

Seago Parish Magazine.

JUNE, 1915.

AT THE FRONT!

The following is an Alphabetical List of the Names of Men from Seago Parish who are at present Fighting at the Front, or who have taken part in the fighting line at some time or other since the War began—

- Henry Adair, 1st Batt. R.I.F.
William Henry Armstrong, 1st Batt. R.I.F., killed in the trenches, Friday, March 12th, 1915.
John Brown, R.I.F., injured.
Robert Brown R.I.F., severely wounded.
William Jas. Brown, R.G.A., wounded.
Robert Callison, Irish Guards, wounded.
Thomas Cordner, R.I.F., killed in action November 9th, 1914.
Nathaniel Dawkins, Lance Corporal, Irish Guards and Leinster Regiment.
Isaac Donaldson, A.S.C., wounded.
Thomas Flannigan, Canadians.
George Fox, R.I.F., wounded.
Thomas Freeburn, R.I.F.
Samuel Gillespie, R.I.F.
John Girvan, R.I.F.
James Gracey, R.I.F., died of wounds at Hazebruck, on April 14th, 1914.
Joseph Gracey, R.I.F.
Samuel Gracey, Canadians.
Robert Hara, A.S.C.
Thomas Hara, R.F.A.
Harry Kane, H.M.S. Rinaldo, wounded October 1914.
James Liggett, Scottish Rifles.
John Joseph Liggett, R.I.F.
Thomas Liggett, R.I.R.
Joseph Malcomson, R.I.R.
William Malcomson, R.I.F., killed in action, May, 1915.
- Robert Malcomson, R.I.R.
Edward Miller, Irish Guards, severely wounded, May, 1915.
Thomas Mighton, R.I.F., killed in action May, 1915
John Milligan, I.G., wounded, October, 1914.
William Milligan, R.I.F.
Thomas Milligan, R.F.A.
Wm. James McNeill, R.I.F., severely wounded at St. Julien, April, 1915.
Joseph McAnally, Canadians,
Robert Porter, Naval Division, taken prisoner, May, 1915.
Thomas Porter, Naval Division, Dardanelles.
George Preston, Lance Corporal R.I.F., wounded and prisoner, September, 1914, interned at Doeberitz Camp, Berlin.
Robert Rainey, R.F.A.
Samuel Rainey, R.I.F.
Alfred Richardson, Canadians.
Hugh Roney, R.I.F., wounded and prisoner, May, 1915, interned at Münster, West Germany.
Thomas Stanfield, R.I.F.
George Steenson, R.G.A.
Walter Vaughan, N.I.H.
Isaac Walker, N.I.H.
George Whiteside, Scots Greys, reported killed in action, October, 1914.
Wm. James Whiteside, R.I.F., severely wounded April, 1915.

SEAGOE WAR NOTES.

During the past month our brave Seagoe lads at the front, have suffered severely in the heavy engagements that have taken place but they have in every case fought with splendid heroism and courage. We have to chronicle the sad news of the death at the hands of the enemy of three who belong to this Parish.

On April 13th, **Private Jas. Gracey of Florence Court** was severely wounded and died on April 14th in Hospital at Hazebruck. His brother **Private Joseph Gracey** who is also at the front writes to say, that before his death he was visited by the Chaplain. He had also seen his brothers grave, and had got and was wearing the regimental crest from his cap.

The Ven. Archdeacon Southwell, Chaplain at Hazebruck has written two very kind letters in response to inquiries about him. He says, writing under date May 11th, 1915, from No. 10 Casualty Clearing Station, British Expeditionary Force.

"We have 4 Clearing Stations here and since April 14th over 15,000 wounded men have passed through them. Perhaps the chief comfort we can give to the sorrowing relatives is that all who come in are well cared for, and the Chaplains go round constantly, and see all fresh arrivals, and visit first the more serious cases. During the heavy fighting of the past few weeks, we have been working night and day. There have been in all 6 Clearing Stations here at different times, and lately several changes have taken place as we had to vacate places under shell fire and move the Stations. Everything possible is done for those who come in. We have Nursing Sisters attached and Chaplains at each Station, and every patient receives all the attention we can give both bodily and spiritual.

