


Seagoe Parish Magazine.

FEBRUARY, 1914.

Parish "At Home."

N Thursday, Feb 12th, a Parish "At Home" will (D.V.) be held in Seagoe Parochial School. The object of the "At Home" is to bring the Parishioners together in a sociable way. The Parishioners have very few opportunities of meeting each other. The congregations which gather each Sunday in the Parish Church are of course drawn from the whole Parish, but the Church is not merely a body of worshippers, but it should also be a body of people united in friendly and social intercourse. Many of our people meet in the Markets on Saturdays in Portadown, but on such occasions we meet each other as fellow-citizens or fellow-countrymen, but when we all meet in the School on February 12th, we will meet as members of the ancient Church of Ireland, and as parishioners of the Parish of Seagoe.

The new Schoolroom will be inaugurated at the "At Home" and it will provide a large additional space for this interesting gathering of Parishioners

A committee of Ladies has been formed and also a Programme Committee, and a Decoration Committee to arrange the details of the meeting. The Tickets are Sixpence each. Young people under the age of 16 are not admitted unless accompanied by their parents. We especially invite to this "At Home" the heads of households. There are 672 separate church families in the Parish and we expect each family to be represented at the "At Home."

Messrs. Birrell and Fawcett's Concert Party from Belfast have been engaged for the evening. They give a first-rate entertainment, consisting of Dialogues, Instrumental Items, Recitals, Costume Songs, etc., which will provide a specially attractive Programme.

A Musical Evening.

A very pleasant Musical Evening was given by the Committee of the Seagoe Literary and Debating Society, on Tuesday evening, January 20th, in Edenderry Hall. The appearance of the Hall had been quite transformed by the decorative efforts of the lady members. The introduction of small tables and a tasteful arrangement of screens and floral decorations were very effective in getting rid of the stiffness and formality which sometimes characterise such gatherings. A carpet along the centre of the Hall added greatly to the comfort and homeliness of the occasion. A high-class Programme was given after tea, and each item was excellently rendered.

At the close of the evening a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the many kind friends who had assisted in the success of the Meeting.

Offertories for January.

Sundays—Mornings	...	...	£6	4	11
„ Evenings	...	...	1	10	3
Week days	...	...	0	10	6
			£8	5	8

On January 11th, the Collections for Foreign Missions amounted to £2 18s 3d.

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Marriages.

"As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

Cloughley and Callison—January 7th, 1914, William Cloughley, of Glasgow to Margaret Callison, of Edenderry.

Montieth and Montgomery—January 21st, 1914, at St. Columba's Church, Knock, Belfast, James Monteith, of Lisburn, to Marion, eldest daughter of T. J. Montgomery, Portadown.

Death.

M'Dowell—December 23rd, 1914, at South Fort George Hospital, British Columbia Alexander, son of Thomas M'Dowell, of Killicomaine, aged 30 years.

Burials.

"Till the Day break."

Fleming—January 17th, Mary Jane Fleming, of Carrickblacker Road, aged 73 years.

Watters—January 18th, William John Watters, of Belfast, aged 72 years.

Bullick—January 23rd, Richard William Bullick, of Kernan, aged 95 years.

M'Crory—January 28th, Alice (Elsie) M'Crory, of Edenderry, aged 10 years.

Richard William Bullick died in the Infirmary, Lurgan, on January 23rd. He had for many years acted as gateman for the G.N.R. at Seagoe Crossing until some years ago, when through advancing years he had to retire. He retained all his powers of mind and body unimpaired up to within a week of his death. He was the oldest inhabitant of Seagoe Parish, having entered his 96th year. We here print the record of his Baptism taken from the Baptismal Registers of the Parish. "1819—January 24th, Richard William, son of Jacob and Jean Bullock, Drumnagoon." He was a most respectable and industrious old man, sober and God-fearing, and by his death an interesting link with the long past is broken.

Band of Hope.

