success and wish them a very pleasant holiday in London.

Weekly Freewill Offerings.

It is very important that all those who have taken sets of Envelopes should bring or send in their offerings without delay. The success of the system depends upon punctual payments by each contributor. Do not get into arrears with your payments, and, if you have, please pay in the arrears as soon as possible. The proper way is to bring the Envelope with you to the Parish Church each Sunday and place it reverently in the collection so that it may be offered up with the other offerings on the Holy Table. It is your gift to God for His work. Read carefully the verse of Scripture which is printed on each Envelope. It will help you to give in the right spirit, and from the right motive.

Portadown Station.

Important work is being undertaken at Portadown Station by the G.N.R. It was necessary to undertake extensive excavations at the upper end of the town to provide room for new engine sheds, and the surplus earth is being brought down to the neighbourhood of the Station to enable additional lines to be laid so as to give more accommodation for carriages and trucks. Perhaps at some future date when Portadown grows—as it will grow—the Bann meadows will provide a space for the rolling stock necessary for increased traffic. The same process of development has taken place in Belfast, where the extensive Bog Meadows have been annexed by the Railway Company. Portadown is gradually obtaining a stronger position in Northern Ireland owing to its central position. The visit of the Duke of York will help to strengthen this position.

Edenderry Parochial Hall.

The New Heating apparatus for the Parochial Hall will in a short time be installed. The underground Furnace chamber is now finished and the drain connecting it with the main sewer completed. It is a good piece of work, but the expense will be considerable. Those who are disposed to help would oblige by sending a subscription to Miss Atkinson, Eden Villa, who is Secretary of the Parochial Hall Committee. The Urban Council have now completed the paving of the footpath outside the Hall, and the appearance of the place is greatly improved.

From Canada.

The Archdeacon of Ontario writes to the Rector as follows:—

St. James' Rectory,
Ontario, May 7th, 1924.

Reverend and Dear Sir,—Your letter to hand. I have twice called on them and shall do my best to interest them in the Church. I shall strive to have them prepared for Confirmation. Thanking you for your information, and with best wishes,

I am, sincerely yours,

ROBERT H. FERGUSON, Rector.

The Canadian Church is alive and active, and looks well after our Emigrants. We thank them for all they have done.

A Curates' House.

As Seagoe Parish has now a staff of two Curates the need of a suitable residence for them within the bounds of the Parish becomes more than ever a necessity. Such a residence should be situated near the Church so that the work of the clergy may be centralised as much as possible. It has not been found possible for the assistant clergy to get lodgings within the Parish, and so they have had to find shelter in a neighbouring Parish. At a recent meeting of the Select Vestry the subject was discussed, and it was suggested that such a house might be erected on the plot of ground belonging to the Select Vestry between the School and the Teacher's Residence.

Seagoe School.

The term "National" is no longer to be applied to our Day Schools. The new name is to be "Public Elementary School." The School will re-open (D.V.) on Monday, August 11th, at 9.30 a.m. sharp. The Select Vestry are repairing and cleaning the School premises during the holidays. Seagoe School has had a wonderful record of health. It possesses a splendid playground. The rooms are well lighted and well ventilated, and the danger from fast traffic is reduced to a minimum owing to its being situated off the main road. In wet weather the children can use a roomy shelter in the playground. A thorough and up-to-date education is imparted to the children as is evidenced by the recent record of the School in winning Scholarships and Prizes. The Senior Pupils are taught gardening in a special School garden, working under the supervision of Mr. Bignold, the Inspector of Agriculture and Gardening under the Government of Northern Ireland. The clergy of the Parish visit the School once a week to give Religious Instruction. Each day the School is opened with Prayer. Religious Instruction is given to the children daily from 9.50 a.m. to 10.20 a.m. Parents are asked to see that their children are punctual in attendance.

New Houses.

