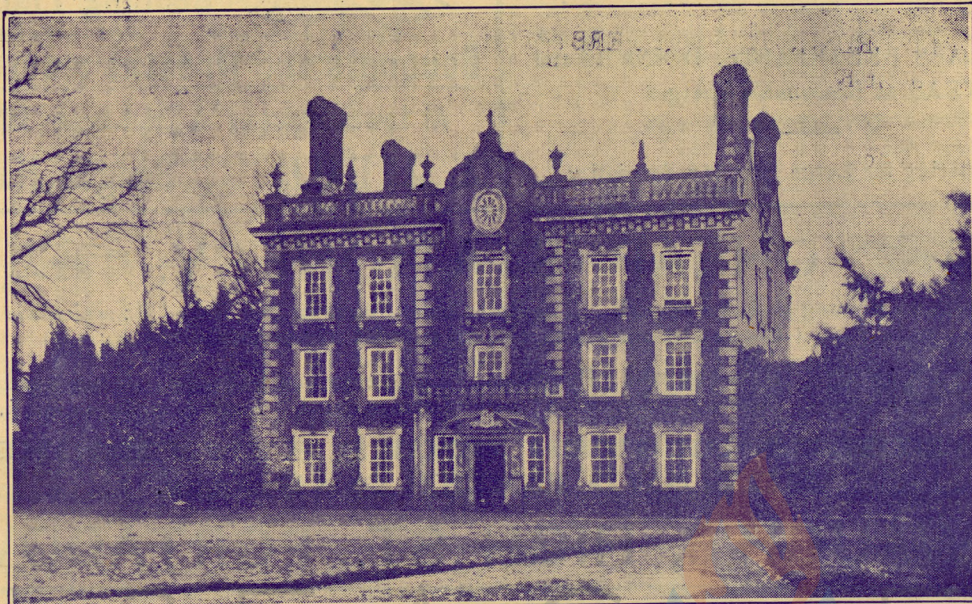


1928.**CARRICKBLACKER.**

Carrickblacker, the residence of the Blacker family, is the outstanding house in the Parish of Seagoe. It was built by William Blacker in the year 1692. The stone bearing this date is still to be seen inserted in the wall of the house. The house has played an important part in the history of the Parish for 250 years. It contains a valuable and interesting collection of Williamite relics and of historic pictures. The present owner of Carrickblacker is Lieut.-Colonel S. Wm. Blacker, D.S.O., who commanded the 9th Batt, Royal Irish Fusiliers during the Great War.

Seagoe Parish Magazine.


| For Services, Classes, etc., see end of Local Matter.

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Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JANUARY, 1928.

CLERGY :

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

Rev. W. A. Henry, 21 Edward St., Portadown.

CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's—Thos. E. Maginnis, Breagh.

People's—John R. Reid, Portadown.

Our New Cover.

With this issue the Magazine appears in its new cover for 1928. We change the cover of Seagoe Magazine each year. This keeps it fresh and interesting and at the same time imparts useful information concerning the history of Seagoe. Colonel Blacker has kindly allowed us to print a picture of Carrickblacker on the cover. Of all the houses in Seagoe it is the most historical; Seagoe Rectory and Eden Villa possibly come next. But were we to write the history of Carrickblacker we would be writing the history not alone of Seagoe Parish but of most of Ulster during the 18th and 19th centuries. The house was built in 1692, as a date stone over one of the windows records. The Blacker family has, however, a much longer connection with the Parish than that. Before Carrick was built Valentine Blacker resided in what was then known as the Manor House, in Ballynaghy, where Spence and Bryson's factory now stands. The factory buildings are still known as Blacker's Mill because of a corn mill which existed there before the factory was built. Some traces of the old Manor House may still be seen. Dean Blacker resided for many years at Carrickblacker, and his son, Colonel William Blacker, became very famous as a poet, patriot and politician. Colonel Blacker died in the year 1855 and is buried in Old Seagoe graveyard. Carrickblacker, or Carrick, as it used to be called, is an imposing building and is built in the Dutch style; no doubt out of compliment to the family of Orange which gave us William III.

Death of Dr. Henry.