The monthly meeting of the above was held in the Edenderry Parochial Hall, on Friday evening, January 23rd. The Rev. G. Bloomer presided, and the attendance was large. The following programme was gone through:—Chorus, "Ireland's a mighty place," by the Band of Hope Choir; Recitation, "The Rose Girl," May Best; Trio and Solo, "The Social Glass," Sarah Martin, Teenie Flannigan, Sam Magee, and the Choir; Recitation, "A Chapter of Accidents," Dorothy Stevenson; Solo, "Right men are wanted," Sarah Coulter; Dialogue, "An Unwelcome Visitor," Hannah Johnston and Teenie Flannigan; Dialogue, "An Awful Example," Anna Killow and Emily Cox; Recitation, Martha McCrory; Quartette, Teenie Flannigan, Maggie Rainey, Minnie Watson and Edith Haire; Recitation, Dorothy Stevenson; Dialogue, "Reforming a Mistress," Sarah Martin and Olive Gibson. Mrs. Stevenson kindly trained the Choir and played the accompaniments. During an interval in the programme a spirited and instructive address was given by Mr. J. J. Dobson. The meeting closed with the Benediction, pronounced by the Chairman.

A School Afternoon.

The Very Rev. C. T. P. Grierson, B.D., Dean of Belfast, has kindly consented to open the newly-built Class Room in Seagoe School, on Monday, February 9th, at 3-30 p.m. The addition of this room is a notable event in the history of Seagoe School. It will give accommodation for 80 additional pupils, beside providing extra space for special classes. Cards of invitation are being issued for the Opening Ceremony, to which all interested in the welfare of the School are heartily invited.

Mr. J. J. Dobson.

Mr. J. J. Dobson was instituted as a Lay Reader for Seagoe Parish by the Bishop of Down, on Monday, January 19th, in the Diocesan Rooms, Belfast, and received the Bishop's Licence to act as such in the Parish. We congratulate Mr. Dobson on this recognition of his work by the Bishop of the Diocese.

Death of Mr. Ruck.

Many of our readers will regret to hear of the death of Mr. Ruck, who resided at Peacefield, in this Parish, for several years, and who attended Seagoe Parish Church very regularly while here. He passed away so long ago as July 7th, 1913, at Barnswood, near Gloucester, after a few weeks illness from bronchitis and heart failure. Mr. Ruck was of a kindly and generous disposition, and was greatly interested in the welfare of the Parish and neighbourhood. We offer our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Ruck. Since Mr. Ruck's death she has been residing at Hollingshill Lodge, Mathon, near Malvern, Herefordshire.

Seagoe National School.

The Government Inspector, Mr. Thomas Carroll, inspected Seagoe School, on Thursday and Friday, January 29th and 30th. The Inspection was very searching and thorough. He expressed himself well pleased with the New Class Room and Out-offices and with the general arrangements of the School. His Report on the result of his Examination of the Scholars has not been issued, but we believe that good progress has been made during the year and a high degree of efficiency attained.

Presentation to Mr. Nicholas England, Jun.

The members of Seagoe Choir held a Social on Monday, January 26th, in Seagoe School. There was a full attendance, and a very pleasant evening was spent. The chief feature of the evening was a Presentation to Mr. Nicholas England, Jun., on the occasion of his recent marriage. The Rector, who presided, spoke in high terms of Mr. England whose example as a most regular worshipper in his Parish Church, and as a Communicant, had been an inspiration and a help to all who knew him. The Presentation took the form of a Box of Cutlery. Unfortunately Mr. England, who is at present working on the Queen's Island, Belfast, was unable to be present, and so the Rector handed the gift to Mr. Thos. England. The good wishes of all present were bestowed upon Mr. and Mrs. England that God's blessing might rest upon them through their future life. A letter was read from Mr. England apologising for his absence, thanking the choir for their kind present, and expressing the hope that "the Choir, which I was always proud to belong to, will go on prospering in the future as it has done in the past."

Nature Notes.

It seems as if this would be an unusually early spring. The buds are indeed already breaking on the trees, and the song of birds is in the air. We will soon see the pale yellow primroses rearing their pretty blooms in hedgerow and field. There are two kinds of Primroses. One has a long stamen the top of which can easily be seen when looking at the hollow centre of the flower. The other kind has a short stamen which can only be seen if the flower be torn asunder. No one has ever explained the cause of this curious difference. Even Botanists are puzzled by it.

