

# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

AUGUST—SEPTEMBER, 1921.

## **New Curate of Seagoe.**

The Rev. Albert O. Draper, B.A., T.C.D., has been appointed Curate of Seagoe. Mr. Draper has held the curacy of St. Luke's, Belfast, for the past three years, and before coming to Belfast held Curacies in Dublin and in the County Wicklow. He has had a wide and varied experience of Parish work, and will come to Seagoe well prepared and equipped for the strenuous work which awaits him in this extensive and populous Parish. Mr. Draper has been fortunate in securing Carne House as a residence, and we have to thank Mr. Robb for kindly letting it to him. It seemed when Seagoe Villa ceased to be available as if the incoming Curate might find great difficulty in securing a house in the Parish, but we are glad that that difficulty no longer confronts us. Mr. Draper hopes to begin his work in Seagoe on October 1st, and we are confident that he will receive that warm-hearted welcome which the Curates of Seagoe have always received. We will also extend a hearty welcome to Mrs. Draper on her coming to reside in the Parish. It is now almost fifty years since there has been a married Curate in the Parish. We hope that Mr. and Mrs. Draper will have a very happy time in Seagoe Parish.

## **Seagoe War Memorial.**

A very finely finished Photograph of the Seagoe War Memorial Pillars and Gates can be had at Mr. Kyle's, 16 Bridge Street, Price 3s each, or 3s 6d by post. The names on the Pillars are quite clear in the Photograph. The Photographs were specially taken by Mr. Moffett, of Bridge Street.

## **A Visit to France.**

The Rector during his recent holiday visited parts of France and Flanders in the War area. The French peasantry are rapidly transforming the shell-torn battle ground into corn-producing fields, and have this year reaped an abundant harvest, but many of the sites still bear sad evidence of the awful conflict. The British Military Cemeteries are beautifully kept, and in some places the new headstones have replaced the wooden cross. Some 870 British gardeners dressed in Khaki, and forming a semi-military Unit, are caring the graves. They have regular permanent centres as at Albert, and go out each week with tents camping near the outlying Cemeteries. The very hot summer has burnt up the carefully laid sods of grass, and many of the flowers planted on the graves have died, but they will be replaced. The Rector visited the grave of Norman Holmes at Duisans Military Cemetery (Plot 5, Row F. grave 26), 8 kilometres from Arras. The grave is very neat and the Cemetery is beautifully situated. At the little Military Cemetery at Hamel, where many of our 9th Battalion lie, about 15 Military gardeners were at work when the Rector visited it. They were levelling, sodding, and planting it. Their

two tents were pitched just beside it. In the field beside the Graveyard, which last year was pitted with shell holes, there is this year a crop of oats growing. The Cemetery in the Ravine has much increased in size since last year owing to the interment of bodies brought in from outlying places. Major Atkinson's grave (Plot 2, Row A, grave 5) is there, and many others of those well known in our midst. This Cemetery is known as the Ancres British Cemetery, Beaumont Hamel. The Rector also visited the grave of Private John Matthews (Plot 1, Row N, grave 10) at Wimereux Communal Cemetery near Boulogne. Flowers were growing there in abundance on all the graves. The Church Army has made very complete arrangements for those visiting the graves of relatives. The cost of such a visit to the Somme area from Portadown would be about £7.

The Memorial to the Ulster Division—a replica of Helen's Tower—is now being erected on Thiepval Hill in a very conspicuous position. It is about half-built at present, and when completed will form a very striking memorial.

## **Seagoe Parish Scouts.**

The Scouts are booming. The Tuesday night gatherings in Seagoe and Edenderry are well attended, and great interest is shown by the boys in their work. They are smart and efficient, and the Scoutmasters are very keen. The Edenderry Scouts, under their Scoutmaster, Mr. Howard Stevenson, camped out for a week-end in a field of Mr. J. G. Gracey's, at Drumgor, last month. The winter work will soon be coming on, and we look forward to many pleasant meetings during the long dark nights of winter.

