

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

SEPTEMBER, 1910.

The Magazine.



THE August number of the Magazine had a very rapid sale and was soon sold out. The Magazine is now in its fifth year of issue, and it is a healthful sign to find it in such demand. The monthly issue totals 350 copies and there are seldom any copies remaining after the first or second day of issue. The success of the Magazine depends very largely on those kind helpers who distribute it through the Parish every month. Our Edenderry helpers sell a very large number each month. Edenderry takes about 135 copies each month, besides the copies that are sold at Mrs. Metcalfe's in Bridge Street. We regret that Mr. W. J. Currie recently resigned his post as the Edenderry Distributor. Ever since the Magazine was started he had acted in that capacity and the present large circulation in that district is due to his indefatigable efforts.

The following is a list of distributors:—

Edenderry	...	Miss Fox. Miss Smith. Miss M. Atkinson.
Drumgor	...	Mrs. McMullan.
Hacknahay	...	Mr. George Calvert.
Carne	...	Mr. David Murray.
Ballinacor	...	Mr. Robert Price.
Drumnagoon	...	Miss Maude Dickson.
Levaghery	...	Mr. James Shephred.
Kilvergan	...	Mr. Thos. Martin.
Seagoe School	...	Christina Levingston and other pupils.

N.B.—Copies of the current number of the Magazine can be had from Mrs. Metcalfe, Bridge Street, and those who require back numbers can obtain them (if not sold out) from the Rector.

A large and increasing number of copies of each month's Magazine are mailed to Parishioners abroad. The Rector will be glad to send copies of the Magazine by post each month to anyone writing to him. Subscription and Postage in United Kingdom 1/6 per annum. Subscription and Postage per annum to America and Colonies 2/-,

G.F.S. Excursion.

The Annual Excursion in connection with the Seagoe Branch of the Girls Friendly Society was held on Saturday, August 13th. The Associates and Members assembled at the Parish Church at 1 o'clock. A short service was held in which the members heartily joined. Our destination this year was Ardmore Rectory and the drive was much enjoyed. The day was fine and the country looked very pretty and when Lough Neagh came in view with its broad-stretch of calm water many were the expressions of

delight heard on all sides. The Rev R. D. and Mrs. Patterson were ready to receive us at the Rectory and treated the excursionists throughout the day with the greatest hospitality and kindness. The green sward along the shore of the lake proved an admirable place for games and tea. In a short time "rings" were formed and games of all kinds "Hindmost of three, Nuts in May, The Jolly Miller," etc., etc., were indulged in without intermission. During the afternoon tea was dispensed by many willing helpers. Mr. R. T. Montgomery skilfully supervised the catering department. At seven o'clock the brakes were brought round and before the start for home was made the Rector called for hearty cheers for the Rev R. D. and Mrs. Patterson, who had done so much to make the excursion a success. The return home was made by Silverwood and the Lurgan Road. It was generally acknowledged that the trip had been the most successful of recent years. Miss Armstrong the G.F.S. Secretary for Seagoe, is deserving of hearty congratulation for the success attained. All the Associates and Helpers were present except Mrs McMullan who was unavoidably absent. We noticed among those present Mrs. Hadden, Miss McCormick, and Miss Webb, from Canada. The excursion ought to do much in bringing the members of the Seagoe G.F.S. more closely together. Owing to the size of the Parish it is necessary to work the Society in separate sections, but on the day of the Excursion as well as on some other occasions, all are brought together and thus realise the unity and extent of the work. We look forward to a very happy and successful winter session for the G.F.S. We wish it were possible to extend its influence in the Parish. There should be a strong branch in the Carne and Tamnifcarbet end of the Parish. Who will volunteer to organise a branch there and help on the good work?

Items.

Sir Robert Bredin, K.C.M.G., whose work in China is so well known, has been spending a few days at Portadown. He visited Seagoe Church during his stay, and was much interested in the improvements made since his last visit more than twenty years ago.

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The Rev. W. R. Crichton is enjoying a holiday at Scarborough, the famous English seaside resort.

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It is seldom that Seagoe has experienced such a spell of wet weather as has occurred recently. Unless it improves we fear the crops will suffer. Prayers for fair weather were offered in the Church on Sunday week and last Sunday.

Mr. Henry Monroe, of Levaghery, has been seriously ill. Mr. Monroe is one of our oldest and most highly respected Parishioners, and we trust he will be spared to a renewal of health and strength. We are glad to hear that the latest reports are more favourable.

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The Rector has been elected President of the Edenderry Football Club on the invitation of its members. The Club has secured a field for play at Levaghery. We hear the Club intend amalgamating with the Seagoe Harriers and the Physical Culture Class. We wish the members a very prosperous season and a win in every match.

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We hope to see a flourishing branch of the Church of Ireland Men's Society established in the Parish this autumn.

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William Freeburn has left for South Manchester, U.S.A. He was a most regular member of Edenderry Men's Bible Class, and will be much missed. Before leaving he was presented by the members with a handsomely fitted Dressing Case.

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South Manchester, U.S.A., is a favourite place for emigrants from Seagoe Parish. We are beginning to think that there are almost as many Seagoe people there as there are in Seagoe.

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We hope that those who leave our Parish for America or elsewhere will be careful to attend the services of the Church and to join a Bible Class in the Parish where they happen to be. The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States has Churches and Parishes everywhere. They have the same Prayer Book, and the old prayers will bring back Seagoe memories to those who are far away from the old Church at home.

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A letter received from a Seagoe Parishioner says, "We have no Church near us, but every Sunday we read over the Service in our Prayer Book, and also the Lessons for the Day." This is an example which we hope many will follow.

