

# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

OCTOBER, 1920.

## Harvest Thanksgiving Services.

The Services of Thanksgiving for the Harvest will be held in the Parish Church, as follows—

Thursday, October 7th, at 8 p.m.

Preacher—Rev. J. R. MacDonald, M.A., Rector of Donaclooney. Offerings for Foreign Missions,

Sunday, October 10th, at 11-30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Preacher—Rev. John Taylor, M.A., Rector of St. Jude's, Belfast. Offerings for Parochial Expenses Fund.

Gifts of Fruit and Flowers for the decoration of the Church are asked for, and may be sent to the Church on Thursday morning, October 7th, from 10 to 11 o'clock.

## District Harvest Services.

These Services have been arranged as follows—

**Carne**—Sunday, October 3rd, at 3-30.

Monday, October 4th, at 8.

**Levaghery**—Sunday, October 17th, at 3-30.

Monday, October 18th at 8.

**Drumgor**—Sunday, October 24th, at 3-30.

Monday, October 25th, at 8.

**Edenderry**—Sunday, October 31st, at 3-30.

Monday, November 1st, at 8.

The Offerings at the above Services will on the Sundays be given to the local School Expenses, and on the Mondays to Foreign Missions.

## Carrickblacker.

We regret to announce that Colonel and Mrs. Blacker and family are about to leave the Parish. They have let Carrickblacker for a term of five years and intend in a few weeks to leave for England. For the past 15 years they have been resident amongst us and during that time, and especially during the dark days of war, many close ties of sympathy and friendship have been formed between them and the Parishioners. Their absence will leave a great blank in our parish life, and we must look forward beyond the years to the time when the old home will see them once again.

## G.F.S.

The Seagoe Girls' Friendly Society, per Miss Calvert, have given a very liberal subscription of £5 towards the G.F.S. Rostrevor Rest Home. It is made up as follows—Mrs Atkinson, Eden Villa, 5s; Mrs Thomas Shanks, 5s; Mrs Nevin, 2s 6d; A Friend, 2s 6d; Misses Rebecca Calvert, £1; — Monro, 2s 6d; L. Monro, 2s 6d; Mary England, 1s 6d; Lily England, 1s 6d; Ellen England, 1s 6d; Mary M'Cormick, 2s 6d; Jane E. Acheson, 2s; Fanny Ryans, 2s; Minnie Ryans, 2s; Emily Neill, 2s; Rachel Black, 2s; Sarah Montgomery, 2s 6d; Dinah Montgomery, 2s 6d; Sarah E. Thompson, 2s; Rebecca Livingstone, 2s; Annie Currie, 2s; Sarah J. Currie, 2s; Martha Gordon, Charlotte McMurray, and Mrs Livingstone, 2s. Total—£3 12s 0d.

## Seagoe War Memorial.

In the Subscription List recently published the following corrections are made—Wilson Irwin and Miss Irwin, £5; W. Campbell should read David Campbell, 5s.

## ITEMS.

Edenderry has recently lost one of its oldest inhabitants by the death of Mr. Arthur Allen, who has passed away at the advanced age of 86 years. A large attendance of relatives and others were present at the interment in Seagoe. Mr. Allen was a native of Caledon, Co. Tyrone. His kindly and genial manner had made him very popular with all in Edenderry, and he will be much missed in the neighbourhood.

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Sums received—Mission Week—Miss C. Price, Ballinacor, 9s 6d; Linniskey Collection, 6s making total, £10 12s 7d.

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Will Collectors for the Protestant Orphan Society please return their Cards without delay and oblige.

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Mr Devine, of Knock, whose death was recorded in our August issue, had resided in the parish since his retirement from the post of National School Teacher. He was a man with a sterling christian character, and of much ability. During a vacancy in the Curacy of the Parish some years ago, he most kindly offered his services as a visitor in the Parish. His son, the Rev. T. G. Devine, holds a Curacy in the Diocese of Manchester.

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There was great enthusiasm in Edenderry on Saturday evening when the Edenderry Football Club won the Molocco Cup and Gold Medals. This is the second Cup they have won, which is a record for Edenderry. Our hearty congratulations to the Edenderry Boys on their plucky win.

## Presentation to Mr. Wilson.

On Thursday, September 30th, the Choir of Seagoe presented Mr. T. H. Wilson, the esteemed Organist of the Parish Church, with a handsome gift of a Silver Kettle and Lamp. The Presentation was made by the Rector at a very happy Social in Seagoe School. In making the Presentation Canon Archer referred to Mr. Wilson's long and honourable association with Seagoe Church as Organist, extending over a period of 46 years, during which lengthened period he has won well-deserved popularity for his kindly and patient manner with the choir, and for the efficiency of his musical attainments. Mr. Wilson replied, expressing his affection for Seagoe and the Choir. Games and music occupied the evening until a late hour, when all separated after the singing of a hymn.

