

Seago Parish Magazine.

OCTOBER 1911.



WE present our readers this month with a portrait of the Lord Bishop, who has kindly consented to be present at our Parish Social, on Tuesday, October 10th. The Bishop will give an address, and it is very important that the heads of households should be present to

welcome the Bishop to the Parish, and to hear his wise words of counsel. We hope also to see many of the young people who were confirmed by Bishop D'Arcy in June, 1907, and who still remember his visit. The Tickets for the Social (1/- each) are now on sale, and an effort will be made during the first

week in October to give every householder in the Parish an opportunity of purchasing them. We are indebted to Sir James Henderson, D.L., proprietor of the *Belfast News-Letter*, for permission to publish the above portrait.

Memorial to Dean Dawson.

On the occasion of his visit to Seagoe on Tuesday, October 10th, the Lord Bishop will unveil a Memorial Tablet in Seagoe Church erected to the memory of the late Dean Dawson, by Dr. Dawson and the Misses Dawson. A short service will be held in the Church at 3-30 p.m. on that day, to which all the Parishioners are heartily invited. The Bishop will give an address. The Memorial Tablet is a very handsome one, and has been made by Messrs. Harrison of Dublin. The frame work is of carved alabaster and the centre of white marble, on which are engraved the crest and motto of the family and the memorial inscription.

Letter from Miss Dawson.

The following is an extract from a letter written in South America by Miss Dawson on August 11th: The weather here now is cool and pleasant for the most part, and we had a nice holiday in July; the school broke up for a fortnight, and my sister and I went to Buenos Aires for part of the time, and had a lovely time. Our old ship was in, and we lunched twice with the captain. We had a good deal going on during the Coronation week, and the service in the Church was quite imposing; it is a very pretty little Church. Canon Lett's brother had the living for years, and is still affectionately remembered. A new clergyman, a Mr Pieman, has just come out to it from England, and some of us hope to go in to-night to his reception.

G.F.S. Excursion.

The Associates, Members, and Candidates of the Seagoe G.F.S. had their Annual Excursion on Saturday, Sept. 9th. This year the excursion took the form of a drive in brakes to Laurencetown Demesne, beyond Gilford, which had been opened to the excursionists through the kind permission of Mr. Uprichard. It was a beautiful day, and the wooded slopes along the River Bann looked very pretty in the bright sunshine. The usual favourite round games were enjoyed with great fervour, and the good tea and cake provided by Mr. R. T. Montgomery proved very acceptable after the bracing drive. The return drive was made via Tanderagee, and the members enlivened the journey by singing favourite hymns. Miss Armstrong made all the arrangements for the excursion, and she is to be heartily congratulated on its success. We hope the G.F.S. will have a very prosperous and profitable session this winter.

Bible Class Excursion.

The excursion to Whitehead on Saturday, Sept. 16th, was very successful. Seventy-eight excursionists started from Portadown by the 7-30 a.m. train, and arrived in Whitehead at 10-30. A large number of the party visited the caves at Blackhead but a few of the more enterprising made their way to the famous Gobbin cliffs in Island-Magee. A motor boat was hired for a sea excursion, and provided a very pleasant variety in the afternoon. The excursion was thoroughly enjoyed, and all returned convinced that there is no finer place for a day's outing than Whitehead.

Week-Night Bible Classes.

The week-night Bible Classes for Men will this Winter be held on Tuesday Evenings, and will commence on Tuesday Evening, Oct. 17th, in the following centres:—

Hacknahay, ...	7-30.
Bocombra, ...	8-0.
Drumgor Lane, ...	8-0.
Tamnificarbet, ...	8-0.

Rev. W. R. Crichton.

Our readers will learn with regret that the Rev. W. R. Crichton, who has been Curate of Seagoe for the past four years, since October, 1907, is about to leave, having been appointed to the important curacy of Hillsborough, Co. Down. Mr. Crichton has done splendid work in the Parish, and his genial manner combined with his diligence in work have made him known and loved throughout the Parish. Mr. Crichton will not be leaving Seagoe immediately, and so he will have an opportunity of seeing many of the parishioners before he moves to his new sphere of labour. All the parishioners will join in wishing him much success and blessing in his future work. Mr. Crichton will have as his Rector in Hillsborough the Rev. Canon Kernan, who is coming to preach the Harvest Sermons in Seagoe this month.

Offertories during September.

