

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

AUGUST, 1926.

CLERGY :

Rev. Canon Archer, B.D., The Rectory, Seagoe, Portadown.

Rev. R. W. Johnston, L.Th., 21 Edward Street, Portadown.

CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's—Mr. James Twinem, Lylo and Edenderry.
People's—Mr. Moses Gilpin, Drumnagoon.

July Anniversary Service.

This service, held annually in Seagoe Parish Church, was held this year on Sunday evening, July 11th, at 7 o'clock. Large crowds were present, and the various Lodges from Portadown and Seagoe took part in the service. The body of the Church was filled with the brethren, who joined heartily in the service. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. R. McDonald, M.A., Rector of Donaghcloney. Before beginning his sermon he asked the members of the Lodges to stand while he read out the rules and obligations by which the members of the Order are bound. In the course of his sermon he referred to the present position and prospects of the Christian Church and the dangers which beset it. In making an appeal on behalf of the Lord Enniskillen Orphan Fund he said that some people were saying that the widows and orphans now no longer needed help owing to the Government provision of pensions, but he pointed out that many widows and orphans were ineligible for the Government pension, and even those who did receive it were still often in need of further help. He was glad to know that those who controlled the Enniskillen Orphan Fund had decided not to reduce in any way the benefits hitherto given by the Fund to the widows and orphans. The collection, which amounted to over £9, was on behalf of the Enniskillen Fund. At the close of the service the National Anthem was sung. Two Lodges of the Women's L.O.L. were present at the service.

The Curacy of Seagoe.

The Rev. R. W. Johnston, much to our regret, leaves the Parish this month. The Rector has not yet heard of a successor to Mr. Johnston. A large number of curacies are at present vacant in this and other Dioceses, and difficulty is experienced in filling them owing to the scarcity of curates. The Parish of Seagoe has been considered by the Representative Church Body as requiring two curates at least, but for some time it seems as if there would not be even one. We are fortunate in having in the Parish a most willing and efficient band of voluntary helpers and we rely on their kind aid in carrying on the work in the Parish.

Seagoe Day School.

Seagoe Public Elementary School will (D.V.) re-open after the holidays on Monday, August 9th, at

9-30 sharp. Mr. Rennix, the principal, will be ready to receive and enrol the names of new pupils. The School occupies a very healthy position on high ground, surrounded by open fields, and being on a bye-road is free from the dangers of motor traffic. The playgrounds are extensive and the schoolrooms are large, well-ventilated and well lighted. The cubic space available for each child is largely in excess of the requirements of the Ministry of Education, so that there is no overcrowding. The education imparted is first-rate. The School possesses a highly efficient school garden, in which gardening and agriculture are practically taught. The girls are instructed in cookery. In situation and facilities for a complete education the School stands out with distinction among the neighbouring schools.

Protestant Orphan Society.

The annual appeal on behalf of the above Society was made in Seagoe Parish Church on Sunday morning, July 4th, at morning and evening prayer. The congregations were large and the response generous and yet not quite what we might expect for a Society which has helped the widows and orphans of Seagoe so liberally. Last year some kind friends gave special gifts at the annual appeal and so it was possible to send a larger sum to the Society. We hope during the autumn to issue collecting cards and thus to be able to send in a more fitting contribution to the funds of the Society.

The Battle of the Somme.

No special service was held this year in the Parish Church to commemorate those from the Parish who laid down their lives in the Great War, but wreaths and flowers were placed at the base of the Memorial pillars on the eve of July 1st. Some wreaths were also placed on the Memorial in Portadown. Our Memorial pillars at the Church have proved a very fitting way of commemorating our fallen heroes. Passers-by are frequently seen standing and reading the names inscribed on the pillars.

The Health of the Parish.

There is at present, we are glad to be able to record, an absence of serious illness from the Parish. We have had recently a good deal of scarlatina among the children, and of influenza both among young and old, but happily they have passed away. A new treatment by injection for scarlatina has been tried and with good results in Lurgan Infirmary. If the injection is made before the fifth day of the sickness it has been found possible to discharge the patient from hospital without fear of infection on the fifteenth day. This will be good news to those who have hitherto had to be detained in the Hospital for six weeks.

Old Seagoe Graveyard.

We heartily congratulate the Rural Council on the improvements they have made in Seagoe graveyard. The new and handsome lodge and the arrangement of the approach to the graveyard, as well as the neat uniform provided for the caretaker are great improvements. We have had occasion from time to time to criticise matters connected with the graveyard, but we are glad on this occasion to be able unreservedly to congratulate them on what they have done.

Seagoe Churchyard.

We ask those who have grave plots in the ground at the Church to be so good as to keep them neat and in order. Box-edgings should be cut and kept cut, weeds carefully removed, perhaps flowers planted, shrubs and trees if withered or overgrown, removed or pruned. The Sexton can keep the ground in order, but we do not like, unless asked, to touch the grave plots. Old wreaths very much disfigure the graves and should be removed.

