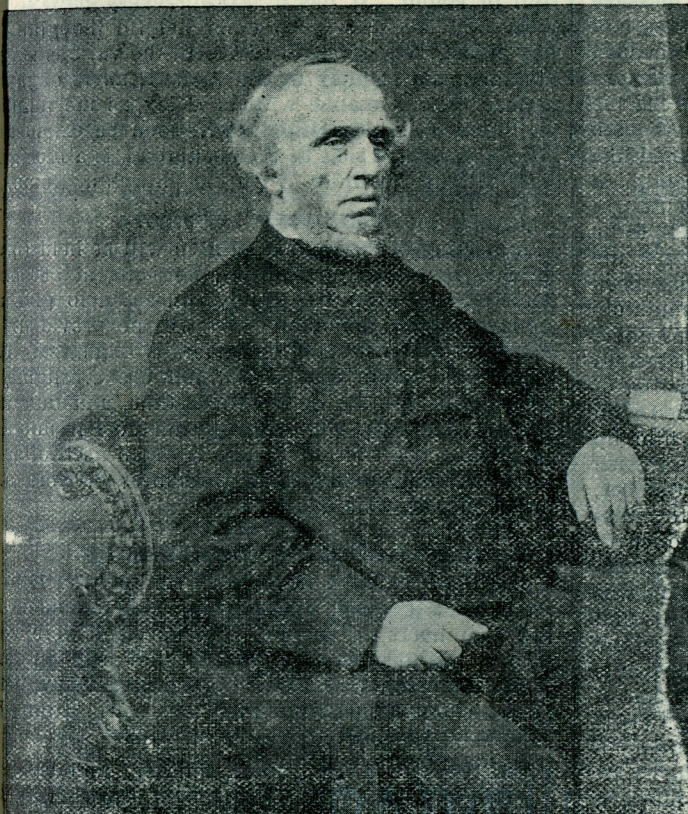


Seagoe Parish Magazine.

DECEMBER, 1926.

The Saurin Centenary.

A notable date in the history of Seagoe occurs this month, for it was on Dec. 18th, 1826, just 100 years ago, that the Rev. James Saurin, then a young clergyman, 28 years of age, was appointed Vicar of Seagoe, and he continued in the Parish as Vicar and Rector for the long space of 53 years, until his death in May, 1879. The Saurin family were of French origin. Jean Saurin, who was born in 1632, settled at Geneva, having left Nismes, in France, where he formerly resided. His second son, Louis, became eventually Precentor of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, and Dean of Ardagh. He married Madlle. Le Bretonnier. He died on the 19th Sept., 1749, and left one son, the Rev. James Saurin, who became Vicar of Belfast. He married Jane, daughter of Wm. Johnston, of New Forge, Co. Antrim. His fourth son, James, was ordained at Lisburn on Feb. 2nd, 1781, and was consecrated as Bishop of Dromore on 19th Dec., 1819. In January, 1796, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Wm. Lyster (died 19th July, 1853). He had two sons, James and Lewis. James was born in December, 1796. He was ordained in 1820, and in 1826 became Vicar of Seagoe. His tenure of the Parish of Seagoe covered more than half of the 19th century. When the Archdeacon (or as he was affectionately called by the Parishioners, the "Deacon") came to the Parish only 11 years had elapsed since the Battle of Waterloo. No railways had yet been made, and the only method of travelling was by stage coach or private carriage. The town of Portadown was only beginning to shape itself, and St. Mark's Church had just