**Answers to September Puzzles.**

**Hidden Towns and Rivers.**

1 Dover, 2 Forfar, 3 Boyne, 4 Test, 5 Forth.

Square Word—WERE  
EVEN  
REED  
ENDS

Beheaded Words—B—all, E—at, R—an, L—and,  
I—t, N—itch.

**October Puzzles.**

Behead fright and leave part of the body.  
Behead a dance and leave a fish.  
Behead floating and leave the laundry.  
Behead tidy and leave beef or mutton.  
Behead shout and leave shout.  
Behead a luxury of the breakfast table and leave a  
beast of burden.

The beheaded letters if placed in order will spell  
the name of a country in Europe.

**Presentation.**

Mrs Neill (formerly Miss Montgomery, of Levaghery), was recently presented with a Silver Teapot, by her many friends and well-wishers. The presentation was made at a social meeting in Levaghery School, presided over by the Rev. H. G. de L. Singleton.

**Seagoe Scouts.**

A Troop of Seagoe Scouts is about to be formed. Boys from the age of 11 to 18 will be eligible to join.

**PARISH REGISTER for SEPT.  
Baptisms.**

**Greenhalgh**—August 2nd, 1920, at St. James' Church, Neepawa, Manitoba, Canada, Walter Henry, son of Hubert Charles and Margaret Greenhalgh, of Neepawa, Canada.  
*Sponsors*—George Burnett, Hubert C. Greenhalgh, Mabel Burnett.

The following were Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church, on September 4th, 1920—

**Coulter**—William John, son of John and Annie Coulter, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Sarah Coulter, Anne Coulter.

**Saunderson**—William, son of Benjamin and Mary Saunderson, of Killicomaime.

*Sponsors*—Mary Anne Quinn, Mary Saunderson.

**Marriage.**

**Webb and Parr**—September 16th, 1920, Thomas Edward Webb, of Edenderry, to Mary Ellen Parr, of Edenderry.

**Burials.**

**Lutton**—September 10th, Sarah, Widow of the late Andrew J. Lutton, of Edenderry, aged 100 years.

[Mrs. Lutton was Baptized in Seagoe Parish Church on Sunday, October 1st, 1820.]

**Cochrane**—September 21st, Mary Anne Cochrane, of Ballyhannon, aged 66 years.

**WITH THE "NINTH" IN FRANCE,**

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

[Continued from September Magazine.]

**Saturday, 4th Dec., 1915.**

Rained all night. This life in billets in winter is wretchedly uncomfortable for the men, and so little means of improving their lot. They get wet day after day, and no means of drying their clothes. Up to their ankles in mud if they stir out; food not too good, I mean not enough potatoes and vegetables, and constant short ration of bread, and very indifferent at that; always a proportion of bully beef, 25 p.c. generally, and of biscuit, which they loathe. Dark at 4 p.m. and nothing to do. Reading room so small and no other to be had, and they absolutely loathe this playing at soldiers, Field days, digging, etc. To-day was finer, rain most of a.m. and fine p.m.: water everywhere.

**Sunday, 5th Dec.**

The General (Hackett Pain) has gone. Came to say "good bye," was very broke at going and I felt very much for him. I am sorry for the Brigade; he knew us all and had been with us from the start. Adjutant goes to-morrow. It has turned into a wet p.m., and reams more have come in about arrangements for baths, etc. I think eatables are most

acceptable for Xmas. Fergie is getting turkeys and geese. Bread is still a difficulty—sodden and short in supply. They'd spend all their money on bread.

**Monday, 6th Dec.**

Adjutant went off this morning at 9-30 a.m. He was very broke at leaving and I was quite lumpy myself. He has been such a companion. I shall miss him fearfully. I trust the good work he has done in the Battalion will live on. I gave him a chit to the Indian Office, and have published a farewell Order. A.G.. C.M. this a.m.

We are very busy starting Battalion baths, washing places, and drying rooms and mending rooms, regular laundry. Everything having to be improvised. Fergie hard at it. We have got a Belgian coupe to come out and run a coffee bar for the men three times a week to start with, and if a success every day. In all these shows Fergie is simply invaluable.

**Tuesday, 7th Dec.**

Fine a.m.; wild wet p.m. Griffiths, the new Brigadier (was in the Bedfordshires) came to see us. Interior economy for same are to take the place of all training, is the latest order! Our arrangement for

men's baths caused an amusing episode—two men had to dig a large hole for pit for bath water, in the kitchen garden. Marguerite, the caretaker, came in tears after lunch, at the idea of the soldiers bathing in this hole and running wild and naked through Madame's vegetables! We calmed her and gave her 5 francs. She spoke so fast it was hard to make out at what she was alarmed at first. I thought she meant the hole was damaging her garden; finally I gathered what she was driving at, but not before the flock of us—Platt, Padre, Fergie, Berry, Stronge, Cather and self had adjourned to the kitchen garden.