The Annual Report.

The Annual Report is now published and deserves to be carefully studied by the parishioners. It contains a great deal of information regarding the working of the Parish and the various funds are set out carefully and in order so as to be able easily to be understood. The Sustainment Fund deserves special attention. It has two sources of income, the W.F.O. and annual subscriptions. The real revenue of the Parish depends on the former. A glance at the list will show that each individual who joins the W.F.O. gives proportionally three times as much as the annual subscriber. Not merely does he give more but he feels it less as the gifts are given in small sums, weekly. Were it not for the weekly envelopes the Parish would be bankrupt. It is most important that the envelopes should be given in regularly each week. An all-round increase in the giving of our people would be a great help. We are living so closely to the limits of our income that whenever any unexpected expense occurs there is no money to meet it. The Church needs renovation but it has had to be postponed through want of funds.

Congratulations.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs Charles Montgomery on their recent marriage. The Montgomery family have always had a very close connection with the Parish of Seagoe. Mr. T. J. Montgomery has held office as Churchwarden on many occasions and also as a member of the Select Vestry. Mr. Charles Montgomery has always been a staunch supporter of this Magazine and has shown a constant interest in its welfare. The firm, of which he is a member, has advertised in its pages ever since it began to be published, now 21 years since. Mr. Charles Montgomery, by his business

capacity and close attention to the welfare of his clients, has extended and increased the success of his firm. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery much success and blessing in their future life.

Parish Register for July.

Baptisms.

The following were baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on July 3rd, 1926 :—

Metcalf—Emily, daughter of Moses and Emily Metcalfe, of Drumnacavaney.

Sponsors—Alice Tweedie, Mary Metcalfe.

Glassey—Martha and Thomas, twin children of William John and Rosina Glassey, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Martha Glassey, Rosina Glassey.

M'Court—Charles Brian, son of Henry and Matilda Kathleen M'Court, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—May Yeates, Matilda Kathleen M'Court.

Marriage

Calvert and Conolly—July 7th, William Calvert, of Bleary, Knocknamuckley, to Anna Isabel Conolly, of Carne.

Burials.

Roberts—July 15th, Elizabeth Roberts, of Drumnasool, aged 90 years.

Fox—July 27th, Louisa Fox, of Edenderry, aged 56 years.

ITEMS

Thomas Webb is home on a visit from the States after an absence of many years. He says he could not live over here now. He likes the life and energy of the Americans. He has in recent years spent his time in writing and acting short dramatic pieces. He thinks Seagoe and Portadown have not changed much since he saw them last, some eighteen years ago.

* * * *

The dates provisionally fixed for the Harvest Services in Seagoe Church this year will be Thursday, October 21st, and Sunday, October 24th.

* * * *

Very eligible sites for villas and bungalows are now advertised in Upper Seagoe at the junction of Seagoe and Lurgan roads.

* * * *

Mrs. Glassey's twins, whose baptism is recorded in our Parish Register for this month, received a special prize at the recent competition held under the Child Welfare Scheme.

* * * *

The crops this year seem to be very good, especially the potatoes. Unfortunately, the apple orchards seem to be deficient although the bloom in the spring was unusually good.

* * * *

The Farmers' Union, which meets in Drumnagoon, had a very pleasant excursion to Mount Stewart, Lord Londonderry's place, last month. The weather was perfect and the excursionists enjoyed their outing immensely.

Old Seagoe Notes.**Some Vicars of Seagoe.**

The Rev. Arthur Fforde, Vicar of Seagoe, obtained his B.A. degree in T.C.D. at the Spring commencements in 1723. He received his M.A. degree at the Summer commencements, 1726. He was the son of Matthew Fforde and Ann, daughter of Arthur Chamberlain Brownlow, who were married on Dec. 18th, 1698. Their son, Arthur, was baptized in Lurgan Church on February 2nd, 1702-3. He was appointed Vicar of Seagoe in succession to the Rev. John Campbell, who was buried on Dec. 2nd, 1730. He signed the Act of Seagoe Vestry for the first time on April 20th, 1731. He signed the Act of Seagoe Vestry for the last time on April 23rd, 1748. He signs the Act of Vestry on the following Easter Tuesday as Curate. He probably acted as Curate-in-charge of Seagoe from Oct. 22nd, 1748, when the Rev. Hugh Tisdall was collated as Vicar of the Parish. He first signed the Vestry Book of Shankill (Lurgan) Parish on Oct. 4th, 1748, and signs it for the last time on April 22nd, 1767. He always signed himself as "Minister." He is subsequently appointed as Overseer of Highways in Seagoe Parish on Oct. 4th, 1758, and also Director of Overseers. His last appointment as such was on Oct. 2nd, 1765. He was made a Canon of Kildare and was collated to the Prebend of Dromara on Sept. 30th, 1748. He died on Dec. 24th, 1767, and is buried in Old Shankill graveyard. He was for nearly 18 years Vicar of Seagoe.