The Cowslip is another welcome spring flower, and is, we are glad to say, becoming quite common in the neighbourhood. We should encourage its growth as it is a very graceful and fragrant flower. A package of cowslip seed scattered broadcast over your field will produce next spring many clusters of golden bells.

An interesting spring study is that of noting the primary or first leaves of seedlings. They are often quite different from the later foliage and are designed by the Author of Nature to be a shield or protection for the natural leafage of the plant.

ITEMS.

The Rev. W. T. Grey writes from Japan to say that he is not returning home for at least another year.

* * *

The Rector acknowledges, with thanks, the receipt of two copies of St. John's Parish Magazine, Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., from Mrs. Robert Pepper (Miss Sarah Malcomson.)

She writes—"This is a very nice Church, with a nice surplised choir, and an attendance of fifteen hundred worshippers. It is the largest Episcopal Church in Detroit.

* * *

"There are about twenty other Episcopal Churches; they are all nice, but there is no place like the old Home and the Old Church with the Ivy hanging round the door. I will close wishing you and Seagoe God Speed."

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The new Seagoe Sunday School Calendar contains 52 Questions on "The Jewish Sabbath and the Christian Sunday."

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The large Carpet used in Edenderry Parochial Hall at the Literary Society's Conversazione was the Carpet used by the King whenever he comes to Dublin.

* * *

The Sunday Morning Bible Classes have all recently increased in numbers. The members of Seagoe Girls' Bible Class recently had a pleasant Social gathering, on the kind invitation of Mr. S. R. Chambers, their Teacher.

* * *

The Rev. W. R. Crichton, M.A., Assistant Secretary of the Jews Society, delivered two very interesting Lectures in Drumgor and Hacknahay on Wednesday, January 28th and Thursday, January 29th. There were large attendances on both occasions who much enjoyed the Lectures, and were glad again to hear and see an old friend and former Curate of the Parish.

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Mrs. MacMullan, of Drumgor, continues to make slow but sure progress towards recovery.

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A C.M.S. Study Circle Conference has been arranged for Wednesday, February 11th, at 3.15 p.m., in the Anchor Cafe, Edenderry, to meet Rev. W. H. Murray Walton, C.M.S.S.C. Secretary from London. There will be afternoon Tea. A collection will be made.

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We congratulate the Footballers of Edenderry on organising a Club on Total Abstinence principles. This is, we believe, the first Club of its kind in Ireland. The Rector has been elected President. We predict for our Total Abstinence players a successful future. Drink and gambling are the twin evils of the day. They are destructive of true sport.

Mr. E. A. Atkinson, of the Irish Temperance League, Belfast, opened the Debate on "Local Option," in the Literary and Debating Society, on Tuesday, October 3rd. There were no less than sixteen speakers in the Debate, a good proof of the interest which the Society is creating. A member of the U.D.C. was present. It is time "Local Option" became a living issue in our Temperance Programme.

Bible Class Social.

The Annual Bible Class Social will be held (p.v.) on Shrove Tuesday, February 24th, in Edenderry Parochial Hall. Tea at 7-30 p.m. Tickets—Sixpence each. Only Members of the Bible Classes are admitted to this Social.

Hymns for February.

FEB. 8th—M., 467, 516, 541, 472.
E., 275, 254, 277, 237, 542.
,, 15th—M., 388, 466, 330, 543.
E., 257, 236, 276, 14, 400.
,, 22nd—M., 32, 275, 196, 319.
E., 541, 295, 553, 560, 562.
March 1st—M., 33, 379, 594, 431.
E., 381, 237, 525, 485, 641 (i).

LENT, 1914.

The Season of Lent, with its special call to Self-examination and Repentance, is approaching. Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls this year on February 25th. Morning Prayer, The Litany, and the Communion Service will be said at 11.30 a.m. on that day in the Parish Church, and there will also be Evening Prayer and Sermon at 8 p.m. During Lent the special subjects dealt with on Wednesday evenings will be the Seven Psalms of Penitence, viz.; Psalms vi., xxxii., xxxviii., li., cxxx., cxliii.

"Irish Wit and Humour."

