

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

NOVEMBER, 1922.

The Sustentation Fund.

Collectors are about to call on you (if you have not yet joined the Freewill Offering Fund) for your Subscription to the Sustentation Fund. Please increase your subscription and tell the Collector that you will join the Freewill Fund on January 1st, 1923. You will receive from the Collector your bundle of 52 Envelopes for the year. The future of Seagoe Parish depends on the liberality of your subscription. Don't fail the old Church. You don't wish the Parish of Seagoe—which has had an independent existence for 1500 years—to be reduced to a Curacy in charge. 251 Parishioners have joined the Freewill Fund, but there are 672 Church households in the Parish, beside many earners who should join the Fund.

The Harvest Services.

These Services were more largely attended in Seagoe Church this year than ever before. On Thursday, October 5, the Church was quite full. The Service was most hearty, and the Anthem was very well sung by the Choir. The Rev. E. A. Myles, Rector of Tullylish, preached on "Sowing and Reaping." The offerings for Foreign Missions were liberal. On Sunday, October 8th, the Services were continued. The Anthem was sung with much expression, the solo being taken by Mr. David Murray. The Preacher Morning and Evening was the Rev. F. B. Allman, LL.D., Rector of Aghalee. Both congregations were very large, and in the evening many had to go away for want of room. No less than 608 people were counted in the Church, although it has only seating accommodation for 550.

District Harvest Services.

Services have been held during the month in Carne, Edenderry, and Levaghery. The Schools and Hall were very richly decorated with fruit and flowers. All the Services seemed to be more largely attended than in previous years. At Carne the Rev. J. Dunlop, Curate of Drumcree, was the preacher on the Monday evening. The Rev. J. Molloy, Curate of St. Mark's, Portadown, was the special preacher in Edenderry, and in Levaghery the Rev. G. W. Millington preached on the Monday evening.

The following is a statement of the Collections:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
Parish Church ...	5	16	3	7	1	3	7	1	9
Hacknahay ...	3	3	7	1	5	2½			
Carne ...	1	18	0	0	16	3			
Edenderry ...	2	3	0	0	9	3½			
Levaghery ...	1	3	9	1	1	3			

Collectors' Social.

A largely attended Social Meeting of Freewill Superintendents and Collectors was held in Seagoe School on Tuesday, October 17th, at 7.30 p.m. After an enjoyable

tea, most kindly supplied by the ladies, the Rector took the chair and explained the object of the Meeting, to develop and extend the Freewill System in the Parish. A very important Conference of the workers was held, and many useful suggestions made which will be put in force. Some cakes which remained over were sold for 6s, which was paid to the Freewill Offering Fund.

For Those Confirmed.

On Monday, November 13th, a Meeting will be held in Seagoe School at 8 p.m. for all who have been Confirmed. The object of the meeting is to bring before our Confirmed Church members the duty and privilege of attending Holy Communion and the benefits we receive thereby. Our Communicants are invited, and also those who have been recently Confirmed and those who have been Confirmed at past Confirmations. This will be a most important meeting.

Townland Teas.

A series of Six Townland Teas are being arranged to take place if possible during November in the following centres:—Bocombra, Carne, Drumgor, Seagoe, Edenderry, Hacknahay. The purpose of these Social gatherings is to enable the Parishioners to meet together in a Social way and discuss subjects of interest to the Parish.

The Mothers' Union.

The Mothers have had several very good meetings during the month. On Tuesday, November 7th, at 4 p.m. a Service will (D.V.) be held in Seagoe Church for the Mothers from the Parish. New members will be admitted to membership, and an Address to the Mothers will be given by the Rev. J. R. M'Donald, M.A., Rector of Donacloney. All Mothers and Wives are welcome to this Service.

Congratulations.

Our heartiest congratulations to Mr. David Rock on his appointment as a Justice of the Peace. He well deserves it, and will add strength and a sound judgment to the Magisterial Bench in Portadown. Mr. Rock has always been a very loyal Parishioner of Seagoe, and all Seagoe people will rejoice at his promotion.