Rev. Hugh Tisdall.

The Rev. Hugh Tisdall, who succeeded the Rev. Arthur Fforde as Vicar of Seagoe, obtained a University Scholarship in 1726. He had the degree of B.A. conferred on him in 1723, and M.A. in 1735 in T.C.D. He was appointed Vicar of Seagoe on Oct. 22nd, 1748. He signed the Act of Seagoe Vestry for the first time on July 4th, 1749, and for the last time on Oct. 5th, 1762. He died probably in the spring of 1763, but the actual date is uncertain. He was 15 years Vicar of Seagoe.

Rev. Richard Buckby.

The Rev. Richard Buckby was Vicar of Seagoe from 1763 to 1796. He was the son of John Buckby, Esq., of Kibworth, Leicestershire, and Bridget, only daughter of Edmond Bateman, of Guilsborough, Northampton. He was a student at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he graduated as A.B. in 1743, and A.M. in 1762. He was born at Thornby on 8th March, 1722, and was appointed Vicar of Seagoe on June 14th, 1763. He signed the Act of Seagoe Vestry for the first time on April 24th, 1764, but the Parish meanwhile seems to have been in charge of the Rev. William Tisdall, curate, by whom Vestries are held on July 19th, 1763, January 4th, 1764, and February 7th, 1764. On April 24th, 1764 Mr. William Tisdall signs as Curate, under the "Rev. Richd. Buckby, Minister." Mr. Buckby signs the minutes of Vestry for the last time on April 13th, 1795. Mr. Buckby married at Kibworth on 5th June, 1760, Eliza-

beth, eldest daughter of Sir Arthur Heselrige, 7th Baronet of Nosely, Leicester.

The Buckby Family.

The Rev. Richard Buckby had a large family of nine children, four sons and five daughters. His eldest son, Richard, was born on 7th Oct. 1765. He married Mary Ann, daughter of Hamlet Obins, of Castle Obins, Portadown. He had a successful career in the army, becoming Major-General. He died on July 2nd, 1830. His second son, Charles Maynard, was born in Seagoe on Oct. 16th, 1767, but only survived a few months and was buried in Seagoe on Feb. 20th, 1768. His third son, Arthur, was born on Nov. 13th, 1768, and was married at Seagoe on March 16th, 1799, to Elizabeth daughter of William M'Donnell. He died on Aug. 5th, 1825, and had issue as follows—1, Rev. Richard Buckby, Rector of Beggally, South Wales. He was born on Oct. 20th, 1801, and died February 16th, 1884. 2, William, 3, John, died young, 4, Elizabeth, m. John Henry Walker of Portadown, 5, Charlotte, baptized April 11th, 1809, married on April 18th, 1839 to Wolsey Atkinson. She was buried at Seagoe on Nov. 3rd, 1885; 6, Deborah Maria. The Rev. Richard Buckby's fourth son was John, who took the surname of Bateman. He was born on Oct. 13, 1772, and eventually became Curate of Seagoe from 1794 to 1796. He died May 17th, 1839. His remaining children were Bridget, Charlotte, Hannah and Heselrige.

The Rev. George Blacker.

The Rev. George Blacker succeeded the Rev. R. Buckby as Vicar of Seagoe in 1796. He was a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, where he got his degree of B.A. in 1785. On July 12th 1791, he was appointed to the United Parishes of Banagher and Dungiven (Derry). He continued to hold both Parishes by a Faculty, even when appointed as Vicar of Seagoe. On June 1st, 1796 he was collated to the Vicarage of Seagoe. He signed the Act of Vestry for the first time on Sept. 6th, 1796. A year later the Act of Vestry is signed, "Stewart Blacker, Rector, George Blacker, Vicar." The Act of Vestry dated April 11th, 1803 is signed "Stewart Blacker, Rector, for Vicar, John Lodge." Two Acts of Vestry in the year 1805 are signed "Thomas Radely, Curate." On April 24th, 1810, Richard Olpherts signs the Act of Vestry as Officiating Curate. Rev. George Blacker signed the Vestry minutes for the last time on April 4th, 1809. He died on May 1st, 1810, and was buried in Seagoe on May 3rd. He was only 46 years of age at his death and had been Vicar of Seagoe for 14 years. He was much beloved by the people, as the tablet in the Parish Church tells us, and it was to him that we owe the erection of the present Parish Church.

Dean Stewart Blacker, although for many years Rector of Seagoe was also Vicar succeeding his younger brother, the Rev. George Blacker, in 1810. He had been collated Archdeacon of Dromore and Rector of Seagoe and Donaghcloney so far back as

SEAGOE PARISH MAGAZINE.