## **The Girl Guides.**

The Girl Guides have also increased in number, and are rapidly becoming a most useful agency in our Parish life. A Company of Brownies has been formed among the Junior girls.

## **The Cubs.**

The Cubs are now in full swing, and the smaller boys are learning some new accomplishment every week. The Packs meet in Seagoe and Edenderry. The Cub on joining makes the following promise:—"I promise to do my best to be loyal to God and the King and the Law of the Wolf Cub Pack, and to do a good turn to somebody every day." The Cub Motto is "Do your best."

## **Seagoe Day School.**

A handsome Banner for Competition now hangs in the School. It is awarded to the section of the School, Senior, Junior, or Infant, which has the best attendance for the week. The Juniors won it the first week, but the Infants got possession of it last week, and they intend to hold on to it for some time, if they can.

## Harvest Thanksgiving Services.

These Services will be held in Seagoe Parish Church on Thursday, October 6th, and on Sunday, October 9th. Further particulars regarding the Services will be announced later on.

Harvest Services will be held in Hacknahay School on Sunday, September 25th, at 3.30, and on Monday, 26th, at 8.

## The Annual Report.

Owing to the high cost of Printing, the Report this year is reduced to a single sheet, and contains only the names of subscribers to the Sustentation Fund, but it is very clearly printed and can be studied at a glance. The Total sum subscribed to the Sustentation Fund up to December 31st, 1920, was £191 18s 6d, contributed by 386 subscribers. If any subscribers have not yet received a copy of the Report they should apply to the Hon. Treas., Mr. James Sands, Killicomaine Road, Portadown, and any errors or mistakes, if such there be, should also be notified to the Hon. Treasurer. Mr. Sands is to be congratulated on the clearness and accuracy of the Report.

The Collection for the Choir Fund is now being made, and in a short time our Collectors will be going their rounds through the Parish for the Sustentation Fund. Those who have joined the Weekly Envelope Fund will not, of course, be asked to subscribe.

Parochial expenses are rapidly increasing. The Income of the Curates of Seagoe will in future be £250 at least, and if this amount is to be met the subscribers to the Sustentation Fund must increase their subscriptions. The Glebe Purchase Fund only received an addition of £16 18s 6d last year. The Poor Rate alone payable on the Rectory this year amounts to £28 13s 8d. The total charges on the Rectory this year amount to over £100.

## Accounts for 1920.

(These Accounts usually appear in the Report. They will be continued in our next issue.)

**Special Collections**—Jan. 25th, Missions, £3 18s 5d; Feb. 12th, Organ Recital, £2 15s 0d; Feb. 22, Diocesan Temperance Society, £1 0s 0d; March 28th, Roll of Honour, £2 0s 0d; Holy Week Services, £9 13s 0d; Easter Day, April 4th, S. Schools, £7 9s 10d; April 18th, Bible Society, £3 1s 9d; May 23rd, Whitsunday, Bd. of Ed., £3 3s 0d; July 4th, Prot. O. Society, £6 12s 3d; July 11th, Enniskillen Fund, £9 15s 9d; Sept. 19th, Poor Parishes Fund, £5 10s 0d; October 7th, Missions—Harvest, £6 6s 6d; Dec. 25th (Christmas), Poor Fund, £2 12s 0d. These amounts have been paid into their respective Societies and Funds.

## POOR FUND.

**Cr.**—Balance, £2 5s 2d; H. C. Offerings, £3 15s 11d; Christmas Offerings, 1920, £2 12s 0d; Blacker Bequest, 1920, £1 15s 0d; Balance, £1 4s 5d.—£11 12s 6d. **Dr.**—Monthly Payments, £3 0s 0d; Blankets, Paul & Son, £3 0s 0d; Occasional Payments, £3 7s 6d; Special Gifts, £2 5s 0d.—£11 12s 6d.

## CARNE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

D. W. Murray, Hon. Treas.

To Balance forward, £4 5s 4d; Harvest T. Service, 1920, £1 10s 0d; Monthly Col. from Dec. 1919 to Dec. 1920, £1 4s 6d.—£6 19s 10d. By Caretaker, £0 15s 0d; Oil and Coal, £0 10s 0d; Sunday S Social, £1 7s 6d; Expenses, £0 7s 6d; Balance in hands, £3 19s 10d.—£6 19s 10d.