We also congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Abraham, of Breagh, on their Marriage. Mr. Abraham has many friends in the Parish of Seagoe, and they all wish him and Mrs. Abraham much happiness.

Harvest Service at Drumgor.

The last of our Harvest Services will (D.V.) be held in Drumgor Church Hall on Sunday, November 5th, at 3.30, and on Monday, November 6th, at 8. The Rev. G. C. Johnston, B.A., Curate of Shankill, will preach at the Monday Service.

Church Doors Painted.

The Varnishing and Painting of the Church doors is being carried out by Mr. Brownie. The great South door and the Vestry Door are made of finely grained oak, and are very handsome with their fresh coat of varnish. Few Churches have such fine doors.

Parish Register for October, 1922

Baptisms.

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on the 7th October, 1922 :—

M'Minn—Emily, daughter of John and Charlotte M'Minn, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Emily Fonde, Charlotte M'Minn.

Gracey—Vera Louise, daughter of John George and Sarah Jane Gracey, of Balteagh.

Sponsors—John George Gracey, Sarah Jane Gracey.

M'Ilroy—Mary Evelyn, daughter of William and Elizabeth M'Ilroy, of Drumnagoon.

Sponsors—Mary Forde, Elizabeth M'Ilroy.

Wallace—Bridget Elizabeth, daughter of Acheson and Mary Wallace, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Sarah Mary Wallace, Mary Wallace.

Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on October 18th, 1922 :

Jennett—William James, son of William and Evelyn Jennett, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Charlotte Allen, Emily Reid.

Russell—William Joseph, son of Joseph Thomas and Hannah Bella Russell, of Tarsan.

Sponsors—Marjorie Russell, Joseph Thomas Russell.

PRIVATE BAPTISM.

Donaldson—October 23rd, 1922—Sarah Jane, daughter of Isaac Robert and Mary Donaldson, of Killycomain.

Marriages.

Abraham and Spence—September 28th, 1922, at Loughgall Parish Church, Samuel John Abraham, of Breagh, to Mary Elizabeth Spence, of Loughgall.

Ryans and Sturgeon—October 6th, 1922, by the Rev. G. H. Daunt, Rector of Knocknamuckley, William John Ryans, of Drumnacanvey, to Emily Sturgeon, of Drumnacanvey.

M'Loughlin and Porter—October 11th, 1922, William John M'Loughlin, of Killycomain, to Sarah Margaret Porter, of Lower Seagoe.

Burials.

Reid—October 23rd, Elizabeth Reid, of the Parish of Gilford, aged 53.

Beckett—October 29th, Isabella Beckett, of Tannifglasson, aged 83.

Emerson—October 29th, Margaret Emerson, of 53 Coolfin Street, Belfast, aged 21.

Killow—November 2nd, Anne Killow, of Levaghery, aged 92.

Coulter—November 3rd, Elizabeth Coulter, of Edenderry, aged 79.

ITEMS.

A Children's Service will (D.V.) be held in Seagoe Church on Sunday Morning, November 12th, at 11.30. Parents are asked to bring their children with them to Public Worship.

Please remember the Collection for the Poor of the Parish, held on the first Sunday of each month at Morning and Evening Prayer.

Colonel Blacker is now residing at Dinard, in Brittany (France). Mr. Bob Blacker is Captain of his School Football Team. He is hoping to join the Royal Navy before long. Mr. William Blacker is at Sandhurst preparing for the Army. There is quite a large colony of English and Scottish people living at Dinard. There is also an English Church and a resident Clergyman.

Mrs. Margaret Emerson, of Belfast, whose death we record at the early age of 21, was a niece of the late James Erskine. She was greatly attached to Seagoe, and her last wish was to be buried in Old Seagoe Graveyard, a wish which was fulfilled.

A new Newspaper, "The Portadown Times," has just been published. It is very interesting. Some useful Antiquarian Notes have already appeared in its columns.

Refugees from the South continue to come to the Parish. We fear of sad happenings in the Free State. We fear many of our fellow-Churchmen are passing through a furnace of persecution at the hands of the Irregulars.