Building operations are again after the cessation caused by the Great War, becoming noticeable in the Parish, chiefly in Edenderry. A large Villa has been built in Stewart Avenue, Mr. Shanks has built two pretty houses in Carrickblacker Road, and two other roomy houses have been built beside Mr. Wm. Sherman's. We hear of other houses in contemplation. People who have built houses are anxious to give them nice names, but there are now so many Edens in Edenderry that it has begun to be called the Garden of Eden. Edenderry House, Edengarth, Eden Mount, Eden Bank and many others are now in use. We would suggest that as far as possible the names of new houses and of new streets should embody the history and the natural features of the Parish. We have one example in Edenderry—Goban Street, which was so named by the Rector on the invitation of Mrs. Hamilton Robb when the street was first made. Goban or Gobhan was the founder of Seagoe in the 6th century A.D. Tydba was the name of Seagoe Parish in medieval times. As possible names we would suggest Carrick-ville, Blacker Avenue, Saurin-dale, Forde Street (after the Rev. Arthur Fforde, a former Vicar of Seagoe in the 18th century), Bann-vale, Campbell Drive (after the Rev. John Campbell, Vicar of Seagoe, who brought a party of Seagoe men to the Siege of Derry and was also present at the Battle of the Boyne). The "derry" in Edenderry means an oak-tree. Derry might be used as Derry-ville or Oak-tree Cottage, Oak-Farm, Oaklands, Oakley. These are but a few of the names which are suggested by the history and surroundings of the neighbourhood.

Seagoe Churchyard.

Again we would ask holders of grave plots to please keep their grave plots tidy. Some have very kindly done so already in response to our request, but some of the plots are a wilderness of weeds. Where our dead rest should be the best kept bit of ground in the Parish. It is God's acre.

Seagoe Men's Class.

The Seagoe Men's Bible Class will resume work (D.V.) on Sunday, August 3rd, at 10 a.m. The Class will be held in Seagoe Church. We invite to this Class all the old members who in pre-war days were so regular in attendance and enjoyed so much the instruction in God's Word which they received. The Class will be held each Sunday. "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

Parish Register for July.

Baptisms.

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on 5th July, 1924 :—

Abraham—Robert Henry, son of Samuel John and Mary Elizabeth Abraham, of Breagh.

Sponsors—Samuel John Abraham, Margaret Mayes.

Partridge—William, son of Benjamin and Olivia Partridge, of Portadown.

Sponsors—Maria Jane Ford, Olivia Partridge.

Atkinson—Jane Anna, daughter of Gardner and Sarah Jane Atkinson, of Belfast.

Sponsors—Mary White, Sarah Jane Atkinson.

M'Neill—Victor, son of Samuel George and Anna M'Neill, of Ballymacrandle.

Sponsors—Edith Kilpatrick, Anna M'Neill.

Porter—July 2nd, 1924—Martha Georgina, daughter of Robert John and Margaret Anne Maud Porter, of Lower Seagoe.

Sponsors—Margaret Porter, Margaret Ann Maud Porter.

Johnston—July 27th, 1924—Norman Charles, son of James Alexander and Helen Mary Johnston, of Kernan.

Sponsors—William Duncan, James Alexander Johnston, Mary Elizabeth Johnston.

Marriage.

White and Ruddy—June 28th, 1924, Ephraim White, of Lylo, to Ellen Jane Ruddy, of Lurgan.

Burials.

M'Kee—June 29th—Mary M'Kee, of Tarsan, aged 47.

Wright—July 11th, 1924—Mary Alice Wright, of Tamnificarbet, aged 42 years.

Hewitt—July 18th, Samuel Hewitt, of Edenderry, aged 37 years.

M'Cullough—July 28th, Richard M'Cullough, of Balteagh, aged 1 year. Interred at Donaghcloney.

Obituary.

We had not space last month to comment on the long list of those whose names appeared in the roll of Burials. It is seldom that within a short month we have lost so many of our Parishioners. Especially sad was the death of Mrs. Whiteside of Lower Seagoe. In the prime of life and after a very brief illness she was taken from among us. Another name in our list, Thomas M'Crory, recalls to mind the great interest he took in Edenderry Men's Bible Class, which he attended without missing a single Sunday for over nine years. He was always very proud of the Medals and Certificates he had won. Some of those whose names appear, John Hickland, David Rainey, Emma Jane Malcomson and Harrison