Much sympathy has been expressed throughout the Parish with the Rev. W. A. Henry, Curate of Seagoe, on the death of his father, Dr. Henry, of Clones. Since Mr. Henry came amongst us a year ago we had got to know much about Dr. Henry. The visit paid to the Parish by Mrs. Henry and the inspiring address she gave to the Mother's Union are remembered with pleasure and gratitude. Dr. Henry passed away after a few days' illness from pneumonia. His death evoked a wonderful display of sorrow amongst all creeds and classes in Clones. We quote the following passage from a local paper—"Profound regret and sorrow was felt over Clones and district on Monday afternoon when it was learned that Dr. William Henry had passed away. He was popular in the highest degree and he died a martyr in the

fulfilment of his duty. In him the poor had always a genuine, warm-hearted friend, in whose behalf he toiled day and night up to the very moment of his fatal illness. The whole community were present at the funeral to testify their love and respect for the deceased." We sympathise very sincerely with Mr. Henry and with all the members of his family in their sad bereavement.

An Interesting Letter

24th January, 1928.

Dear Canon Archer,

You will be glad to learn we have been granted the registration of the words "Gold Medal" as a trade mark for Tea, and as the Seagoe Magazine played no small part in bringing this about, please accept our sincere thanks for the service rendered.

When our Patent Agents in London made application in May last, the Registrar, in refusing, gave amongst other reasons lack of sufficient proof to show the antiquity of the name, i.e., advertisements with the words Montgomery's Gold Medal Tea used by us ten years ago or longer.

As you know, I applied and obtained from you copies of your Magazine for 1907 and 1908, which contained the necessary wording, and at the second hearing which I attended satisfied the Registrar that the name was used by us for the period required.

Coinciding as it does with another new year of publication, you will please book us for our usual full page advertisement, a copy of which is enclosed.

With renewed thanks, and best wishes for a prosperous 1928.

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES MONTGOMERY.

T. J. Montgomery & Son,
The Gold Medal Tea House,
Portadown.

Grand Concert

The concert organised by Mr. T. H. Wilson was given in the Town Hall, Portadown, on the evening of Thursday, January 26th, at 8 p.m. The Hall was quite full. The programme was very well arranged. The concert party came from Belfast and numbered amongst them some of the finest vocalists in Belfast. The Mayfair Glee Singers sang perfectly. Every item was encores and the performers responded with great willingness. The proceeds are on behalf of Seagoe Choir Fund. The sale of tickets brought in over £50, but expenses are, of course, considerable. Mr. Wilson, who has now been fifty-four years organist of Seagoe, displayed splendid energy in selling the tickets and organising the concert. The audience which assembled in the Town Hall was an ideal one in the way they listened and applauded. Altogether the concert proved a great success and provided all who were present with a most enjoyable feast of music.

Our Sunday Schools.

At this season of the year our Sunday Schools hold their annual Feasts and prize-givings. On Tuesday, January 31st, **Levaghery** had a very pleasant evening in their quaint old schoolhouse. A splendid tea had been provided, and after tea a short programme had been arranged, and then games of various kinds were indulged in. Prizes were not awarded this year. Mr. James Ford, who is the Superintendent of the Sunday School, is to be congratulated on the efficient state of the School.

Edenderry and Seagoe had a splendid combined evening in Seagoe School on Thursday, February 2nd. The Mothers' Union, who have recently shown so much enterprise, asked that they might be allowed to entertain the children of both Schools. There was a very large gathering. After a plentiful supply of tea and cake an attractive programme of music and recitations was provided, but the great attraction of the evening was a splendid Christmas Tree, from which were suspended some 300 gifts, one for each child present. It was thought better to postpone the distribution of the Book Prizes until a later date. The Infant children from Edenderry were brought to the School in a special 'bus. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

Coming S.S. Fetes

The following dates and places have been arranged for Sunday School Fetes:—

Carne—Tuesday, Feb. 14th, at 7.30 p.m.

Hacknahay—Thursday, Feb. 16th, at 6.30 p.m.

Drumgor—Tuesday, Feb. 21st, at 7.30 p.m.

Revision of General Vestry.

A meeting of Seagoe Select Vestry will be held on Tuesday, February 7th, at 8 p.m., in Seagoe School, for the purpose of revising the list of the General Vestry of the Parish. Those who would wish to have their names added to the list can obtain a Declaration Form at the meeting of the Vestry on Tuesday or by making application to Mr. Moses Gilpin, Hon. Sec., Drumnagoon. The list will remain open for revision until the next meeting of the Select Vestry on Tuesday, February 28th.

Seagoe Mothers' Union

The opening meeting of the New Year was held in Seagoe School on Tuesday, January 10th, at 7.30 p.m. Over 50 members sat down to tea. After tea, the Rector, who presided, gave a short address. Three new members were admitted. Elections to the various offices were then made. Mrs. Rennix was re-elected President; Mrs. Reid, Secretary, and Mrs. Twinem, Treasurer. The former committee was re-elected, with the addition of two new members, bringing up the number of the committee to twelve. Several kind friends provided most attractive musical items. A very pleasing gathering concluded by the singing of the Mothers' Union Hymn.