## Parish Register—July & August, 1921.

### Baptisms.

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on July 2nd, 1921:

**Ellis**—Violet Maud, daughter of Samuel and Lily Ellis, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Margaret Ellis, Florence Rowland.

**Dickson**—Alice, daughter of John and Mary Edith Dickson, of Lisniskey.

*Sponsors*—Sarah Hara, Mary Edith Dickson.

**Liggett**—Isaac, son of Isaac and Joanna Liggett, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Matilda Kane, Susan Liggett.

**Best**—Thomas James, son of James and Annie Best, of Drumnacaney.

*Sponsors*—Elizabeth M'Knight, Annie Best.

BAPTIZED ON AUGUST 6th, 1921.

**Milligan**—Thomas James, son of Isaac and Elizabeth Milligan, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Mary Milligan, Elizabeth Milligan.

**Caddell**—William Albert, son of Albert and Mary Caddell, of Killicomaine.

*Sponsors*—Caroline Moore, Mary Caddell.

**Liggett**—Mabel, daughter of John Joseph and Julia Liggett, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Hargot Anne Webb, Julia Liggett.

**Gracey**—Pearl, daughter of Joseph and Martha Gracey, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Isabella Gracey, Martha Gracey.

**Robinson**—Richard Wilson, son of Thomas George and Sarah Elizabeth Robinson, of Drumnagoon, having been Privately Baptized on May 7th, 1921, was Received into the Congregation on August 6th, 1921.

*Sponsors*—Margaret Anne Wilson, Jane Eliza Wilson.

### Burials.

**Armstrong**—July 2nd, Everett Best Armstrong, of Ballyhannon, aged 1½ years.

**Laurison**—August 2nd, Jane Laurison, of Breagh, aged 86 years.

**Flavelle**—July 3rd, John Henry Flavelle, of Knock. (Interred in Drumcree Churchyard.)

**Erskine**—August 9th, James Erskine, of Edenderry, aged 78.

**Dickson**—August 25th, John Dickson, of Lisniskey, aged 33 years.

**ITEMS.**

We heartily congratulate Mr. George Gracey, Superintendent of Drumgor Sunday School, on his recent marriage, and offer him and Mrs. Gracey all good wishes.

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Miss Esther N. Hewitt writes from 3409 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, U.S.A.—We had a happy time in Seagoe last October. Our return voyage lasted 12 days, with rough weather. I am so glad I had the pleasure of visiting the old Church (Seagoe) where my father went to as a boy. I am sending you one of our "Church Messengers." We arrange our work 2 or 3 months ahead of time. Our clergyman is a young man, and we have a big debt, so he has tried the pledge system—each member giving each week from 10 cents. to a dollar, and everyone has agreed, so I think it will be a great success. Times are bad, but we are all willing to do our share. We have about 600 Communicants. Last January we had a Confirmation Class of 40 directed by Bishop Garland, of Pennsylvania, and in September there will be another Class started. As a rule we have from 40 to 50 for Confirmation. Father is Janitor of our Church, which takes up a great deal of his time.

[Miss Hewitt is a grand-daughter of the late Mr. Hall Hewitt, of Tamnificarbet. She and her father were on a visit to Carbet last year, and showed much interest in Seagoe Church.]

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During the absence of the Rector the Sunday duty in the Parish Church was taken by the Rev. F. B. Aldwell, LL.D., Rector of Aghalee, and the Rev. F. W. Wilkinson, Rector of Kircubbin. The Week-day duty was taken by the Rev. A. J. Murray.

PARISH

**WITH THE "NINTH" IN FRANCE.**

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

(Continued from June-July Magazine.)