Oct. 8th, 1777. He was born in 1740. In 1778 he became Dean of Leighlin, in the Diocese of Ossory, and held that post until 1804. He resigned the Archdeaconry of Dromore and the Rectory of Seagoe and Donaghcloney on May 30th, 1810. He first signed the Act of Vestry as Vicar on June 9th, 1810. Dean Blacker died on Dec. 1st, 1826, aged 86 years, having been 16 years Vicar of Seagoe. His connection with the Parish as Rector and Vicar covered the long space of 49 years.

ITEM

A proposal has been made by the English engineer whom the Town Council called into consultation, that the new main drainage sewage tanks for Portadown should be placed alongside of Seagoe Rectory grounds. This would be a very unsuitable position and would lower the value of property in the neighbourhood. There are many other places in the neighbourhood of Portadown where the tanks could be placed without objection. We can rely on our representatives on the Urban and Rural Council to oppose this scheme.

Ten Years Ago.

EXTRACTS FROM THE WAR DIARY OF THE LATE HERBERT MURRAY, P.P.C.L.I.

Springing a Mine.

Thursday, May 9th.—Sentry duty all night. Stand to 3 o'clock. We sprang mine about 4 o'clock on our left. Felt ground underneath tremble like an earthquake. Artillery opened up. Raining all day.

SERVICES.

THE PARISH CHURCH.

HOLY COMMUNION—1st Sunday after Morning Prayer; 3rd Sunday at 8 a.m., and on the Chief Festivals.

HOLY BAPTISM—1st Saturday of Month at 3 p.m., and during any Service in the Parish Church, if notice be given; Two Sponsors at least are required, and they must be Confirmed members of the Church. Churchings are held at each Baptism. Mothers are expected to bring a thank-offering. (See Book of Common Prayer.)

MORNING PRAYER—Sundays and Chief Festivals 11.30 a.m.

EVENING PRAYER—Sundays 7 p.m., Wednesdays 8 p.m.

DISTRICT SERVICES.

Hacknahay—Last Sunday of Month at 3.30 p.m.

Drumgor—Second Sunday of Month at 4 p.m.

MARRIAGES must be performed between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Licenses are issued by Rev Canon Hannon, Rectory, Lurgan. Due notice (48 hours) must be given to the Rector of intended weddings. **FEES**—By License—Labourers 5/., Tradesmen 10/., Merchants and Farmers 15/., Professional £1. By Banns 5/.

FUNERALS will be attended by the Clergy if proper notice be given. **SICK CASES** should be notified to the Clergy without delay. **FEES FOR CERTIFICATES** BAPTISM, 3/7; Children (Factory), 1/- and 2/.

MARRIAGE, 3/7. An extra search fee is chargeable in certain cases any subscriber for 3s per annum.

Wednesday, May 10th—Sentry duty all night. Trenches heavily shelled after "Stand to," 4 a.m. Prepared for an attack, but our artillery opened up and silenced Mr. Hun. No casualties, just two slight bruises to No. 6 Platoon. Lively time ducking the shells and shrapnel.

Mr. Hun Violent.

Thursday, May 11th—Sentry all night. Mr. Hun repeated same thing as previous night but with more violence. Sharp artillery duels during day. No casualties. Relieved by No. 3 and 4 Coy., and went back to support trenches in Warrington Avenue for four days. Two hours' gas-alert duty during night. Turned into bed about 3 a.m. Weather mild and dry.

Very Heavy Shelling.

Friday, May 12th—Got up about 8 o'clock and went on gas alarm sentry for two hours. At night fell in for ration party 7-15. Went to front line. Carried down empty tea can to Miniature Railway "Ration dump," and walked to Zillebeke. Unload rations from transport to railway truck and pushed truck back to Maple Copse. Made two trips to front line. Very heavy shelling in afternoon. Quite a number of casualties to No. 4 Coy. Weather showery.

Sniper Nearly Gets Me.

Saturday, May 13th—Got up about 9 o'clock and did nothing during day, night fatigue, working on parade at front line. Sniper got R. W. Ellis; very nearly got me. Got to sleep about 2-30. Weather showery.

CLASSES, &c.

ADULT CLASSES—Sundays at 10 a.m.

For Men—Edenderry and Seagoe. For Women—Seagoe School.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—10 a.m. Edenderry Parochial Hall and Seagoe School. 3 p.m. Seagoe, Edenderry Parochial Hall, Levaghery, Hacknahay, Carne, Drumgor.

Men's Recreation Room, Bridge St., open every night from 7 p.m.

Seagoe C.L. Brigade in Edenderry Parochial Hall on Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

Mothers' Union, Edenderry 1st Tuesday, at 4 p.m.

DAY SCHOOL—Seagoe, 9.30 a.m. Principal—Mr. Rennix.