Gracey had been in weak health for a long time, while Mrs. Eliza Hughes passed away after a brief illness. Joseph Craig, though advanced in years, had been active until quite recently. The names of two children appear in the list—Myrtle Elizabeth Simpson, an infant, and Irene Gladys Ruddell, whose death occurred quite suddenly from septic scarlatina. In this month's list there are fewer names, but still four have been called away. Mary Alice Wright, who had been in weak health for many years; Samuel Hewitt, well known and very popular in Edenderry, had a long and trying illness, as had also Mrs. Mary M'Kee of Tarsan. Mr. and Mrs. M'Cullough of Balteagh have lost their little son, aged only 12 months. A specially sad thing was the death of one who had only been in the Parish a month. Lavinia Michel came from the Parish of Innisrush in the County Derry, and was a maid at the Manse, Lurgan Road. Her illness was very sudden. She passed away a few days after her admission to the Infirmary. The Rev. J. and Mrs. Heney showed her great kindness. She was interred at Innisrush on Sunday, June 29th, the Rector, the Rev. J. O'Connor, M.A., officiating at the grave. Our prayerful sympathy goes out to all in the Parish who have suffered bereavement. "Father in Thy gracious keeping, Leave we now our loved ones sleeping."

ITEMS.

The continuance of wet weather has made hay-making very difficult this year.

Seagoe Choir is practising for the Choral Festival to be held in Maralin Church on Saturday, September 6th. The Rev. Dr. Aldwell, LL.D., Rector of Ballylesson, is acting as Trainer and Conductor of the Choirs.

A glance through our advertising columns is recommended to those who desire in their purchases to get full value for their money.

Shankill Parish Magazine is keeping up its high standard of interest. Its local news is crisp and brightly written. The present issue has a complimentary reference to our new Curate, the Rev. R. W. Johnston.

At the July Anniversary Service held in Seagoe on Sunday evening, July 6th, the collection for the Enniskillen Orphan Fund amounted to £10 5s 10d.

The Teachers in Seagoe Afternoon Sunday School presented Mr. W. E. Dickson with a Fountain Pen on the occasion of his leaving the Parish.

A large number of Seagoe people have already visited the great Exhibition at Wembley.

An enlarged copy of an interesting snapshot of our 1924 Sunday School procession taken by Mr. Twinem, U.S.A., has been kindly presented to the Rector. We hope shortly if possible to print it in the Magazine.

We print here the addresses of the Curates of Seagoe—The Rev. W. T. Wilson, M.A., 21 Edward Street; the Rev. R. W. Johnston, L.Th., The Cottage, M'Gredy's Nursery, Portadown.

The Lurgan Road is still under repair. One piece of the road at the Lurgan end is in a disgraceful and most dangerous state. Some serious accident may happen at any moment. As we write there is a large and deep hole at the point where the Urban and Rural Portadown boundaries meet. Who is to blame? The sturdy frame of a B.S.A. motor cycle snapped the other day on the Lurgan Road. Fortunately the cyclist escaped injury.

A lady in Utah, U.S.A. (we hope she is not a Mormon) is making a collection of all the Baptismal, Marriage, and Burial entries of all the families of Best and Robinson in the Parish of Seagoe from 1672 to the present day.

If you are in arrears with your Weekly Envelopes please bring them in and you will greatly help the Parish Funds.

Mr. George Wilson, of Lower Seagoe, has been appointed Hon. Sec. of the Finance Committee.

Some of the young men in Seagoe are negotiating for the rental of a field for recreation purposes.

You are invited to attend the mid-week Service, which is held in the Parish Church every Wednesday evening at 8 p.m.

Miss Isabel Best is on holiday from the Training College, and has kindly taken a class in Seagoe Afternoon Sunday School each Sunday. Willie Best has been elected to the Masonic Orphan Boys' School in Dublin and goes there in September.

Mr. M'Dowell, U.S.A., has arrived at Killicomain for his usual Trans-Atlantic holiday. He never forgets the old Parish.

Mr. Victor Walker has purchased a house at Broadstairs, Kent, and has named it "Seagoe."

Some of those who had intended emigrating to the States have found it difficult to get permission owing to the restrictions introduced by the American Government.