**Sunday, Feb. 20th, 1916.**—The mining expert came early, but is at present unable to make any definite statement. Noises there are, but he can't determine what. He is going to stay till he can say definitely. We had another man, Patterson, from Cornascriebe, near Portadown, slightly wounded yesterday evening. A spent bullet just penetrated his arm, and was cut out by Berry. The only possible footwear for the Trenches in their present state is the Government long gum boot, which comes up to the thigh. I find it very tiring to walk in, but when you come on

**Water Over Your Knees,**

and liquid mud of like depth, no other boots are possible. I trust now the worst of the weather may be over. Oh! I am so dirty; hands grimy, and feet and body dirty. Somehow I felt it more to-day in this beautiful sunlight.

A great variety of useful things are advertised in our Advertisement Columns. Have you read them?

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Protestant Orphan Cards have been issued to Collectors. We hope to double the amounts we raised last year. Collectors please do your best.

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Specially sad was the death of Baby Armstrong, who, with his mother (now in weak health) had only arrived in Ballyhannon from the United States a week before.

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We regret to record the death of John Dickson, of Lisniskey, who passed away after a brief illness, leaving a widow and 5 very young children quite unprovided for.

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James Erskine, of Railway Street, whose death also appears in this issue, was very well known in the Parish, and had for many years worked on the G.N.R. His father had been for long a faithful employe of Archdeacon Saurin at Seagoe.

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A strange silence reigned in Seagoe on Tuesday, August 30th, when owing to the sudden strike no trains ran until 8 p.m.

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A char-a-banc excursion recently ran from Portadown to Portrush and back for 16s per head.

An awful amount of work there is to be done to keep existing Trenches in order, and then a lot of new necessary work to be undertaken, and few men to do it. Not a man of the 2 1/4 Coys in front line can be taken from the line. It takes 80 men every night to bring in the rations from the Dump 1 1/2 miles away, from which it has to be carried with the greatest difficulty. I can raise 60 men for work at night. There is our main communication Trench, 1 1/2 miles long, which has to be cleaned (in parts 2ft. deep in solid mud and liquid slush), and each side of it rivetted to prevent it falling in. It would take 500 men a fortnight to do it, and the earth removed from the top where it has been piled up from bottom when cleaning, and keeps tumbling in again. This can only be done at night. Then there is another communication Trench of a mile, to the cookers, up which all the men's food is carried for every meal. This keeps falling in, and being on low ground is full of water. The cookers themselves are in a horrible place, liquid mud and im-

possible to drain, or keep clean. **Monday, 9 a.m.**—A quiet night. Went my rounds this morning. Still water in places. It's cold in the cellar in the daytime. We can't have fire owing to the smoke, but I daresay healthier than a heated atmosphere. The transport are about 2 miles from M. at the place we go to for our rest when we go out of the line on Wednesday. All ranks will get steel helmets in time. We have been lucky again in the weather this time, though some fearful days. A quiet day. Our Heavies active and hurling big stuff over us, making a fearful noise. The Trenches are improving. Every one has worked hard on them, but water still in many of them. The mining expert, after earnest investigation, decides against the theory of the caves being mined and the men have returned to them. 2 men slightly wounded are our casualties, so far, this time in. We have begun making a new H. Q. down here, big dug-out with