We hope shortly to revive the Edenderry G.F.S. and the Literary Debating Society, which used to meet in 1913-14 in the Parochial Hall.

Men of the Parish join up the Men's Bible's Class, which meets in Seagoe School every Sunday Morning at 10. Girls should join Mr. Rennix's Class, which meets in the School at the same hour.

The Scouts attended Morning Prayer in Seagoe Church on Sunday, October 15th. They looked very smart.

Mr. Joyce, of Eden Villa, sailed for Canada and the States on the R.M.S. Regina last month. Mr. Joyce resides at Cincinnati, and for many years was engaged in Steel works in that city. Mr. Joyce has crossed the Atlantic many times. His first crossing was made some 60 years ago. He very often winters in the warmer climate of Texas.

Mr. James Twinem attended the meeting of the Diocesan Synod on Tuesday, October 31st, but where were our other three Synodsmen?

The new Sunday School Calendar will be distributed at the end of the month in time for Advent Sunday, the first Sunday of the Christian Year.

Collecting Cards for the Protestant Orphan Society are in circulation through the Parish.

Mr. Sam Reid was presented with a Bible by his fellow-workers in the Freewill Offering Fund on the eve of his departure for America.

To Distant Lands.

Miss Ellen Matthews sailed for Ayr, North Queensland, last month on the s.s. Orvieto to join her brother, who has been there, engaged in the Sugar Cane industry for some years. The "Orvieto" has been signalled as having sailed from Colombo.

Mr. Sam Reid, of Bocombra, has sailed for New York with Mr. and Mrs. Guy, of Tarsan, who are returning to the States. Mr. Reid did good work as a Collector for the Weekly Freewill Offering. We will miss him very much. We sympathise with him on the death of his mother, who passed away at the early age of 53, the day before he sailed.

WITH THE "NINTH" IN FRANCE.

By Lieut.-Col. S. W. BLACKER, D.S.O.

(Continued from October Magazine.)

THURSDAY, JULY 6th.

Apparently we are going to stay here for a bit, and we are gradually getting our baggage over. To-day I began reorganisation work, promotions and general sorting out; the disposal of Officers' kits, making inventories of their belongings, etc. The amount of writing that has to be done is awful—a narrative of the Battle, recommendations for reward, letters to relatives—besides all the orderly room work, which, of course, is in arrears owing to these moves, and poor Cather's death. Hessey's Brigade has just come through—a very fine lot of men. It is so hard to get any evidence of gallant deeds, of which there are numbers. Every one who came back, except about 6, have been cleared away to England wounded. I have not yet been able to grasp in detail who has gone, every day some fresh loss which I had not known of. Of the 50 M. Gunners with the Battalion only 14 are left. There will, I fear, be great anxiety till the casualties are out. I haven't been able to complete mine yet, but hope to get them in to-morrow. Bob Maxwell has been cleared home, not at all bad, but they clear every one now to make room. Poor Jenks, in 12th, died here. Lyle very bad; they only have 1 Captain left. I feel unable to settle down to things, but hope that will wear off soon. I see the "Times" noted the gallantry of the Division. It was given a hard task; as matters turned out, an impossible one, at any rate on our side of the river. Of course, none of the transport were in the Push. Poor old Bernard killed! Orders just come in we are to be prepared to move to-morrow.

FRIDAY, JULY 7th.

We've been hanging about all day, expecting orders to move up in support, but so far none have come. As far as we can make out so far, our casualties are as follows:

	Other	Officers.	Ranks.
Killed	...	2	58
Missing, believed killed	...	6*	157
Wounded	...	9	303
		17	518

*4 of these found later and buried.

Our present available strength here is 280, of which we could put about 196 into the line.

Such fearful showers to-day. They are trying another go at Thiepval to-day, but rumour says it has been repulsed; Haig has just gone through here. The Push is doing well in the South, where it was not expected, but at present it's hung up in N. and centre. We have to be ready to move within an hour.

SATURDAY, JULY 8th.