"Our earthly gold Thou dost not scorn."—*Keble.*

Mornings, £7 19s 2½d; Evenings, £2 1s 7d
Week-days, £0 10s 2d.

Carne Sunday School.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE CARDS—The following are commended for regular attendance at Church and Sunday School. *First Quarter*—Emma Lavery, Margaret Lavery, Hannah B. Caddell, James Simpson, Richard G. Price. *Second Quarter*—Hannah B. Caddell.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services.

The annual Harvest Thanksgiving Services will be held in Seagoe Parish Church, on Thursday, October 26th, at 8 p.m.

Preacher—Rev. R. Walker, LL.D., Rector of St. Barnabas' Church, Belfast; and on

Sunday, October 29th, at 11-30 a.m., 3-30 p.m., and 7 p.m.

Preacher—Rev. Canon Kernan, B.D., Rector of Hillsborough.

The offerings on Thursday evening will be given to Foreign Missions, and on Sunday, at morning and evening services, to Church expenses. The offerings at the Children's Afternoon Service will be given to the South American Missionary Society, under which the Misses Dawson are at present engaged in Mission work.

District Harvest Services.

HACKNAHAY.

On Sunday, September 24th, a Thanksgiving Service for Harvest Mercies was held in Hacknahay School. The building was crowded when the service began at 3-30. The Rector conducted the service, and the Rev. William King, formerly of Portadown, and now curate of Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, preached on the subject of "The Sower." The collections were devoted to the support of Hacknahay Day School.

On Monday, September 25th, the services were continued, the preacher being the Rev. R. S. Morrison, B.D., curate of Portadown.

The School was decorated with great taste, the profusion of flowers being especially noticeable. The offerings were very liberal, amounting to a total of £3 16s 0d.

The following arrangements have been made for Harvest Services in other Districts of the Parish:—

Carne—Sunday, October 8th, at 3-30 p.m.
Monday, October 9th, at 8 p.m.

Drumgor—Sunday, October 15th, at 7 p.m.
Monday, October 16th, at 8 p.m.
Preacher—Rev. F. Cole, B.A., Curate of Maralin.

Tamnificarbet—Sunday, October 22nd, at 7 p.m.
Preacher—Rev. H. Shire, B.A., Curate of Aghalee.
Monday, October 23rd, at 8 p.m.

The collections at all these District Services on the Sundays will be given to the expenses connected with the Church work in each District, and at the Monday services the collections will be on behalf of Foreign Missions.

Baptisms.

"He raised them in His arms,
He blessed them from the world and all its harms."—*Keble.*

Sept. 2nd—Anna Sherman, daughter of Stewart John (the late), and Annie Bell.

" " —Clara Isabella, daughter of Joseph and Florence Isabella Killops.

" " —John, son of Samuel and Isabella Garrett.

" " —Samuel Arthur, son of William James and Anna Maria M'Dowell.

Sept. 2nd—"Received into the Congregation of Christ's flock"—Mary Jane Bell and Margretta Elizabeth Bell.

Items.

The Select Vestry have placed a handsome adjustable brass reading stand in the pulpit, instead of the former wooden desk, which was inconvenient in shape and position.

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The Rev. Chas. Bullock, the originator of "Home Words," which forms the centre part of Seagoe Magazine, died in England last week.

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Owing to a generous subscription from Major Blacker the proper ventilation of Seagoe Church can now be taken in hand. It is most important that all public buildings where numbers of people assemble should have a proper system of ventilation.

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The Health Van, called "The Blue Bird," visited Seagoe Parish last week. Lectures were given by the Lady Lecturers in Carne, Seagoe, and Hacknahay. The children of Seagoe Day School much enjoyed a peep into the beautifully-fitted van.

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Parallel bars are being erected in the playground at Seagoe School, for the use of the boys attending the Day School.

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The first wireless message sent from Portadown was despatched on Sept. 12th. The message was sent by the Rector to the Rev. W. T. Grey, and conveyed the wishes of the Seagoe people, that he might have a prosperous voyage. It was received by Mr. Grey on board the White Star liner "Runic" in mid-channel, about eight hours after the steamer had left Liverpool.

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We congratulate Messrs. M'Gredy on their distinguished success at the National Rose Show in London. The only medal for a new rose was awarded to Mr. M'Gredy. This is a distinction of which Portadown may well be proud.

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The Bishop, on his visit to Seagoe, will be accompanied by Mrs. D'Arcy. The Rev. J. Taylor and the Rev. A. Murray have also consented to attend the Social.