Private William Henry Armstrong of the 1st Batt. R.I.F., was killed by a sniper in the trenches on Friday, March 12th. **Private John Girvan** in a letter to Mrs. Metcalfe of Tarson, says, "Harry Armstrong was killed in the trench on Friday by a sniper. He had his head out above the trench and the sniper had seen him. All here that belonged to Portadown were sorry to hear it. The snipers are all good shots, so you see we have not much of a chance when one of them sees you. Harry has died for his King and Country. He was a very goodhearted fellow."

Another resident in the Parish who has been killed in action is **Private Wm. Malcomson, 1st Batt. R.I.F.** of Edenderry. He fell in the heavy fighting near St. Julien early in May. He leaves a wife and five young children to mourn his loss.

Our Wounded.

Private Wm. Jas. Whiteside, 1st Batt. R.I.F. is in Hospital at Lincoln suffering from severe wounds in the head and eyes which have endangered his sight. The Rev. C. Bolam, Chaplain, has been very kind in writing for him, and everything that skill and care can suggest is being done to preserve his sight.

Pte. W. J. McNeill, 1st Batt. R.I.F., after passing unscathed through many engagements was severely wounded in the right leg by a fragment of a shell at St. Julien. He is progressing well and is in Hospital at Warrington, England.

Hugh Roney has been wounded and taken prisoner. He is rapidly recovering and is interned at Münster in Germany.

Richard Flannigan of the Canadians has been wounded in the shoulder. He is in Hospital at Sheffield and speaks highly of the kindness shown to him by Nurses and Doctors.

Edward Miller of the Irish Guards has been in the thick of the fighting since the war began, and unfortunately got wounded in a recent engagement, but we hear good accounts of his progress towards recovery.

Joseph M'Anally, of the Canadians, was taken prisoner by the Germans when bravely trying to rescue Hugh Roney, who had been wounded. This is a remarkable case of a Seagoe man in the Canadian Contingent coming to the help of another Seagoe man in the home forces. Apparently the Canadians and Fusiliers were side by side in this engagement.

Seagoe and the R.I.F. Ambulance.

A fund is being raised to provide an Ambulance for the 9th Batt. R.I.F. in which many of our brave Seagoe men are serving.

A sum of £5 has been sent by the Rector to Mrs. Blacker who is collecting for the Ambulance. The amount represents £4 10s sent from the Sunday School Prize Fund, and 10s from the Edenderry Men's Bible Class. Mrs. Blacker has sent the following acknowledgment.

May 30th.

DEAR MR. ARCHER,

Thank you so much for this most generous contribution towards the Motor Ambulance for the 9th Battalion. I must say I think it was most self-denying of the Bible Class and School Children to forego their Prizes this year, and it gives one great pleasure to feel that the result of their denial helps towards a Motor Ambulance for their own people. The egg collection is still going on well, I am glad to say, and Seagoe Parish is helping splendidly.

Yours sincerely,

EVA BLACKER.

A Useful Gift.

Mr Gilbert Price, of Ballinacor, has presented for use at the Services in Tamnificarbet a handsome Oak Offertory Plate carved by himself. The gift was dedicated by the Rector at the Service on Sunday evening, May 30th. This gift is a fresh proof of the kindly interest taken by the Parishioners in the Service at Tamnificarbet.

Latest from the Trenches—A Seagoe Canadian.

Private Alfred Richardson, "D" Co., 3rd Batt. Toronto Regiment, has had a rough time in the trenches. He writes under date May, 1915:—"Received your very welcome letter of 18th May I'm sure you've been wondering why I haven't answered it before now. I got it when I was in the trenches, and didn't have a chance to write as the Germans were shelling us all the time, and we had to lie in the trench with our heads under cover for four days. There were attacks every night. We made one attack but it wasn't successful as they had about 40 machine guns on us, and it was pure murder. I came out all right, but got some Lyddite fumes in my stomach, and felt a little sickly. Don't worry about me."