The interpreter only remained a week. Much happier without one.

Only just back from Gen. C.M. 6-45, and have to go again to-morrow. Evelyn Woods' son, who was on the stage, appeared as the prisoner's friend. He is now a Gunner Captain. Saw Ricardo and Hessey.

The Colonial Dr. was acquitted. Five brothers serving, and had paid his own passage back from Jo'burg, where he was living since the S.A. war. An Australian. At the end he said 'I was always told a Military Court Martial was absolutely fair. Now I know it.' So we may have done a good day's work Imperially. Rumours of a move and possibly into another army.

#### Thursday, 9th Dec.

Been on C.M. all a.m. and just back. Temporarily I am beginning a new service for Officers' letters. Wet, pouring again. Still rumours of a move soon. Fergie in bed to-day. Had neuralgia and looking seedy. Am disturbed about him. No report yet from General about Trench work. Don't send out any more things yet; if we move we leave tons behind as it is. We are really very comfy here indeed as regards billets, etc. Don't want any more food.

It never ceased raining all day. Such a deluge. The new long Trench boots and Trench coat kept me quite dry, riding 4 miles to 6 miles. Am trying a route march again to-morrow, if the weather is only fine. Various small things seem to point to a big move being on the tapis. Fergie better this evening. They've suddenly sent us an interpreter to-day. Seems a quiet sort of bloke, but strangely ugly. We have done very well for six weeks without one. "Strafe" is the great word out here, also "stunt" for any sort of show—American, I believe. The regulars are only Militia with men of about six months service. All their N.C.O.'s and Officers gone, that's why their discipline is bad. Yes, ours is quite good now. The N.C.O.'s are our weak point. No chance of getting a Regular Adjutant. Cather is doing quite well. We are the first Division to go into the Line, if they move any out for a rest, as already they have the 7th, in we go and I fancy we shall go soon.

#### Friday, Dec. 10th.

Curiously similar our weather seems to be. Wednesday was a fine sunny day. To-day turned out quite fine, after threatening a.m. Warm, muggy,

slack weather. Such marvellous reams of orders and instructions as to providing dining halls with stages, etc., etc., roll in every evening. Beautiful in theory, but quite impossible to carry out for two reasons—1, All barns not already occupied by troops are full of unthreshed wheat, and the people quite naturally refuse to clear them out. 2. No materials supplied to build ablution shelters, stages, etc. If one asks for planks one is directed to a wood to cut down small trees! and told it has to be done.

#### Saturday, 11th Dec.

The new Brigadier sent for C.O.'s to-day and had a long talk on training, interior economy, etc. Pouring wet a.m., drenching showers, fine now. Feel sure we shall move soon.

Such torrential rain this a.m., that there was a foot of water in the village street! Yes, I think the discipline of the Battalion is improved and is improving out here. The spirit of "sticking it" is becoming more prevalent, greatly fostered by the Padre. For instance it is the boast of "D" Company that one of their Platoons, all Monaghan countrymen, have never had a man fall out on the march since we came to France. Gibson commands the platoon, and Sergt. Hughes is platoon Sergt. He is excellent. The N.C.O.'s have been changed from their own Company localities, whenever possible, and it has always answered, tho' met with much opposition, and even tears in some cases. An excellent letter from Jimmy Shepherd to George Calvert.

We have plenty of games and books for recreation room now. Fuel is getting a difficulty, there's a scarcity of coal and it has been reduced. At the same time these baths and laundry operations entail a much increased consumption. Drying the washed clothes is a great difficulty. The Battalion would do splendidly with a young energetic Regular who knew this warfare and could train the men in it.

The Division are buying a cinema apparatus to travel round the Battalions. The General asked me if I had a good business man, knowledgeable about electricity, to go to Paris to buy dynamos, etc., I suggested Lutton. An officer is also to go on a short tour to various H.Q.'s Base, Parks, etc., to see how the Army is worked, and to impart the knowledge on return.

#### Sunday, Dec. 12th.

I shall send Shillington. We are living very well. I don't think we ought to get more luxuries from F. and M. We really don't want them. Of course, they are eaten, but I don't think we ought to get too many. Really we don't want them. G.O.C. told me the Battalion had a good report from the Trenches, but I fancy nothing is coming round. Don't want books, barely time for papers. A youth, Seggie, by name, from 3rd Battalion, at Buerana, arrived to-day to join. Was in Public School Battalion with Cather. Sent here by D.A.G. Base; curious. He says 7th and 8th Battalions did not come out with 16th Division.

