

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

FEBRUARY, 1911.

Rev. W. T. Grey.

THE REV. W. T. GREY visited Seagoe the week before last, after an absence of five years. He left Seagoe in September, 1905, and has ever since been working as a Missionary in Japan, under the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. His headquarters have been at St. Andrew's Mission at Tokyo, the capital city of Japan. Mr. Grey's work has been chiefly educational in character. He Lectures classes of Japanese Divinity Students in Christian Doctrine. The Bishop under whom he is placed is Dr. Boutflower, who at the time of the Pan-Anglican Conference gave up his position as Bishop of Dorking in the South of England, and offered himself for missionary work in any part of the world where he was most needed.

Mr. Grey returned from Japan by Manchuria, Siberia, Russia, and Germany. He was three weeks in the train crossing Siberia, which was covered with snow. Three times the train was blocked by snow-drifts and had to be dug out. He was greatly interested in the ancient Russian city of Moscow, and in the modern city of Berlin. During his few days stay in Seagoe as the guest of Mr. W. R. Atkinson he visited a great many of his friends, and everywhere received a very hearty welcome. He preached in Seagoe Church at Morning Prayer on January 22nd. His subject was "God's family of Nations." He made touching reference to his former work as Curate in Seagoe Parish, and to the changes which had occurred since he had left especially the death of Dean Dawson, Rector of the Parish.

Mr. Grey was also present in Seagoe Church at Evening Prayer. At the Afternoon Sunday School in Edenderry he gave a short address to the children on "The work of Foreign Missions." Mr. Grey hopes to return to Japan next September.

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** Five Years in Japan. **

The Rev. W. T. Grey has kindly consented to deliver a Public Lecture in Edenderry Parochial Hall, on Thursday, February 23rd, at 8 o'clock on "Five Years in Japan." The Lecture will be illustrated with photographic lantern slides and will we believe be extremely interesting. The Tickets are now on sale. Reserved 1/-; Unreserved 6d. The proceeds of the Lecture will be devoted to the Improvement Fund for Seagoe School. Everyone should be present at this Lecture.



Offertories during January.

		Morning.	Evening.
Jan. 1st	—Circumcision	£1 18 10	£0 10 2
,, 8th	—1st S. aft. Epiph.	3 9 3	0 19 6
,, 15th	—2nd „	1 4 2	0 10 4
,, 22nd	—3rd „	1 2 11	0 13 5
,, 29th	—4th „	1 5 5	0 12 3
	Week-days	0 3 2	0 10 4
		£9 3 9	£3 16 0

Baptisms.

"He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost."

- Jan. 7th—Lucy Eleanor, daughter of William John and Lucy McDonald.
,, „—Mary Jane, daughter of Frederick and Margaret Jane Freeburn.
,, „—William Robert, son of James and Elizabeth Jane Gracey.
,, „—Francis, son of John and Martha Girvan.
,, „—Margaret, daughter of John and Martha Girvan.
,, „—Anne, daughter of John and Martha Girvan.

Burials.

"Till the day break."

- Jan. 15th—William Webb, Edenderry, aged 67 yrs.
,, 19th—Joseph Laverty, Drogheda, aged 56 yrs.
,, 22nd—Minnie Wilson, Lurgan, aged 32 yrs.
,, 22nd—Hannah J. Walker, Kernan, aged 49 yrs.
,, 29th—William Graham, Lurgan, aged 72 yrs.

Lent Preachers.

Lent begins on March 1st. The special Wednesday evening preachers in Seagoe, as far as arranged, will be as follows:—

- March 1st (Ash Wednesday),
Rev. A. J. Murray, B.A., St. Nicholas,
Belfast.
March 15th, Rev. T. W. E. Drury, M.A.,
Rector of Rostrevor.
March 22nd, Rev. J. H. Sides, M.A.,
Rector of Castlecaulfield, Co. Tyrone.
March 29th, Rev. Canon Lett, M.A.,
Rector of Aghaderg.
April 12th, Rev. O. W. Scott, M.A.,
Rector of Gilford.

Distribution of Prizes.