Private John Girvan, 1st Batt. R.I.F., is still, we rejoice to know, safe and well. He has fought through all the engagements from the first. He writes to the Rev. G. Bloomer, under date May 29th as follows—"Just a line to let you know I am well, and in good health considering the way we have to fight the Germans. I am sure you read in the papers how they gave us the gas. Well our Regiment stuck to our trenches, and when they came on our boys mowed them down, and they came on no farther. They come on when they think you are dead in the trenches. This letter will let you know about some that belong to your Parish. There was one killed, Malcomson of Edenderry, and Whiteside was wounded. The two were in the same Company as myself also McNeill of Ballymacrandle. I was also in that engagement myself. You and all in the Bible Class have prayed for me and God has heard your prayers. Tell them I am very thankful to them, and am trusting in God to bring me home to be with you all on Sunday morning when this war is over. I have a very nice letter from William J. Caddell. I have read more of the Bible out here than all the time I was at home. If you know anyone of your Parish coming out here you might just tell them to bring one with them, as when you are in the trench you can pass the time reading, and there is no Book like the Bible. God has said, not one hair from our head can fall, but he knows it, and I am trusting Him to bring me safe home to my wife and family.

The Germans are cowardly to come and kill you in the trench when they have you half dead with gas. I am sure if some of the boys that has not listed yet knew how they are treating us they would walk out here if there was a road, or if they would not, I would say **give them one dose of gas in their own corner in the house, and I am sure if they could not get out by the door they would jump through the window.** I still remain your friend,

JOHN GIRVAN.

The Annual Excursion.

Through the kind permission of Lt.-Col. Blacker, J.P., the Annual Sunday School Excursion will take

place (D.V.) to Carrickblacker on Thursday, June 24th. The Superintendents, Teachers, and Children will assemble at Seagoe Church at 10 a.m., and after a short service will march in procession to the field.

Children who have attended the Schools regularly will receive Tickets at the following rates—Under 8 years of age at 3d, 8 to 14 at 6d, over 14 at 9d. Each Ticket entitles the holder to two Refreshments. As usual there will be a Stall for the Sale of Sweets, Cakes, Mineral Waters, etc., etc., under the spreading Chestnut Tree. The profits from the Stall, after paying expenses, will be given to the 9th Batt. Motor Ambulance Fund.

The Day Schools.

The Annual Examination in Religious Knowledge was held by the Diocesan Inspector, Rev. J. St. Mervyn, M.A., on Thursday, May 27th, in Seagoe and Hacknahay Schools. The Inspector's report is satisfactory. 131 children were examined in Seagoe School and 116 passed. Miss Margaret Quinn, Monitress, was award a First Certificate in Course IV. The following were also awarded Certificates in the Senior Course—First Class Certificate, May Best; Second Class Certificates, Samuel Magee and Edward Crawford (equal).

In course I the following were awarded Certificates—Isabella Best and Ethel Forsythe (equal); Annie Walker, Ellie Elliott, Moses McKerr, Amy Porter, Edmund Sweeney. In Hacknahay School Eliza Thompson (full marks) and Sarah Livingstone were awarded Certificates, and Dora Calvert was commended.

The Jumble Sale.

This Sale was held on Saturday, May 1st, in the Parochial Hall. There was a most useful assortment of goods of all kinds, and the demand exceeded the supply. The following is a statement of the Stall Receipts:—Mrs Preston, 13s 0½d; Miss Montgomery, 19s 4d; Rev G. Bloomer, 6s 4d; Mr Chambers, 16s 3½d; Miss Monroe, £1 2s 3½d; Mrs Porter, 12s 3d; at Door, 6s 8d; Total £4 16s 2d.

Notice.

The fortnightly meetings of workers in Seagoe School for providing comforts for the soldiers will be discontinued during the ensuing weeks. The Egg Collections will be made as arranged.

ITEMS.

We hear that the men of the 9th Battalion will shortly be leaving Newtownards Camp.

Miss Mary Wilson, daughter of Mr T. H. Wilson, has obtained 75 per cent in the second grade examination of the Society of Musicians.

We sympathise very sincerely with several families in the Parish whose dear ones have been suddenly called away during the past month. Our list of Burials presents some exceptionally sad bereavements this month.

PARISH REGISTER FOR MAY,

Baptisms.

"He laid His hands upon them and blessed them,"

Baptized on Saturday, May 1st, 1915.

Dunlop—Eileen, daughter of David George Dunlop, 5th Batt. R.I.R., and the late Anne Jane Dunlop of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Ellen M. Campbell, Charlotte Forde.

Watson—George Gibson, son of George and Elizabeth Watson, of Portadown.