Their Brigade was kept back, not being sufficiently trained. Fine to-day and colder. We had service outside. Padre gave us a splendid sermon. He always does. They ask to-day for a Sub. to train as Staff-Captain. I have suggested Brew, not having a Sub.

#### Monday, Dec. 13th.

Bright, and cold wind, to-day. Strict orders sent out about no naked lights, smoking, etc., in places where hay is stored, but the men cannot sit in darkness without smoking, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Must try and get lanterns, but cannot carry them about. The men are really so splendid and keen to learn. I feel more and more the responsibility of their lives; and such myriads of instructions come in every day, hard to assimilate and get the best benefit out of them for the men.

Am just starting off on afternoon's inspection of ablution places, etc., instead of looking after the men's training. And we are at war!

#### Tuesday, Dec. 14th.

We did a practice march, packing up *everything*, taking what we can and storing remainder, and move out, everyone, bag and baggage, for a Route March. The idea is to see how much we have not got transport for. Stores of all sorts have accumulated here, skin coats, extra blankets, clothing, etc. I had all preparations made, and at 12 noon came a wire to say "postponed till Thursday, at 5 p.m." Another wire to say it was on after after all. Most interesting letter from Repington in the "Times." His 2nd was more hopeful for us, but they are a long way off being beaten yet, or starved, or even unduly short. Result of Practice March was 7 waggon loads left behind!! Brigadier came and inspected us en route, also state of billets; both satisfactory. Lovely, fine, frosty, healthy day.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 15th.

Such a bitter cold day, glass falling, and beginning now to rain. However, we've had 3 fine days running. To-day managed to get 3 Companies at useful training—musketry—one Company firing with Gas Helmets on—somewhat dangerous to the inhabitants. One Company building sandbag parapets. One Company Bombing. The whole of "C" ordered away to a wood, about 5 miles off, to cut wood. I shall be awfully sorry to lose Shillington. He has done such good work in "D" (but I dare not face the responsibility of keeping him out here any longer). The Reserve Battalion are 520 strong now; they move to Newtownards to-day, and 1 officer and 50 men to Armagh. Colonel FitzGerald says the 1st Battalion speak highly of us. Yes, the people are quite friendly and nice here, and the Maire most helpful. Haven't seen Madame Notary since, but she is coming on Sunday.

#### Thursday, Dec. 16th.

A fine day after wet night, and not nearly so raw. Good work done, as we were again undisturbed.

The coffee shop run by the Belgians seems to be going on all right. Of course they charge a bit too much, and I am cutting them down. The cafe proprietors in the village are angry at custom being removed from them, and the Maire came about it, but I said they had the chance of supplying the goods, and didn't take it. Of course, they haven't got the things, and are only intent on selling alcohol, and many men would never go inside a cafe, and they wouldn't start a food or coffee bar away from the cafe.

#### Friday, Dec. 17th.

A damp morning, but we could carry on with everything outside, only a mist, but it has turned into a soaking p.m. Barker, the H.Q. Chaplain, came to see Padre. How lucky we are not to be in the Trenches this weather. We are very near the turn of the year, and every day without a move is a day gained. These long nights in the Trench line are very trying.

My kit has grown to such enormous dimensions that it will have to be cut down to approximate 100 lbs. for a long move.

#### Saturday, Dec. 18th.

Fergie says men want handkerchiefs. Very few here, and not an issue; any colour except white. They are more necessary than anything; plenty of mitts now, and mufflers, socks, but don't send any more yet. Imagine, I have been watching a football match between us and the Lancs. Fus. We won 5-1. I had a 2-hour Battalion Parade this morning, which I found they wanted badly. Dull, foggy, damp day.

#### Sunday, Dec. 19th.

Bright sunny day, with cold wind, healthy. Arranging for places for Xmas dinners is a difficulty, so hard to find any place that will hold more than 50 men. In our last village the old Maire sent in a bill for damages, for 3,000 francs. It required a bit of answering, but I know, and I hope showed, we were not to blame, and the damage is hopelessly over estimated. Many of the French are on the make. Here they are very nice and pleasant, but in some places they are grasping and greedy. I daresay at home they would be just the same, but it makes things more difficult.

#### Monday, Dec. 20th.

Don't believe yarn of our leaving France, but of course everything is possible. I hear H. P. has got a Res Bde. 12th tell me their Tinned Milk Fund has been converted into getting extra vegetables for the men. They are most needed. Am keeping and feeling very fit, and sleeping splendidly. 5 messages came in last night from 9 p.m. to 2-30 a.m. saying Zep. had been sighted near Ypres, then Armentieres, annoying, as we could do nothing here anyway. Had to meet Brigadier at 12 this morning. New scheme of building a hut to hold 1,500 men for the cinema, and a Central Recreation Room for the 12th and ourselves.

(To be Continued.)