*James Saurin
Rector of Seagoe*

**VEN. ARCHDEACON SAURIN, Rector and Vicar
of Seagoe 1826—1879.**

been built and consecrated. The Parish of Seagoe then extended to within 200 yards of Old Shankill Graveyard. It also included within its bounds a good half of what is now known as the Parish of Knocknamuckley, the site on which the Church was afterwards built at Knocknamuckley being within the boundaries of Seagoe Parish. The Rector of Seagoe depended for his income on the rents received from the two Glebe townlands of Lower Seagoe and Kilvergan. The Parish was regarded as one of much importance because of its size and population and also because it formed part of what was known as the Corps of the Archdeaconry of Dromore. When Archdeacon Saurin became Vicar of Seagoe the present Church had only recently been built. The interior was whitewashed, a great gallery extended half-way down the Church, the pews were of the old square kind, and the Church grounds were in a very unfinished condition. The Rectory was not in a habitable condition. It had been pronounced in 1819 as unfit for further habitation. Dean Blacker, who was Rector, had cut down all the great elm trees surrounding the house and lands, and the winds from the Bann swept up and made the big house very cold and draughty. The Ecclesiastical Commissioners gave the Archdeacon a sum of money with which to build a new Rectory, but instead of doing so he spent the money on putting the existing house into repair. He also improved the gardens and planted many fruit trees and a mulberry tree. The trees which

at present encircle the Rectory lands were also planted by him in 1826-7. An exciting incident occurred as he was holding his first Easter Vestry in the Church on Easter Monday, 1827. A message came from the Rectory to say that the stables had caught fire. All the members of the Vestry, headed by the youthful Vicar, rushed over to the Rectory and succeeded in quenching the flames before the Rectory caught fire, but the stables and outhouses were destroyed. Archdeacon Meade resigned the Archdeaconry of Dromore and the Rectorship of Seagoe on May 10th, 1832, and Archdeacon Saurin was appointed to fill the vacant offices. In 1833 there was a widespread agitation in Ireland against the payment of Tithes, and there arose what has been termed the Tithe War. Roman Catholic tenants objected to pay the tithe. Archdeacon Saurin assented to a reduction of the Tithe in Seagoe, the reduction amounting to a sum of 7s 6d per acre. A meeting of the tenants was held, and they were so pleased with the Archdeacon's action that they hoisted him up on their shoulders and carried him round the Parish Church amidst tumultuous cheering. In October, 1833, Archdeacon Saurin was married to Miss Simpson, of Bath, who is described in a notice of the marriage as "beautiful and highly accomplished." A full description of his homecoming was published in the Magazine for Dec., 1922. By his first wife he had three children—1, Caroline Mary Anne Elizabeth, who was married on 9th Sept., 1858, to the Rev. Ambrose Sneyd Cave-Brown-Cave, third son of Sir John Robert Cave-Brown-Cave, Bart. Mrs. Cave-Brown-Cave died on the 16th April, 1903, leaving a family of nine sons and four daughters. 2, Christine, who was married on Aug. 20th, 1874, to Dr. Stewart, of Portadown. 3, Genevieve, who died in infancy. Mrs. Saurin died in 1838. On 28th Nov. 1843, the Archdeacon married as his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. Rowland Egerton Warburton, and sister of General Warburton, the famous Australian explorer. She died on Christmas Day, Dec. 25th, 1891, in her 85th year. An interesting tablet in the Parish Church commemorates the death of the Archdeacon's first wife.

(To be continued in next month's issue.)

"The Irish Churchman."

Sunday School Teachers will find useful notes for the morning and afternoon Sunday School lessons in the "Irish Churchman." The Superintendents can obtain their copies (price 1d weekly) at Mr. Jas. Vance's, Bridge St., on each Saturday.

Sunday School Teachers.

A meeting of the Superintendents and Teachers of our Sunday School will be held (p.v.) on Thursday, Dec. 9th, at 8 p.m. in Seagoe School. The subject for consideration and discussion will be "Prizes." A full attendance of all interested in our Sunday School efficiency is invited.

Seagoe Parish Almanacs.

The Parish Almanac for 1927 is now on sale, price

Twopence, at Mr. James Vance's, Bridge St., or they may be had from the Superintendents of the various Sunday Schools. The Almanac is very bright and full of colour. It has a text for every day in the year and contains many other helpful thoughts for the Home. The pictures represent the various stages of Life from Infancy to Old Age. Readers ought to secure their Almanac without delay as the number is limited, and the supply will soon be exhausted. The Almanac, if sent to friends abroad, is a nice gift and a daily reminder of the old Church at Home.

Mothers' Union.