Sponsors—Mary Watson, Elizabeth Watson.

Liggett—Sarah Jane, daughter of Thomas Liggett (Private, 1st Batt. R.I.R., British Expeditionary Force), and Sarah Jane Liggett, of Drumna-
goon.

Sponsors—Mary Forde, Sarah Jane Liggett.

McAnally—Mary Jane, daughter of Joshua and Anne McAnally, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Anne White, Anne McAnally.

Watters—Mabel, daughter of Samuel and Rebecca Waters, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Matilda Neill, Rebecca Watters.

PRIVATE BAPTISM.

Gilliland—May 31st, 1915, Elizabeth, daughter of James Gilliland, Private, 9th Batt. R.I.F., and the late Elizabeth Gilliland, of Edenderry.

Burials.

"Till the day break and the shadows flee away."

Dickson—April 25th, Margaret Dickson, of Edenderry, aged 27.

Whiteside—May 5th, George Whiteside, of Edenderry, aged 21.

Coulter—May 7th, Samuel Coulter, of Ballinarry, aged 2 weeks.

Gilliland—May 7th, Elizabeth Gilliland, of Edenderry, aged 38. Interred at Donagheloney.

Wright—May 24th, Catherine Jane Wright, of Edenderry, aged 1 year and 8 months.

Currie—May 27th, Thomas John Currie, of Ballymacrandle, aged 18 months.

Porter—May 31st, Martha Porter, of Lower Seagoe, aged 47.

Offertories for May.

Sundays—Mornings,	£7	12	4
Evenings,	...	2	6
Week days	...	0	8
		£10	7
		7	

The above total includes the sum of £3 1s 1d for the Jews Society.

ITEMS.

We welcome to this neighbourhood Mrs and Miss Macoun who have come to reside in Portadown. They formerly lived at Mount Pleasant, Drumgor, and were most useful Parish helpers.

Our Old Seagoe Notes have been curtailed this month owing to pressure on our space.

The house-to-house Envelope Collections for Missions were made through the Parish in Whitsun-week, and the returns up to the present amount to £8 15s. A full statement will be made in our next issue.

Mr J. J. Dobson, until recently a Lay Reader, has received rapid promotion in the Army. Since September last he has got the following steps:—2nd Lieutenant, 1st Lieutenant, Adjutant and Captain. He is attached to the 7th R.I.R. in camp near Mallow.

Seagoe Choir took a leading part in the Lurgan Choir Union Festival at Knocknamuckley, on Saturday, May 29th.

Old Seagoe Notes.

An Edenderry Will made in 1766.

[The following Will was copied from the original Document in the Record Office, Dublin, and gives an interesting sidelight on life in Edenderry 150 years ago.]

In the name of God, Amen, I Margaret Blacker, of the Townland of Edenderry, in the Parish of Seagoe and County of Armagh, being sick in body, but of a perfect sound and disposing mind and memory, thanks be to God for the same, and calling to mind the mortality of my Body, knowing that it is appointed for all women once to die, do make this my last Will and Testament. And first of all I recommend my soul to God who gave it, and my Body to the Earth, and as touching such worldly goods as it pleased Almighty God to bless me with in this life I leave and bequeath unto Jane Harris of Edenderry, Parish and County aforesaid, wife to John Harris of sd. place all my worldly goods of every kind, and also the following goods which is my Right and Property, but unjustly carried away by Elizabeth Lindsay, the Elder of Portadown:

One Green Damask Silk Gown, one Raven Gray Silk Sating, one Black Killamenka Peticcoat, and one White Peticcoat, one pair of fine Sheets, a Cotton Counterpen, one Feather Bed (bed) with the Feathers, one Tea Chest, one Kaine Arm'd Chair, one small one of Kaine, also one Pewter Soope Dish, one Pewter Pleat, one Brass Candlestick, one large Margan (margin) Bible, also one small Pocket Bible.

Allowing this to be my last Will and Testament, also I allow and ordaine the said Jane Harris to be my Executor in witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and seale this 25th day of May, 1766.

Signed sealed and published in presence of us.

her
MARGARET X BLACKER.
mark.

THOMAS MOSSGROVE.
MEREDITH ATKINSON.
T. FITZIMONS.

Probate granted 25th June, 1766.