This is the season of the year for Sunday School Prize Distribution. We have had many pleasant gatherings throughout the Parish during the last few weeks and those children who have been regular in attending Church and Sunday School have got very nice prizes. There has been a great demand for Prayer Books and Hymnals. The Prayer Books contain the name of King George and Queen Mary in the State Prayers. At **Carne** the Distribution took place on Thursday, January 19th. The Hall was crowded. An abundant supply of Tea and Cake was followed by an excellent programme of Music and Recitations. A pleasant feature of the evening were the items performed by some of the Edenderry children. We like to see one part of the Parish helping another part. **Wee Joe Hynes** delighted all with his patriotic songs. He is the youngest performer in Seagoe Parish. A large number received Prizes. Mr. D. Murray, the energetic Superintendent of Carne Sunday School, made all arrangements. Mrs. Price, of Ballinacor, kindly distributed the Prizes to the successful pupils. **Hacknahay** was the centre of interest on Monday, January 23rd. Mr. and Miss Calvert as usual most generously entertained the teachers and children to tea. An attractive programme of music and recitations was also provided, and some items were creditably performed by the children of the Day School under Miss Stevenson's supervision. The Rector presided and Miss Calvert handed the books to the prize-winners. **Edenderry** had its turn on Friday, January 27th. There was a large attendance and a great many prizes were won even though the standard for a prize had been raised from 35 to 40 Sundays. The Morning School especially distinguished itself. Special allowance was made for Church Attendance which is now being more than ever regarded as a qualification in our children for a good Prize. A series of fine Missionary photographs of Mid-China were shown on the Lantern by Mr. R. J. McKittrick, and explained by the Rector. A most enjoyable evening was spent. The Prize-giving in **Seagoe** was held on Monday, January 30th, at 7.30. There was a good attendance, and the entertainment took the form of an exhibition of Lantern slides which were much appreciated. The Prizes were then distributed by the Rector, assisted by the Rev. W. R. Crichton. Mr. R. J. McKittrick, late Superintendent of Seagoe Afternoon School, was presented with a handsomely bound Teachers Bible on the occasion of his departure from the Parish.

Drumgor Distribution of Prizes takes place on Monday, February 6th. Tea at 7.30, and **Levaghery** Prize-giving will be held on Monday, February 13th. Tea at 7.30. We hope that the result of our Prize Distributions will be to increase the efficiency of our Sunday Schools. Children who did not get a Prize should be careful to attend better so as to get a nice book next year. We believe the

standard of attendance for Prizes should be raised in all the Sunday Schools to 40 Sundays. 45 Sundays constituting the standard for a First Prize, and 40 for a second. We also hold that no child should get a Prize (except in the Infant Classes) unless they attend Service in the Parish Church regularly on Sunday mornings, and (if living at a distance from the Church) a District Service on Sunday evenings.

The Misses Dawson.

The Misses Dawson sail from Liverpool on Saturday, February 4th, by the S.S. Beldragon for Rio de Janeiro, South America. They will be on the staff of the South American Missionary Society. We are sure the thoughts and prayers of the Seagoe people will follow them in their journey to that distant land.

Missionary Meetings.

For some time past it has been felt that we are not doing our duty in regard to Missionary work. While smaller and poorer parishes have been supporting their 'Own Missionaries,' we have been content with sending in a mere pittance to support Christian enterprise in heathen lands. Lest this parsimony might justly be attributed to ignorance of the conditions in the foreign field, it is purposed to hold Missionary Meetings at various centres in the Parish. Two of these have already been held. On January 10th, Miss Greer, formerly a Missionary in China, addressed a large meeting in Carne Church Hall, when she gave a vivid description of the missions to the heathen Chinese. A most gratifying feature of this meeting was the number of adults present, almost all the men from Tamnificarbet Bible Class availing themselves of the opportunity of hearing something of a subject which permeates the Gospel.

Hacknahay was the next district visited. On January 12th, Miss Greer again placed herself at our disposal, and again brought before a large audience many interesting incidents of missionary life, interspersed with facts, which showed the immeasurable misery of those living in darkness caused by the absence of the 'Light of the World.'

On Friday morning, January 13th, a short visit was paid by Miss Greer to Seagoe School. Chinese Curios were exhibited to the children and many customs and details of Chinese child-life graphically described.

After each meeting boxes and cards were given to all who wished to do something to extend Christ's Kingdom. We hope that there will be a marked increase in our contributions, and that many will be led to pray for this work. To pray intelligently we must have knowledge. This can be gained by reading missionary literature much of which can be obtained for a halfpenny or penny per month.