#### Wonderful Steel Arched Roof, Called an Elephant.

We have got 2 for H.Q. Neither Bull or I like the cellar, it could be made quite impossible any time. The men's food arrives hot, in spite of being carried 1½ miles up Trenches, many of them 1 ft. in water. **Tuesday, Feb. 22nd.**—Another lovely day after a sharp frost. Very dark night up to 10 p.m., and threatening snow; very hard to get on with work owing to darkness. Got a certain amount done and some bits of the elephant up. Went round from 5.30—7.30. Again a quiet night. **9.30 p.m.**—We had a sad show this evening. A Patrol of 2 Officers (Hollywood and Wood)—the latter has only just joined a month from H.A.C.—2 Serjts. and 4 men went out to investigate what the Huns were doing about 40 yards from our advanced post. While investigating they were fired at (rifle grenades). Poor Wood was killed and a Pte. Ford, Hollywood and 2 Ptes. wounded, not severely. They behaved extremely well, and H stayed out with the bodies until relief came out and brought them in. Otherwise it has been a quiet day. It snowed a bit off and on to-day, but didn't lie. Freezing again to-night. **Wednesday, Feb. 23rd.**—Frost and fine so far, but looks like snow. Quiet night. We shall bury Wood and Ford this p.m. Padre being away I shall read the burial service. I believe the 69th Res. Regt. Prussians are opposite to us. **Thursday, Feb. 24th**—("Engelbelmer")—Relief very late and I didn't get away from Trench line till 11 p.m. and walked over here about 3 miles. Got here about 12 midnight, 3 inches snow and a little frost made travelling rather difficult, and kits didn't come in till 1 a.m. I went straight to my billet and went to bed and managed to keep warm with some difficulty. Water frozen in here, and in Perrier bottle! Bright and clear and frosty to-day. Of course, another change is on. We don't go back into the same line—Div. is contracting its front. I believe 109th relieve 107th and we go in close support, 107 going back in Reserve. It means a move from here into villages round—always changes! Just as we were getting to know that bit of line. The sharpest frost we have had the whole winter. We were lucky to be out of the line last night. We buried Wood and Ford at 2 p.m. yesterday, in a snow-

storm. I read parts of the Burial Service. Quite a nice bright little cemetery. They had a salute of guns, which were firing all the time. The 107th have been doing very well and are very good now. Of course, Fergie was awaiting us when we came in last night, at entrance of village, to conduct us to our billets, and he told us a move was on for Saturday! Possibly, and I must say I thought probably Ypres! But it's not here, and it's now postponed 2 or 3 days, probably Monday. It's a great relief to be able to walk about without keeping

#### An Ear Cocked for the Whistle of a Shell

or the rattle of a M.G. I intend to do some late mornings in bed. Breakfast 9 a.m.—after 6 days rising at 5.30 a.m. Found the pony well and Reid very helpful on arrival. I shall bring him home next time I get leave. Rather cold, but feeling very well, and have escaped the cold which everyone has got. Bitterly cold again to-night. They have altered the move again, and now we are to go back into the line again as before, on Tuesday. They'll probably alter it again; now they've stopped all leave, whatever that may mean. We bathed about 250 men to-day and gave them clean clothes. **Friday, Feb. 25th.**—Snow falling all day, and is getting deep. A miserable day. Glad we are not in the line. Such a day! Snowing all day and getting deep. I don't know what will happen if it goes on. Delay in supplies and everything, and when the thaw comes! We are busy sweeping roads, etc.

#### The Huns are Making a Push at Verdun,

with a certain amount of success, but it's bad weather to attack. A Course for C.O.'s at 111 Army School begins on Sunday, and I may have to go, only 4 days, and I don't want to in the least. Am revelling in 9 a.m. breakfast, rather lazy! Draft arrived to-night at 7 p.m., after travelling since Tuesday, and finishing up with a 6 mile march in a snowstorm. **Saturday, Feb. 26th**—A better day, and a thaw on, though not decided. The weather having been so severe, the Gen. has decided to relieve after 4 days, and we go into the line again to-morrow (Sunday). Rather a blow cutting our rest by 2 days. However, we are only to be in 4 days, but they will be bad ones if the thaw comes. Berry has got the 'flu, and Scott is doing Medico. Have got all bathed and changed into fresh clothes, and have a bath myself this evening. The relief from here is more complicated as it's further and means a late business again. The 50 off leave will arrive at rail-head to-night about 10 p.m., just in time to go into the Trenches. Am feeling very well. Poor Anderson has gone home very ill—pneumonia, and Stuart Wortly has the Corps temporarily. Many moves are on. Hung up for the moment on account of the snow. I dine with Griffith to-night. The new Officers have not materialised yet; one has been struck off sick at home, and the others I can get no word of. **Sunday, Feb. 27th, 10.30 p.m.** ("Flixecourt").—I am to go to Course at Div. School after all. Was told at 9 a.m. to-day, and the car to take me is on its way. We got in here by motor 'bus at 7 p.m. after a 4 hours' cold drive. Ross Smyth came down with me. I think it promises to be very interesting.

(To be continued.)