

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

JULY, 1912.

Excursion to Carrickblacker.

IT is fifteen years since the Sunday Schools of the Parish held their Annual Excursion to Carrickblacker, but the remembrance of the happy days spent there in old times is a treasured recollection in the minds of many of our older Parishioners. Parents delight to tell their little ones of the swings, and games, and races, and buns which they so much enjoyed in their early days. This year, thanks to the generous permission of

MAJOR S. W. BLACKER, J.P.,

the children of the Schools were able to experience for themselves the delights of a day at Carrickblacker, and to swing as their parents did among the branches of the old oak trees in the "Burrow." On Thursday, June 20th, the children with their teachers assembled at the Parish Church at 9-30. A short service was held, and then the long procession of brightly attired children, headed by the Seagoe Pipers' Band, marched towards Edenderry. The stirring strains of the Bagpipes drew crowds to watch the procession as it passed along Bridge Street and up Carrickblacker Road, on its way to the Demesne. The field was reached about 11-30.

THE WEATHER,

notwithstanding the recent heavy rains, kept up splendidly. In fact not a drop of rain fell during the whole day, except when the children were in the Church before the procession started. The swings, four in number, had been put up in the big trees by Mr. Calvert and others, and all through the day at every moment they were in constant use. Old and young, teachers and children, were swung by vigorous pushes until their toes nearly touched the clouds. The first refreshment was dispensed at 12 o'clock, and everyone agreed that George Calvert and Dynes had made

VERY GOOD TEA.

An enormous number of buns were passed down the throats of the youngsters. A number of the ladies of the Parish had arranged a very attractive Refreshment Stall under a spreading chestnut tree, and a brisk trade in teas, ices, sweets, mineral waters, jellies, etc., was done during the day. A bran dip, under the care of Miss M. Irwin, was also a great attraction. The afternoon was spent in races and

GAMES OF ALL KINDS.

The senior high jump was won in fine style by Mr. Bunting, R.I.C. Egg and spoon races caused much amusement. W. Ryans and Jack Stoops did well in the running events. In the rope climbing Henry Lavery proved the winner. Mr. Moffett, of Bridge Street, was present, and took many snapshots, which will be interesting and amusing mementoes of the

day. At 5-30 the second refreshment was handed round and much enjoyed. At about 7-30 a few taps on the big drum brought all together, and the Rector expressed the thanks of those present to Major Blacker for so kindly allowing the Excursion to take place in his demesne. He also said that he had sent a telegram during the day to Major Blacker, in Wexford, thanking him in the name of Seagoe for the happy day that had been spent.

FULLY 1,000 PEOPLE

marched with the band back to Seagoe. Many said it was just like the old days. When the procession reached the Church gates the Rector thanked the band for the excellent music they had provided, and cheers were given for the King. The proceeds resulting from the Ladies' Refreshment Stall amounted to £9 6s 7½d; the expenses were £3 9s 11½d, leaving a net profit of £5 16s 7½d, which goes towards the Day Schools Improvement Fund and Summer Fete. The

RECEIPTS FOR THE EXCURSION,

including a kind subscription of £1 from Mr. Thos. Armstrong, amounted to £8 14s 3d; the expenses were £9 11s 1½d, leaving a deficit of 16s 9½d. Mr. Tom Carson, of Portadown, most kindly presented a quantity of ice cream for the Refreshment Stall, and very many Parishioners gave gifts, too numerous to mention. Altogether the 1912 Excursion to Carrickblacker must be pronounced a splendid success.

Anniversary Service.

On Sunday Evening, July 7th, a Special Anniversary Service will be held in Seagoe Parish Church, at 7 o'clock. The offerings will be given to the County Armagh Protestant Orphan Society and the Enniskillen Orphan Fund.

At the morning Service on July 7th, the Annual Appeal will be made on behalf of the Protestant Orphan Society. There at present in Seagoe Parish 24 Orphans receiving grants from the Protestant Orphan Society, and 4 from the Enniskillen Fund, making a total of 28 Orphans. Each Orphan receives £1 5s. per quarter, or £6 per year up to the age of 14, so that the total sum paid by the Protestant Orphan Society to Seagoe Parish each year amounts to the large sum of £144, while the Enniskillen Fund pays £24. The sum contributed by the Parish to the Protestant Orphan Society in the year ending last Easter, amounted to the small sum of £15 9s., and to the Enniskillen Fund £2. We trust this total will be largely exceeded in the Current year.