A meeting of the Mother's Union will be held (p.v.) in Seagoe School on Monday, Dec. 6th, at 7-30 p.m. Mrs. Moffatt Clow has kindly consented to give an address to the members. Tea will be provided. Full attendance of all the members is requested. The committee of the Mother's Union are arranging distribution of gifts at Christmas time, and they ask the practical help and sympathy of the Parishioners in making it a success. There is much need of such gifts just now owing to the slackness of work and the high price of coal.

St. Mark's Centenary.

The Services held from Nov. 7th to Nov. 14th in St. Mark's Church, Portadown, were attended by large numbers of people. The Services were very hearty and inspiring, especially that held on Nov. 11th (Thursday) Armistice Day. On Sunday, Nov. 14th, the following Hymn was sung, set to a tune by Mr. W. F. Woods, organist of St. Mark's:—

Hymn Composed by Lt.-Col. Blacker, and sung at the Consecration of Portadown Parish Church November 14th, 1826.

Lord of life and light and power
Be with us in this solemn hour:
High throned in heaven, with favouring ear,
Our humble supplications hear.

And tho' that boundless heaven may be
A temple too confined for Thee,
Oh, let this house Thy servants build
Be with Thy glorious Presence filled.

Unless Thine aid the Pile sustain,
The artist's labour is but vain;
Until Thy grace the fabric bless,
All human skill is valueless.

Grant from the walls we here prepare
For holy rites and praise and prayer,
Our humble tribute still may rise
An acceptable sacrifice.

And while unto Thy Name divine
We consecrate this earthly shrine,
Oh, let us from that hour agree
To dedicate ourselves to Thee.

Till in our minds Thy "Words of Grace"
And Spirit find a dwelling-place;
And, built in Faith and Hope and Love,
Each Christian heart Thy Temple prove.

A Happy Christmas.

We wish all our Readers at home and beyond the seas a very Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year.

Our Advent Services.

On each Sunday evening and Wednesday evening during Advent Special Sermons will be preached in the Parish Church on the subject of "The Second Advent." The Service on Wednesday evenings is at 8 p.m.

Services on Christmas Day.

On Saturday, Dec. 25th, being Christmas Day, the following Services will be held in the Parish Church: 8 a.m.—Holy Communion.

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

The offerings at both Services on Christmas Day will be on behalf of the Parish Poor Fund. Let not Christmas be merely a day of social enjoyment. Mark it by an act of worship in your Parish Church. It is your Saviour's Birthday.

The Sustenation Fund.

Envelopes are now being distributed among those parishioners who have not joined the Weekly Envelope System. Please place your subscription in the envelope and have it ready for the collector when he calls, or else bring it to Church and place it in the offertory, but be careful to write on it your name and address and the amount of your subscription.

The Weekly Envelopes.

We are glad to notice an increase in the amount being subscribed through the Weekly Envelopes. The sets of Envelopes for the New Year—1927 will shortly be distributed. We ask those who happen to be a little in arrears with their envelopes to please make up their contributions before the end of the year. The Parish Accounts close on Dec. 31st.

The World-Call.

A great Missionary Revival is on foot throughout the Church. It is known as the World-Call Movement and has for its object a deepening of interest in the Foreign Mission work of the Church. A great meeting of Church people will be held in Lurgan Parochial Hall on Monday evening, December 6th, at 7 p.m., to which our Seagoe people are invited. Canon Garfield Williams, a famous Missionary, will attend and speak. We hope many from Seagoe will attend this meeting. There is a convenient bus service to and from Lurgan.

The Church Army Van.

We welcome once again to Seagoe Parish a Church Army Mission van. It arrived here from Warings-

town on Friday, Nov. 26th, in charge of Captain Stocks and Cadet Crawford. Mission services are being held each night at 8 p.m. in Edenderry Parochial Hall. The Mission will be continued until the third week in December. A Children's Mission service is held on Tuesdays and Fridays at 7 p.m. The services have been well attended and much interest has been shown in the Mission. The Church Army Hymn book is used. No service is held on Saturdays. The service on Sunday evening is at 8-30.