Mission at Drumgor

Mr. Robert Gracey, of Donacloney, and until recently a Church Army Evangelist, conducted a successful Mission in Drumgor Church Hall from Sunday, January 8th, to Sunday, January 22nd. The attendances were large and an earnest spirit was awakened by the stirring addresses delivered each evening. We hope to arrange with Mr. Gracey for further Missions in other centres of the Parish.

Parish Register for January.

Marriages.

Wilson and Stewart—January 18th, by the Rev. S. Mayes, M.A., Rector of Kilmore, Valentine Wilson, of Portadown, to Christine Stewart, daughter of the late Dr. Stewart and granddaughter of the late Venerable Archdeacon Saurin.

Cardwell and M'Nulty—Feb. 1st, Samuel Cardwell, of the Parish of Donaghcloney, to Emily M'Nulty, of Drumgor.

Burials.

M'Keown—January 8th, James M'Keown, of Edenderry; aged 28. Interred at Blaris, Lisburn.

Hall—January 9th, Winifred Elizabeth Hall, of Kernan; aged 35.

M'Cormick—January 26th, Alexander M'Cormick, of Ballyhannon; aged 62 years.

M'Keown—January 31st, Sophia M'Keown, of Armagh, formerly of Edenderry; aged 81 years.

Obituary

During the past month we have had some sad losses by death. James M'Keown had a sudden call from time to eternity. He was known to many among us, who watched with great interest his rising position as an accomplished architect who had already made a name for himself in that great profession. He was educated at Seagoe School and later was apprenticed to Mr. Ffennell, the famous Belfast architect. He had a great interest in his work and had already designed some fine buildings. We deplore his early death, and our deepest sympathy goes out to his widowed mother, who in his death has lost her only child. Another very sad death is that of Mrs. Hall, of Kernan, at an early age. She succumbed to an attack of pneumonia after a brief illness, leaving a young family. We desire to express our sincere sympathy with her husband, Mr. A. J. Hall, of Seagoe Nurseries, and with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Coulter, of Tarson, in their bereavement.

We regret to record the death of Alexander M'Cormick, of Ballyhannon, after an illness of some months, and we express our great sympathy with his wife and family in their sorrow. Mr. M'Cormick was well-known to many in the Parish.

Old Seagoe Notes

The Burleigh Pew in Old Seagoe Church.—It is always interesting to revive memories of Old Seagoe Church, whose doors were finally closed to worshippers in 1816, when the present Church was consecrated. A feature of the old Church was the south porch, the remains of which can still be traced. Over this porch was a sun-dial. We wonder what became of it. Perhaps some of our readers might be able to tell us. According to the Ordnance Survey map of 1855 there was a sun-dial in Derryvore. Could this have been the sun-dial from the Church porch? Two steps led down into the Church from the porch. The Church contained 25 large, square pews. As one entered the Church through the porch the first pew on the right was the Burleigh pew, where the family from Lylo or Burleigh Court sat. It can be seen on the plan of the old Church which was published in this Magazine some years ago.

* * * *

A Stone Circle at Ballyhannon.—Our attention was recently directed by Mr. Neill to certain stone remains in Ballyhannon which seem to form the remains of a prehistoric stone circle. The stones are so large and numerous as to preclude the possibility that they are simply an ordinary natural group of boulders. A firmly-built causeway leads up to them. It would be worth while to investigate the site somewhat further if the owner of the site will kindly permit. These stone circles are usually associated with the worship of the ancient Druids.

* * * *

A Curious 18th Century Token.—Mr. England, a brother of Mr. Nicholas England, of Ballymacrandle, has sent the Rector a curious 18th century copper token. On one side of it are the words "Cornebane Halfpenny," and the head of an ancient Irish Bishop, possibly St. Kevin. On the other side are the words: "Associated Irish Mine Company," with a shield and the date 1789. Cornebane is the name of a townland in the Co. Wicklow. The coin has no connection with the Parish of Seagoe.