Sum received	-	-	£168 0s.
Sum contributed	-	-	£17 9s.

The Summer Fete.

Thursday, August 29th, 1912.

A Summer Fete and Variety Sale will be held (D.V.), in Seagoe School, on the above date. The members of the Committee and Stall-holders are working with great energy, and already a good deal of material has been obtained for the Stalls. Collecting Cards have also been issued and some substantial subscriptions have already been received. Red Letter Money Boxes have been distributed through many houses in the Parish and should bring in a good deal.

It is very necessary that without delay, a Class-room should be added to the present School at Seagoe. The numbers attending the school have recently shown signs of considerable increase, and we anticipate a still larger influx of pupils after the holidays. An Old Pupils Fund is being started to cover the cost of furnishing and fitting up the new building. We ask all those who have had the advantage of being educated in Seagoe School to contribute to this Fund. There are many in America and other distant lands who could send us a dollar or dollars without missing it.

The following have kindly undertaken to help in various ways at the Sale:—

WORK STALL—Mrs. C. Collins, Mrs. Preston, Mrs. M'Mullan, Mrs. T. J. Montgomery, Miss Bailie, Mrs. Irwin.

CAKE AND SWEET STALL—Miss Sands, Miss Montgomery, Miss M'Mullan, Miss Chambers, Miss Templeton.

FARM PRODUCE STALL—Miss Calvert, Mrs. T. Reid, Miss Monroe, Mrs. E. Collins, Mrs. T. E. Maginnis, Miss Murray, Mrs. Price, Mrs. Lavery.

FLOWER STALL—School Children, with Mabel Reid as President.

BACHELOR'S STALL AND AMUSEMENTS—Rev. G. Bloomer, S. R. Chambers, C. H. Boyle, D. W. Murray, H. M. Murray, J. E. Lavery.

REFRESHMENT STALL—Mrs. W. R. Atkinson, Eden Villa.

Day School Sports.

A very interesting series of competitions has taken place at Seagoe school each day, during the play-hour recently. The boys competed in a Quoit Competition for Prizes offered by the Rector. The games were played off each day, and finally, Tom Johnston was declared the winner, D. H. Porter obtaining the second place. The first prize was a Penknife and the second a Pencil Box. James M'Murray obtained 1st prize in the junior Running Race. The girls have had a great Skipping Competition. One girl, Ethel Forsythe, ran up the extraordinary total of 2,100 skips without a miss, and would have continued longer had time not run out. We think this must be a record in the skipping line. Eva Forsythe won 2nd prize. The attendance at the school has increased considerably of late, and extra accommodation will soon be urgently required.

**Parish Register for May.
Baptisms.**

“Children are an heritage of the Lord.”

Private Baptism, May 29th.

Robert, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Anne Freeburn.

On Saturday, June 1st.

Jessie Isabel, daughter of Robert James and Jessie Fitzpatrick Beckett.

Martha Jane, daughter of Thomas Henry and Anne Russell.

George, son of James and Agnes Ellis.

Thomas George, son of Francis and Susannah Anderson.

At Wednesday Evening Service, June 12th.

James Joseph, son of James and Elizabeth Twinem.

Jane, daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Watters.

Burials.

“When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee.”

June 5.—Martha McCann, Killicomaine, aged 61.

„ 15.—James Fletcher, Killicomaine, aged 84.

„ 17.—Sarah Hawthorn, Joseph Street, Edenderry, aged 42.

„ 19.—Nancy Morrison, aged 92.

„ 22.—Sarah Legett, Derrymacash, aged 52.

„ 24.—William Metcalfe, Tarson, aged 50.

Hymns for July.

“Your heart shall rejoice.”

7th, Morn—	335,	346,	361,	374,	465.
Evg.—	90 (ii)	378,	594,	379,	25.
14th, Morn—	52,	71,	541,	399.	
Evg.—	50,	295,	376,	518,	332.
21st, Morn—	247,	439,	631,	113.	
Evg.—	275,	238,	535,	425,	392.
28th, Morn—	228,	561,	285,	467.	
Evg.—	217,	466,	629,	215,	557.

The Hymns for July contain several Children's Hymns. On Sunday, July 7th, Hymns suitable to the subject of the Orphans have been chosen for the morning, and some stirring Hymns of Christian warfare are arranged for the evening. The Vesper Hymns have been carefully chosen for each evening, and some new Hymns are inserted which have never been sung in Seagoe before.