Hymns For October.

"Praise ye the Lord."

1st, M.— 9,	442,	615,	590.	
„ E.—134,	621,	179,	379,	492.
8th, M.— 3,	99,	136,	245.	
„ E.—243,	143,	574,	397,	17.
15th, M.—560,	550,	496,	467.	
„ E.—557,	594,	258,	330,	562.
22nd, M.—254,	139,	356,	32.	
„ E.—217,	381,	631,	513,	486.
26th, E.—429,	Anthem, 619,	422,	233.	
29th, M.— 39,	Anthem, 428,	550,	430.	
„ E.—455,	Anthem, 630,	422,	233.	

These Hymns are carefully chosen to suit the special character of the services on each Sunday. It would be a great help towards the brightening of our services if the parishioners would read over or sing over the Hymns before they come to join in Public Worship.

The Harvest Anthem this year is by the famous English composer, Caleb Simper, and the subject of it is the text "The Earth is full of Thy riches."

The worshippers in Seagoe Church are asked to join heartily in the singing, and to repeat aloud the responses and amens.

Nature Notes.

The swallows have lingered in our northern latitudes longer than usual this year. Some were seen in Seagoe as late as Sept. 28th, but they will soon have all migrate to a warmer clime.

The prolonged drought and unusual heat this year produced some unusual effects on the River Bann. A few weeks ago it was covered from bank to bank with a green mantle of Duckweed. This little weed has a most interesting life-history. The seed which lies at the bottom of the river during the winter, and spring in early summer puts forth two tiny green leaves which expand and rise to the surface of the water. The plant can multiply at an enormous rate by a quick and plentiful production of offshoots. It serves a useful purpose. In a very hot summer it overspreads the whole surface of the river and prevents evaporation by acting as a barrier against the sun's rays. It also provides a grateful shade in the heat of Summer for the fish which frequent the river, and it is also useful in keeping the water pure. In Autumn the little plant goes to seed, and sinking again to the bed of the river, sleeps there until another Spring.

Old Seagoe Notes.

An Old Bann Boat.—One of the most interesting relics of old Seagoe is to be seen in the Grainger Museum attached to the Free Library in Belfast. It

is an old boat apparently some 500 years of age, and no doubt typical of the boats which were in constant use on the river Bann in olden times. It consists of a single log of wood, the rough trunk of a tree, hollowed out with a rude hatchet. It would hold about 3 people, but the craft would very readily capsizé, as it has no keel. The boat was dug out of a cutting on the Bann some 35 years ago. Those who would wish to see it will find it hidden away under some other exhibits near the entrance to the Grainger collection.

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A Seagoe Record.—Seagoe can easily beat the record for railway bridges. Between Kernan crossing and the Boley crossing a distance of a little over half a mile there are no less than five bridges spanning the rails. This is due to the fact that there is a deep cutting at that particular part of the line, and that the cutting intersects a large number of farms. It must have been a very expensive section of the line to construct.

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List of Seagoe Churchwardens (Continued).

- 1746. William Dixon of Ballygargan.
Benjamin Woolsey of Edenderry.
- 1747. John Beans.
John Eccles.
- 1748. Meredith Atkinson of Low Seagoe.
Arthur McCann of Ballydonaghy.
- 1749. William Buck of Levaghery.
John Best of Balteer.

It is interesting to recognise in the above list some names still very familiar in the Parish. 160 years is a long record of Church work for a family. It is worth noticing also that the townland of Balteagh at that date had the same pronunciation as it has today—Balteer.

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Foundling Children.—An unpleasant and difficult duty oftentimes devolved upon the Select Vestry of Seagoe in old days. They had to give names to and arrange for the upkeep of many children who were deserted by their parents. The names given to these children were often startling and suggestive. For example, in the Registers of 1766 we have recorded the burial of Thomas *Edenderry* on January 28th. In the minutes of the Vestry for March 28th, 1749, the following entry occurs:—For maintaining John *Bushfield*, a foundling child, £2 0s 0d. Again on May 31st, 1746, an entry runs—To Murtagh McConwell for maintaining Jane *Walls*, a foundling child, £2 0s 0d.

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Strolling Beggars.—In the Vestry Records for May the 19th, 1742, we read—To Wm. Blacker, Esq., for employing some person to drive Strolling Beggars out of the Parish, £1 0s 0d.