* * * *

The Rev. John Jones, Vicar of Seagoe., 1609-1666.—The Rev. John Jones was presented to the living of Seago by King James I., and remained there for some fifty years. During the Commonwealth he conformed to the rules imposed by the Protectorate. For a short period towards the close of his life he held the Rectory of Tullylish along with that of Seagoe. Not much is known about him, but he seems to have yielded considerable influence and may have been related to Dr. Thomas Jones, an Englishman, who held the Archbishopric of Dublin from 1605 to 1619, or to Dr. Lewis Jones, who was Bishop of Killaloe from 1633 to 1646, but this is only a surmise.

More Campaigning Notes by an Old Seagoe Soldier

Sergeant Thomas Russell, of Clanrolla, formerly in the Royal Irish Fusiliers, sends us some more interesting items of his campaigning days. He writes as follows:—"I send you a few more notes of my campaigning days. We had not long returned home from the campaign in British East Africa on the termination of hostilities there in 1897. I was at Colchester when I put in for a transfer to the Royal Field Artillery, as I had a shoeing-smith's certificate. Our good, old Colonel Reeves granted me my wish. This was in 1898. I had not long to wait before another big war broke out in South Africa. When we arrived in Capetown, about Christmas, 1899, the weather was fearfully hot. I could scarcely get my breath while we were on the march to our camp there was such dust, and the sand was over our ankles. The poor gee-gees suffered, too. It was not long before we got to a place called the Orange River. We joined, up with the 18th Brigade under Sir H. Colville, our General. We were also under General Kelly-Kenny, and later on under General Pole-Carew. The Guards Brigade was also a good support to us and our guns until we came to the Vet River. Here the enemy attacked us and the

Guns Began to Play.

There were a few casualties. The attack soon slackened down. Then we went on the go again, till we came to the Land River, where we had another smack in for a few hours. This led up to the big battle of Diamond Hill, when our good old Major Guinness gave the gunners a "well done." After this we came into another big battle at Driefontein, when the guns started to bark again. We had a few days' leisure till we ran into Johannesburg with some sick. The guns started again and we had a few casualties. We then marched to Pretoria and paraded through the town. Then we saw the Transvaal Republican flag hauled down and

The Good old Union Jack

was soon flying over the Government Buildings. There was some weeping and wailing at this among the Dutch. After a few days' rest we advanced through the Western Transvaal till we came to a wee station called Panne. Here we picked up with my old Regiment, the 2nd Royal Irish Fusiliers, and we were glad to meet them. And who should come up to me but my old Sergeant J. Corkin, a Portadown man, also Maxwell and my old Colour-Sergeant Collins, who had been made Quarter-Master. I had a warm shake of the hand with him and spent a good night with the "Faughs." So in a few days we got ready for the big battle of Belfast. My, oh! It was a terror when Long Tom began to play on us, but when they got

A Lick of our 15 pounder

they soon got fed up. We went from there to Newcastle, where our Boer prisoners were. It was a

terrible place. We marched then into the Bush country. Here I contracted enteric fever. Then we came down country again, and Lord Roberts ceased to command us. He was succeeded by Lord Kitchener, a fine man like Lord Roberts, but much taller. But, ah! Just then we got word that old Queen Victoria was dead, and our hearts were sad that day when we saw the flag going half-mast high. I was afterwards invalided home, after having been under three Generals. I got the South African medal and five clasps for this campaign."

Mission in Edenderry

Mr. Robert Gracey, formerly of the Church Army, will (d.v.) conduct a fortnight's Mission in Edenderry Parochial Hall, beginning with a Service at 4 p.m., on Sunday, Feb. 12th. The week-night Services will be held at 8 p.m. except on Saturday.

ITEMS.

We are glad to see a horse-sweeper at work on Seagoe Road, which has been almost impassable for some months past owing to the depth of surface mud.

The site of the proposed sewage tanks is at present submerged by the flood-waters of the Bann. We wonder what would have happened if the tanks had been there.

* * * *

An interesting and important correspondence is taking place in the Belfast newspapers with reference to the attitude assumed by the Armagh Regional Committee regarding Bible teaching in transferred Schools.

* * * *

Everyone thinks that the Mothers' Union treat to the children of Edenderry and Seagoe Sunday School was the best in the history of Seagoe.

* * *

We congratulate Mr. Rennix and the Seagoe Children's Choir on their singing at the Mothers' Union treat.

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 8 p.m. during Advent and Lent.

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.

CLASSES, &c.

ADULT CLASSES—Sundays at 10 a.m. For Men—Edenderry. 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.

Mothers' Union, Edenderry, 2nd Tuesday of each month.

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

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. It will be a help to the Clergy if they are notified of the arrival of new Church families in the Parish.

A copy of the Magazine will be sent post free to any subscriber for 3s per annum.