Offertories for June.

(Four Sundays.)

“She brake the box and poured it on His head.”

Sunday—Mornings, £4 2s. 5d.

Evenings, £2 5s. 4d.

Week-days, £0 8s. 9d.

Total, £6 16s. 6d.

Items.

Mr. Studdert Kennedy, ex-auditor of the Dublin University Theological Society and a member of the Trinity College Mission in Belfast, took the evening Service at Tamnificarbet on a recent Sunday.

Mr. David Murray is kindly undertaking the task of arranging a competition in singing among the children of our Sunday Schools.

Structural improvements have recently been effected in Seagoe Orange Hall, which will add greatly to its usefulness.

Tamnificarbet Orange Hall has recently been renovated.

The Annual Report bringing the Statement of Parish Accounts up to Easter will shortly be published.

The Sunday Evening Services in Drumgor and Tamnificarbet are now attended by regular congregations, which are steadily increasing in numbers. The musical part of the service is conducted most efficiently in Tamnificarbet by Miss M. Dickson, and in Drumgor by Miss M. Archer. The worshippers join heartily in the responses.

At a meeting of the County Armagh Protestant Orphan Society held on Tuesday, June 18th, two Orphans from Seagoe Parish were elected.

Old Nancy Morrison, who for so long a time lived opposite the Church gate, and was so well known to the people of Seagoe, died in the Infirmary at Lurgan last week at an advanced age. In accordance with her constantly expressed desire her remains were laid to rest in Old Seagoe graveyard.

Mr. Tom Best is, we are glad to say, recovering from his terrible injuries, but the sight of one of his eyes has been destroyed, and it will be a considerable time before he will be able to resume work.

The Rev. W. R. Crichton paid a visit to the Parish last week on his motor bicycle.

The congregations during the past few Sundays have been large, notwithstanding the great inclemency of the weather.

During the past month death has carried away several well-known residents in the Parish, as our list of Burials testifies. We sympathise with the many bereaved ones.

Mr. Thomas Dawson, of Park Road, attended as a delegate at the great Albert Hall Unionist Demonstration in London last week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Porter have arrived safely in North Queensland.

The Rector's Donellan Lectures have been published in book form.

The Sale of Work at Ardmore last week was a great success, and we hear, realised a substantial sum.

Drumree Sunday Schools like Seagoe, are having their Excursion this year to a place in the Parish, instead of to Warrenpoint. The raising of the Railway Fares has not proved an unmixed disadvantage. It has shown how much enjoyment can be had out of a local Excursion.

Interesting articles appear in this month's issue of this Magazine on "Boy Scouts" by Canon Paterson Smyth, a former Curate in Lisburn, also on "Fonts," which will remind our readers of the ancient Font which we possess in Seagoe.

We hear that some members of the Cheney family are about to visit this country. Messrs. Cheney own the Silk mills in South Manchester U.S.A., where so many of our Seagoe people are employed.

The Churchwardens have called on many of the Parishioners during the past month, and have succeeded in raising a considerable sum towards getting the balance due on the new Heating Apparatus.

Seagoe Day School.

SCRIPTURE.

COURSE I.

CERTIFICATES—Samuel Magee, Jack Stoops, Thos. H. Porter, Emma Best, Florrie Irwin.

COURSE IV.

CERTIFICATES—1st Class—Sarah Martin, 93 per cent. 2nd Class—Thomas Johnston, Mabel Reid, Ethel Porter, Letitia Quaile.

SILVER MEDAL—Sarah Martin.

PLAY-HOUR COMPETITIONS.

QUOITS—1st, Thomas Johnston; 2nd, Thomas H. Porter.

RUNNING (Juniors)—1st, James M'Murray.

SKIPPING—1st, Ethel Forsythe; 2nd, Eva Forsythe.

Prizes presented by Miss Bailey.

NEATEST COOKERY EXERCISE—Sarah Martin.

COOKERY (Soda Bread, 1st year)—1st, Pearl Reid. (Wheaten Bread, 2nd year)—1st, Mabel Irwin.

ATTENDANCE.

SILVER MEDALS for not missing a day during year:

Jack Stoops,
Sarah Martin,
Ethel Forsythe.

SPECIAL SILVER MEDAL presented by Miss Armstrong for best pupil, both at work and play, awarded by votes of pupils—Thomas H. Porter.