Items:

We regret that some of our readers were unable to obtain copies of last month's Magazine. Always get your copy early in the month. The best way to make sure of getting your Magazine is to pay your shilling in advance for the whole year.

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In next month's issue we hope to publish a photograph of our excellent Churchwardens for this year, Mr. Charles Collins, of Edenderry, and Mr. Thomas Reid, of Lower Seagoe.

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We congratulate Mr. T. J. Atkinson a useful member of Seagoe Select Vestry, on obtaining the degree of LL.B., at the recent University Commencements in Trinity College, Dublin.

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On several recent Sundays the congregations in Seagoe Church have been very large, but the offerings have not been as liberal as they might have been. "Freely ye have received, freely give."

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Miss Rhoda Guy, of Seagoe, has been very ill, but we are glad to hear that she is now getting stronger. We hope soon to welcome her back to Seagoe Sunday School where she has done good work as a Teacher.

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Miss Miriam Holmes, and Miss Nellie Best, have been appointed Teachers in Seagoe Sunday School.

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There were 76 people present at the Evening Service in Carbet on Sunday, January 29th.

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This year Lent begins on March 1st (Ash Wednesday).

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Our Protestant Orphan Collectors have done well this year. Over £15 has been handed in.

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Some people have been asking what is the colour of our new Magazine cover. It is known to the trade as Chrome Yellow.

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Mothers who are present at the Baptism of their children, and join in the Churching Service, are expected to make a thank offering (see Churching Service in Prayer Book). No matter how small the offering be it is the gift which accompanies the Service of Thanksgiving. A box will be placed in the Vestry for such offerings and they will be given to the Protestant Orphan Society.

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Men's Social in Seagoe School, Tuesday, February 7th. Tea at 7.30. Address by Rev. F. W. Austin, M.A., of St. Columba's Church, Belfast, late Rector of Drumcree.

The Postal Arrangements in Seagoe Parish are altogether out of date. If two letters were posted in Portadown on Friday night at 12.30 a.m., one being addressed to Brussels in Belgium, and the other to someone in Seagoe Parish, the person in Brussels would receive his letter before the person in Seagoe! Brussels is 600 miles from Portadown, and Seagoe is one mile.

Social in Levaghery.

On Monday, February 13th, a Social Meeting will be held in Levaghery School. These Socials are always a success. Secure your Ticket at once. On sale everywhere.

Men's Social.

The Annual Social for Men will take place in Seagoe School, on Tuesday, February 7th. Tea at 7.30. We hope every member of the Bible Classes and all others who are invited will come. We can guarantee that they will spend a most pleasant and profitable evening. The Tickets are complimentary. The Rev. F. W. Austin, Rector of St. Columba's Knock, is coming from Belfast to speak to the men. Mr. Austin was well known to many as Rector of Drumcree some years ago.

Mr. R. J. McKittrick.

We congratulate Mr. McKittrick, the Second Assistant Teacher in Seagoe School, on his appointment as Principal of Shane's Castle School, Randalstown, Co. Antrim. The School is a very important one, and is an object of special interest to Lord and Lady O'Neill who live in the neighbouring Shane's Castle. Mr. McKittrick carries with him the good wishes of all in Seagoe Parish where he has done good work during the 2½ years of his residence in the Parish. We wish him much success in his new sphere of work.

Matthews Minstrels.

This entertaining troupe of Musical Minstrels gave an excellent entertainment in Edenderry Parochial Hall, on Thursday, January 26th, at 8 o'clock. There was a large attendance and every item was loudly applauded. The Matthews boys are very clever, and their programme is so varied that it never gets monotonous. Some of the items were very comical. The "Whistling Coon" was very well done by the youngest member of the company. A very pleasant evening was spent. Mr. Stevenson and the Hall Committee are to be congratulated on their enterprise in having the entertainment, and we hope they will have a good balance in hand from the proceeds towards extinguishing the small debt on the up-keep of the Hall.

The New Primate.

We are sure that Seagoe will join in the general congratulations which will be accorded to the Lord Bishop of this Diocese (Right Rev. Dr. Crozier) on his unanimous elevation to the place of Chief Pastor of the Church of Ireland, the Archbishopric of Armagh. Bishop Crozier made himself very popular during his visits to Seagoe. Everyone was delighted with his genial manner when he came to our Parochial Tea in December, 1908, and his visit for the Confirmation last June was an inspiration to all of us. He will be sustained in his high and responsible office by the thought that he will have the prayers and good wishes of the members of the Church all over Ireland, and of many also of other Denominations who have learned to know and love him.