Still standing fast here, though expecting to move at

any moment, I expect up into the line again, to hold a bit and relieve others. Such thunder showers yesterday, and all night, and to-day hot, steamy and threatening. Brew writes he is at Rouen and getting on splendidly. I hear Friday's "Daily Mail" has great praise of the Division. We were told yesterday p.m. that we would almost certainly move last night, and at short notice, so we all slept with our loins girt, and with one eye open, but nothing disturbed us except numerous messages. It turned out fine. Now the news is that we go to railhead, and thence N. by rail to 11 Army! Probably to-morrow. I have been all day writing out recommendations for honours. Every case, with the evidence, has to go in in quadruplicate.

SUNDAY, JULY 9th.

We move to-morrow about 7 a.m., but where to is obscure. I believe about 10 miles back, near a railway. Some say to go to St. Omer to refit; others to go into the line near La Bassee. Church Parade was a sad one to-day with the depleted ranks. It seemed to bring home the loss of our gallant comrades. I stayed for Communion. The Padre was wonderful; he brought tears to my eyes, but he said exactly the right thing. At last I have sent off the honour list. Charlie has recommended all. Very close and warm to-day, and dust flying. There is a possibility that some of our wounded in and near the German line are prisoners, 'At.' among the number. Could you get the D. of Abercorn's Association to try and find out if any Irish Fus. were taken on July 1st, and if so, names.

The difficulty of our surplus kit crops up again on a move to a new area. The Division are going to make a big dump, but it would be unsafe to leave private kit here; bound to be lost. We are going to hire a country cart and take private and mess kit along with us. Another man came in and said Montgomery and Hollywood were lying dead close to him. T. was also seen to fall. Pratt and I passed Haig on the road near here, walking evidently for exercise. His horses were being sent home and his motor had gone. He has grown stout since I saw him at Mhow, in 1894. The 1st Battalion were also in the Push, N. of us a few miles.

MONDAY, JULY 10th—"GEZAINCOURT."

We leave here at 6.30 a.m. and have to put in the day on the road, as we don't entrain till 11.17 p.m., about 11 miles from here, and then a 40 mile railway journey, and then a march of any distance—we shall be near St. Omer. Saw G. Bruce just now. Bob Maxwell an out patient in London. I feel ashamed almost to be alive. I didn't take part in the Push and was never in danger, and I feel I didn't do enough, while all these gallant fellows gave their lives. We hadn't a long march to-day, about nine miles, and the weather nice. To-morrow about 12, but taken in two bits. There is a big Officers' hospital here, and a large men's clearing station also—heaps of

nurses. Orderly going, trying to get a Field Post Office at D () about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from here.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12th.—“LYNDE.”

We got in here at 7 a.m. after an all night journey in train, with a 6 mile march at end, and go on 12 miles tomorrow to a place, Tilques, where I hope we stay for a little to refit. Young Holmes, in Indian Cav., a cousin of ‘At.’s, caught us on the march yesterday, after a long search, to inquire for news, but alas, we could give him no hope. Till we settle and I can get hold of Rank and File list I can help you very little. We have all implored the men to write at once to their friends, but then there are the wounded, who may be unable to write. I am trying a regular reshuffle. I am taking on Fergie as Adjt. He will do it splendidly, promoting Regtl. Q.M.S. to Qr. Mr., and Milne to Regtl. Q.M.S. Fergie says Wilson is quite fit for Qr. Mr., and any way he will be here to help him. This I propose, but, of course, difficulties may be put in my way. Fergie has slaved for 2 years with no prospect of any advance, he is dying to get on, and is bound to do so, given a chance. If the war lasts he will command the Battalion. The men are quite pleased as they’ve found lots of Orange Lilies and are wearing them in their caps. The reshuffle will promote Shepherd Coy Q.M.S.

THURSDAY, JULY 13th.

Such a wonderful letter from Mrs. C. J. So good of her to write in all her trouble. Will you tell her how much I appreciate it. Poor Mrs. Atkinson, how much I feel for her.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12th.