This is the title of a Public Lecture to be given by the Rev. James Bloomer, B.A., Curate of Cookstown, in the Parochial Hall, on Tuesday, February 10th, at 8 p.m. We hear the Lecture is most attractive and amusing. There is no charge for admission. A collection will be made to defray expenses. The Lecture is given in connection with Seagoe Literary and Debating Society.

Sunday School Distributions.

The following dates have been fixed for the Annual Sunday School Prize Distributions—

Hacknahay—Friday, Feb. 6th, 7 p.m.
Drumgor—Friday, Feb. 13th, 7-30 p.m.
Seagoe—Monday, Feb. 16th, 7-30 p.m.
Carne—Tuesday, Feb. 17th, 7-30 p.m.
Edenderry—Thursday, Feb. 19th, 7-30 p.m.
Levaghery—Monday, Feb. 23rd, 7-30 p.m.

Notes on the Stars.

Star-gazers this month should not fail to notice the brilliant red planet Mars high up each night in the southern heavens. A little to the left of it are the two noticeable stars Castor and Pollux. A little to the right of Mars but at a lower altitude in the sky is the interesting planet Saturn girt around with her famous rings. These two planets dominate the heavens, and on these fine starry nights should be easily identified. During February the mornings increase by 53 minutes and the evenings by 50 minutes.

Old Seagoe Notes.

The Bishop's Mandate in Seagoe, 1777.—The following entry occurs in the Registers under date March 2nd, 1777—"Memd. March 2nd, 1777—Read a Mandate in Church from ye Bishop's Court to cite John Donaldson to Armagh Court." The note is in the writing of the Rev. Richard Buckby, Vicar of Seagoe.

Seagoe Choir in 1778. At a Vestry held in the Parish Church of Seagoe on Tuesday, the 5th day of May, 1778, the following Resolution was passed—"It is agreed at this Vestry that the front seat in the Gallery on the South side shall be and it is hereby appointed for the use of the Singers of this Parish of Sego, and that the expenses of repairing the said Seat by Mr. William Lutton shall be paid by the Churchwardens as soon as it can be raised off the Parish."

A Curious Coincidence.—A curious Coincidence has come to light since the publication in our last issue of the names of the first children to be Baptised in the New Church in 1816. The descendants of two of the children who were Baptised at the First Baptism were in the fourth generation married to each other a few years ago.

Hard Times in Seagoe 1783. An entry in the Registers runs as follows—"At a Vestry held in the Parish Church of Sego, on Tuesday, the 30th of September, according to an adjournment from Tuesday, the 2nd of September, 1783, Pursuant to Act of Parliament it was Agreed upon yt in consequence of the severity of the times there should no cess be laid on for the by Roads this year in lieu thereof Three halfpence be laid on for Two succeeding years."

Seagoe Militia, 1795. At a Vestry held in Seagoe Parish Church on April 13th, 1795 the balance in the hands of the Churchwardens amounting to £1 19s 0½d was paid on the Militia Account to James Greer, Esq., our Treasurer, and it appears that with the said Balance there is now in his hands the sum of £8 4s 10½d, to be applied for the purpose of raising substitutes for ye Militia of this Parish.

The First Marriage in Seagoe New Church, 1816. In our last issue the record of the first Marriage in the present Church was given. Mr. James Ewing, the Bridegroom (we are informed by Mr. James Wilson, of Lisniskey, a relative) was the Architect and Building Superintendent of the Church. Mr. Brownlee, the original Architect, died during the building of the Church, and Mr. Ewing was appointed in his place. Mr. Ewing afterwards built and resided in the house on Killicomaine Road, now occupied by Miss Watson. The house contains several relics of Old Seagoe Church, including the Bannister of the Staircase which led up to the Gallery.

Churchwardens of Seagoe. [We continue the List of Churchwardens. The last list printed was in our issue of January, 1913.]

- 1801—Toulerton Lutton, of Monraverty
Thomas Robinson, of Breagh
- 1802—Andrew M'Collum, of Kilvergan
John Calvert, senior, of Breagh.
- 1803—Alexander Hicklin
Richard Lutton
- 1804—Robert Fivey, Esq.
Arthur Buckby, Esq.
- 1805—Mr. William Overend
Samuel Rudale.

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