The Church Grounds.

A beginning has at last been made in getting the Church grounds into order. The Churchwardens, Messrs. T. J. Atkinson and W. Bickett have set a good example in devoting an afternoon to the work, and several others have since helped in freeing the grave plots from weeds. We would like to see each grave neatly marked off. With this object in view, a special wire border of neat pattern is being placed on view near the grave plots. A wire border sufficient to enclose one grave can be had on application to the Rector or Churchwardens for 6/-. and for two graves 8/-. We hope that those who own grave plots in the Church ground will endeavour to purchase borders so as to assist in making the ground neat and tidy.

Hacknahay Day School.

The following have been awarded Prizes for good attendance and general proficiency:—Elsie Thompson, Robert Best, Lewis M'Avoy, William M'Avoy, John M'Grattan, Lily England, David Thompson, Adelaide M'Murray, Eliza Thompson, Rachel Fowler, Wm. Levingston.

Lurgan Infirmary.

The benefits conferred on Seagoe Parish by the excellent Infirmary at Lurgan should not be overlooked. The skill and care devoted to the nursing of the sick and aged cannot be too highly praised. The fact that the Hospital is supported out of the Rates should not cause us to forget the kindness and sympathy of the Staff towards the many patients from this district.

Letter from Queensland.

We print portion of a further letter from Mr. Sam Porter describing his voyage to Queensland:—

In sailing through the Suez Canal, we went slowly through it from we entered Suez until we got about half-way, the natives were working, on our left we had Arabia, and on our right was Egypt, they are both sandy desert. In Arabia the natives were all working in the sand, they live in little wooden huts stuck up along the canal, they bogie the sand away up in the desert; they are drawn by mules.

On the Egyptian side it is much nicer, the trains run along the canal side, and also you can see the natives with little tents put up herding goats, they go about on donkeys and camels, they live in these places, and the Railway Stations are very nice, and they are always dredging the canal to keep it clean. When we got a good bit through the canal there was a big boat tied up to let us pass by, we then went a bit further, then we had to tie up to let the boats pass that were homeward bound. There were 10 passed by, most of them being of the Orient Line. One of them proved to be the Australian Mail Boat, and everyone of them carries a searchlight in front, and a pilot also to take them through, we gave

them a few good cheers as they passed by, and they were shouting at the top of their voices that we were going the wrong way, but we thought not.

Old Seagoe Notes.

Pullen in Lough Neagh.—It is generally supposed that the Pullen or fresh-water herring which is caught in Lough Neagh is not found elsewhere, but the Lake of Geneva in Switzerland abounds with a species of fish called by the inhabitants Ferra, which, in size, flavour, and appearance exactly resembles it. In Bala Lake, North Wales, the same fish is found, and is called by the Welsh people Gwyniad. It is remarkable however that the fish is so rarely found in fresh-water Lakes.

The Channel of the River Bann at Seagoe.

The formation of the river Bann at Seagoe presents several features of interest. Looked at from the high ground near the Church, it resembles a great blue snake winding its way through the green meadows. But what was the cause of the curious and regular curves in the river? The river should naturally have flowed in a straight channel through the meadows. The existing curves must have been formed by some great and sudden flood in the river perhaps in prehistoric times, when the water was forced out of its natural channel.

The Standard Lonin—The Lane running from the present waterworks on Drumclough or Drumclougher Hill towards Seagoe is sometimes known as "The Standard Lonin." It is so called from the standard that used to be flown from the hill where the reservoir now is. In the early days of the 19th century, when Napoleon was contemplating an invasion of England, it was arranged that in case of emergency a standard would be flown from the flag-staff on the hill as a signal for the summoning of Seagoe Infantry.

Churchwardens of Seagoe (continued).

1785.	1885.
Thomas England.	George Calvert.
Henry Best.	James Collins.
1786.	1886.
William Maze.	Joseph Murray.
Charles Twinem.	John Lavery.
1787.	1887.
Abraham Walker.	William Gough.
Richard Robinson.	John Montgomery.
1788.	1888.
William Robinson, Esq.	James Atkinson.
Graves Aikin.	John Watson.
1789.	1889.
Thomas Dickson, of Kilvergin.	Thomas Gilpin.
Geo. Ruddle, of Aughacommon.	David W. Walker.

The above List covering portions of two centuries, contains some interesting names familiar to Seagoe ears, both in ancient and recent years.