Sergt. Foster, from Lurgan, was killed as we went into the line on Friday night, instantaneous, by shell. I had recommended him previously for Military Medal for gallantry. Can’t think why they have only mentioned some of the casualties. They are publishing them in penny numbers as it were. It’s wonderful the people thinking of me in their own sorrow. Here of course London is as near as Paris. Leave may open again soon, but I couldn’t leave them yet; such a lot to be done. I feel dazed still. The Sgt. Majors, the Qr. Mr. Sgts. and one Senior Officer per Coy were kept behind. Only 20 Officers allowed over the parapet, and I only sent 16. Flood, Allen, Lutt were all in the line, also young Ensor, doing some job, but didn’t go over. Given was at Army School. Shill is doing grand work. He came out just at the right moment, and is an enormous help. Pratt has gone over to see his brother, who is on the Staff at G.H.Q. School for Officers near here.

THURSDAY, JULY 13th.—“EPERLECQUES.”

5 p.m.—Got in after a 15 mile march—fine. Such a nice peaceful place. I have asked everyone to prevent my letters getting into the Press. You might keep it in mind. I have a horror of it. A draft of 53 came in this evening, which brings us up to 356. We had parties out every night searching, and the last one when we were 6

miles back. It was dangerous work, and one Officer was killed, and one wounded at the job. Everyone volunteered for it, and till we moved back 12 miles, parties went up every night. No trace of ‘At.’ could be found, but the area to search was about 450 x 500 yards, and under fire all the time. I still think it possible he may still be a prisoner. Ask Sloan to find out where Sergt. Caulfield, of Lurgan, is in hospital, as he stated he saw ‘At.’ dead, or apparently dead. If the men’s story about his being in the 3rd Line trench is true, he may be wounded, and a prisoner, but I doubt the story. No posthumous honours are allowed or given, except the V.C., and though I know they all earned it, there is no evidence. Old Bernard was killed in Thiepval wood, bringing up his Battalion, in support—shrapnel, I think. Ross Smyth sprained his ankle, I’m told, going up that night, and wasn’t wounded. Sergeant Johnstone wounded, and not bad, I believe. Sergt. Foster killed. Sergt. Barbour all right. Will find out about Brownlee and Addis. I wish I could feel I deserved the men’s devotion, and the kindly thought for me on the part of the poor bereaved ones touches me to the heart. Old Q.M.S. Russell is all right. He has been on a soft Div. job for months. This seems a charming spot. People are much more friendly here and helpful, Billets good, and so peaceful, and such a pretty country, so civilised. 2 posts out in the day! I return your letters. How kind people have been, writing about me.

FRIDAY, JULY 14th.

A charming letter from Mrs. Horner. I only let the Coy. Officers go over the parapet; M.G. Signaller, Bomber, remained to organise the supplies of ammunition, etc., to be sent up. They were very angry, but I’m thankful I did. The Push, as far as big gains go, has ended. It succeeded where there was surprise. Now the Germans are reinforcing there. However, it’s been a great buck up, and will continue, I expect, but I fear they won’t get through, though they may. Weather lovely to-day, warm, but cloudy. We had strawberries to-day for the first time.

SATURDAY, JULY 15th.

Of course, we have begun the usual training fads again, programme of work, etc. As we have no men it’s rather a farce. I hope we may get filled up shortly. The 11th have got in some 90 Derby Recruits. Quite good, I hear. The present idea is we shall stay here for a few weeks, but nothing is certain. The Push seems going on all right. There were rumours yesterday that the Cavalry had got through, but I fear not. We are here due W. of Ypres, but some way off (E’perlecque). We may go back to IV. Army, or may stay here with the 11, probably latter, I should say. If we took over a bit of the line the Bde would take over a Battalion front, each Battalion acting as a Company. That’s what the 29th Div. did. We are a new Corps, but I don’t quite know which—IX. I believe. A heavenly day. We missed the bad weather this time. Have lost my beloved Onoto, and am lost without it. Fergie very pleased at being made Adjt.

(To be continued.)