Old Seagoe Notes.

The Horse Block.—At a Vestry holden in ye Parish Church of Sego, on the 9th day of August, 1708, It was agreed by ye Minister, Churchwardens, and Parishioners then present, that the sum of 1b.01—s.02—d.05 together with ye sum of 04-17-04, Be levied of ye Parishioners and Landholders of ye said Parish for ye Repair of ye Porch and building of a Style of Stone and Lime before the gate of the Church-yard for a Convenience for women to get on horse-back, and other uses mentioned in a former Act, and be raised by ye present Churchwardens by Distress or otherwise according to Law, the work to be done immediately, and accounted for at Easter next. John Campbell, Clerk Richard Smurphett, John Geary, Churchwardens, David Geddes, George Ramsey, Woolsey Smurphett.

Curious Surnames, 1710-12.—In the Registers for 1710-12 the following unusual names occur—Elizabeth Pew, Annie Ferlo, Jane Mack-Knabb, Murtagh Ahamel, Daniel Kettle, Margaret Weat, Valentine Silcock, Conn McGinis, Sarah Mettrix.

Turnpike Gates in Seagoe Parish.—In the Vestry Records for April 6th, 1713, we read something about the old road gates in Seagoe Parish. “James Byers is appointed to oversee from Bocomra to Portadowne Bridge and from John Binks to Upper Seagoe Gate. John Deary and John Fisher to oversee Ballynemoney Constablewick. Mr. Francis Mathers to oversee from the Great Rode to the Runnel that divides Edenderry and Upper Sego. John Gibson, of Upper Sego, to oversee the Highway from Kilvigan River to Edenderry and from ye Church to Killycomaine Gate.

Churchwardens of Seagoe (continued):—

- 1735—Samuel Robinson, of Silverwood.
- William McMurray, of Ballygargin.
- 1736—William Williamson, of Drumgor,
- James Graham, of Kinigo.
- 1737—Richard Joyce, of Ballydonagh,
- Andrew McCollum, of Kilvergan.

- 1738—Thomas Newell, of Levaghery,
- Ralph Dynes, of Monraverty.
- 1739—Mr. Ralph Carroll, of Drumgor,
- Joseph Mercer, of Kernan.

Old Seagoe Songs—Our reference last month to an Old Seagoe Song has been the means of bringing to light several interesting old pieces which were very familiar to a past generation. We have to thank Mr. John Lutton for copying out the following lines which were repeated to him by Mr. James McCully, of Upper Seagoe, who was one of the few who could repeat the lines from memory.

In the Parish of Seagoe, in County Armagh,
Two boys went a-fowling it being the frost,
Each of them took with him his dog and his gun,
And along the Bann water a-fowling there're gone.

A small boat pushed out a few days ago,
The ice had been broken, the boys did not know,
They boldly stepped forward and both plunged in,
To the bottom went Robinson, but Best he could swim.

Up comes Sloan Woolsey with the ropes in his hand,
No further he could get than the edge of the Bann,
“Sloan Woolsey, Sloan Woolsey, your ropes are in vain,
We're twice at the bottom and now gone again.”

Up comes his mother like a woman in despair,
Wringing her hands and tearing her hair,
Sloan Woolsey, Sloan Woolsey, where is my dear son,
He is gone to the bottom with his dog and his gun.

Go home, dear mother, and weep no more,
But wake him at night when you get him on shore,
And the Lord has provided him with a watery tomb,
May the angels sit round and guard him at home.

Eight hundred Orangemen all stood in the ring,
Where the Orange and the Purple from their left breasts did hing,
They whispered round slowly, and each waved his hand,
Adieu men for ever, Adieu to the Bann.

[Perhaps some reader could give us the name of the old Seagoe rhymer who wrote these lines. Next month we hope to print another Old Seagoe Ballad. We have heard of several and would be glad to hear of more. “The Three Maids of Seagoe,” The Ballad of Tommy Downshire,” and “Fair Mary the Pride of Killeavey,” are on our list for publication. Old Seagoe folk should try to remember some of the songs they heard sung in their childhood. Even if they do not remember all the words or verses they could get some one to write down as much as they remember and send it on to the Rector].