Visit of the Rev. W. T. Grey.

We will be glad to have a visit again from the Rev. W. T. Grey, who was Curate of Seagoe from 1901 to 1904. At that time the late Rector was in weak health, and Mr. Grey carried on with vigour and energy the work of this great Parish. After a short spell as Curate of St. Luke's, Belfast, he volunteered for Foreign Mission work and was accepted by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel for work in Tokio, the capital of Japan. Here he laboured for some 10 years, and then returning home obtained a position as Cathedral Vicar in St. Finn-Barr's Cathedral, Cork. He was then appointed Rector of a Parish in the Co. Cork, a post which he held until early this year, when he was appointed Deputation Secretary to the Jews Society at its head office in Dublin. Mr. Grey will preach in Seagoe on Sunday, Dec. 5th, at Morning and Evening Prayer, on behalf of the Jews Society.

Soup for School Children.

The children attending Seagoe School who come from Edenderry are now supplied with nourishing soup each day at the School. It is supplied from the Carleton Home, and Mr. Johnston, of Edward St., has very kindly agreed to send it out on his van each schoolday during December.

Parish Register for November.

Marriages

- M'Kerr and Gregson**—Nov. 5th, Thomas James M'Kerr, of Belfast, to Elizabeth Gregson, of Drumgor.
Noble and Boyd—Dec. 2nd, William Noble, of Newry, to Elizabeth Boyd, of Edenderry.

Burials

- Hewitt**—Nov. 12th, Margaret Hewitt, of Edenderry; aged 88. Interred at Drumcree.
M'Kerr—Nov. 20th, Leitia M'Kerr, of Edenderry; aged 63.
Cuddy—Nov. 23rd, Emily Elizabeth Cuddy, of Belfast; aged 25.

The Select Vestry.

At its meeting in November the Select Vestry considered the possibility of some of the trees in the Churchyard being cut down. But it is felt that nothing should be done which would alter the picturesque appearance of the Church as it now stands. The matter will be again considered at the next meeting of the Vestry.

RECTOR :

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

CHURCHWARDENS :

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

ITEMS

Drumcree Parish held special services in October to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the consecration of the present Church. It is of interest to the people of Seagoe that the conspicuous spire, which is a landmark in the neighbourhood, was built by a former Rector of Seagoe, Dean Blacker.

A number of strolling beggars have recently been asking for help in this neighbourhood and giving as their address certain streets in Edenderry. Parishioners ought to be careful not to give to any poor person unless they know something about them. To give alms indiscriminately is merely to encourage dishonesty. If the money thus given were contributed to the Poor Fund of the Parish it would reach the deserving poor.

Much regret has been expressed at the death of Mrs. M'Kerr, of James St., which took place with tragic suddenness. She had been in weak health for some time, but no one expected the end. During her long residence in the Parish she was greatly respected by everyone who knew her. We sym-

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/- (non-residents); **MARRIAGE**, 3/7. An extra search fee is chargeable in certain cases
A copy of the Magazine will be sent post free to any subscriber for 3s per annum.

pathise very sincerely with Mr. M'Kerr and his family in their sad loss.

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Convenient waiting rooms are being erected in Seagoe graveyard. A large number of the graves in Old Seagoe are now very carefully tended and planted with flowers.

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Captain Stocks, who is with the Church Army, a native of Yorkshire. He has been a worker in the Church Army for several years and last year visited the United States (including South Manchester) with other representatives of the Church Army. Capt Crawford, his able Lieutenant, is a native of Belfast and comes from St. Mary's Parish.

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We have lost by death during the past month very aged and much respected parishioner in Mrs. Hewitt, of James St. She had lived for many years in Toronto, but returned some years ago to the country. Although approaching 90 years of age, she was very active up to the last. She had a great love for Canada, where she had spent many happy years. Her quiet spirit and firm faith marked her out as one of God's elect.

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The Recreation Room for men in Bridge St. is well patronised by the men of the district. The games have been newly sighted and several keen competitions have been held for prizes presented by kind friends. A Jumble Sale is being arranged.

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.