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Seagoe School looks very bright after being painted and decorated. The Classes are larger than we have ever seen them before. The Cookery Classes will resume work on September 1st.

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The epidemic of Measles has, we are glad to say, subsided. The best way to ward off these epidemics now is to let plenty of fresh air through the sleeping rooms, and to keep the house perfectly clean.

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Some of the new labourers cottages which are such an improvement on the old mud cabins suffer from smoking flues. This is a great pity, and should be

corrected without delay. There is a defect in the construction of the fireplaces. The smoke is very disagreeable to the tenants, and destroys the paint-work and ceilings of the cottages.

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Very curious ideas prevail abroad as to the kind of place Seagoe is. Last week the Rector received a letter from a firm of American solicitors addressed to "The Mayor or Chief Executive of Parish of Seagoe, County of Armagh, Ireland." The "Mayor of Seagoe" is a distinctly new title, and is not to be found in the Registers of the Parish.

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We hope in next month's issue to present our readers with a portrait of an interesting old Seagoe worthy, the late Mr. John Walker, who acted as Clerk in Seagoe Church from 1823 to 1873. He was commonly known as "Clerk Walker" and was very highly respected by everyone who knew him. The Portrait will be accompanied by a sketch of his life.

Great Missionary Exhibition,

ULSTER HALL, BELFAST,

November 8th to 19th, 1910.

Arrangements for "Africa and the East" the big Missionary Exhibition to be held in Ulster Hall, November 8th to 19th, are proceeding rapidly. Our stewards will be getting to work again at their special country, now that holidays are over. We hope they will throw redoubled energy into the work of preparation, now that the time is drawing near. Definite knowledge alone is of any use. Contributions to the Foreign Curio Stall have not come in as quickly as was hoped. Will many of our readers send in a donation, be it large or small, for this object? The Rector will receive it, or it may be sent to the secretary Mrs. McCance, Woodburn, Dunmurry. The refreshment department has been well organised by Mrs. Burgess and Miss Moore. Nearly every day has been taken up by some parish or group of parishes. Gifts of eatables will be most welcome when the time comes, or even now we might begin setting apart pots of jam for "Africa and the East" and baking cakes. The financial result depends to a great extent on the success of this department. Volunteers will soon be wanted to distribute handbills.

Offertories for August.

"She, of her want, did cast in all that she had."

	Morning.	Evening.
Aug. 7th—11th S. aft. Trinity	£1 18 8	£0 12 4
„ 14th—12th S. aft. „	1 8 5	0 9 8
„ 21st—13th S. aft. „	1 8 11	0 12 3
„ 28th—14th S. aft. „	1 8 10	0 11 6
Wednesdays,	0 8 2
Total,	£6 4 10	£2 13 11

Parochial Register.

AUGUST, 1910.

Baptisms.

"As long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord."—
I. Samuel, i., 28.

- Aug. 6th—Douglas Ferguson, son of Hugh John and Dorcas Jane Stoops.
 " " —George, son of Robert and Mary Hamill.
 " " —Sarah Eva, daughter of James and Elizabeth Conolly.
 " " —Richard, son of William and Sarah Robb.
 " " —Ella, daughter of Ephraim and Ellen Macaulay.
 " " —Mary Ann, daughter of Joseph and Mary Robinson.
 " " —Robert, son of William James and Jane Elizabeth Hynes.
 " " —John, son of James and Sarah Jane Reid.
 " " —Margaret Jane, daughter of James and Ellen Margaret Trainor.
 " " —Thomas Henry, son of James Henry and Elizabeth Forsythe.
 " 27th—Mary, daughter of John and Ellen Jane Loney.

Marriage.

"Love is of God."

- Aug. 11th—Robert William Parks, Tamnifiglasson, to Anna Jane Beckett, Tamnifiglasson.

Burials.

"Death is swallowed up in Victory."

- Aug. 4th—John Magee, Portadown, aged 1 year.
 " 9th—Elizabeth Jane (Lily) McNally, Edenderry, aged 16 years.
 " 9th—William Porter, Seagoe, aged 9 years.
 " 12th—Robert Burrell, Bocombra, aged 60 yrs.
 " 17th—Ellen Harte, Ballygargan, aged 18 yrs.
 " 21st—Richard McDonald, Edenderry, aged 3 years.
 " 22nd—Henry John Robinson, Lisburn, aged 46 years.
 " 29th—Anne England, Knock, aged 63 years.

Hacknahay Day School.

Important changes have taken place in this School during the month of August. Miss Wilson, who has acted as Principal of the School since it was opened in August, 1908, has resigned her position owing to her appointment to an important post in the county Cavan. We regret very much to lose the services of Miss Wilson who has brought Hacknahay School to a very high state of efficiency. She has also been very popular with the Pupils and the residents in the District. The favourable report presented by Mr.

Worsley, the Government Inspector, after a very close and prolonged inspection of the School is a proof of the solid work accomplished by Miss Wilson. We are sure we express the feelings of all our readers in wishing her much happiness and success in her new sphere of work.

New Principal of Hacknahay.

Miss M. B. Stevenson has been appointed Principal of Hacknahay School and we give her a hearty welcome to Seagoe Parish. Miss Stevenson is a fully qualified Teacher under the National Board. She was educated in the Collegiate School, Celbridge, and passed from there into the Church of Ireland Training College, Kildare Place, Dublin. While a pupil in Celbridge she entered for the Intermediate examinations obtaining passes in the Preparatory and Junior grades, and a pass with Honours in the Middle grade. She holds the Elementary and Intermediate Certificates from the Tonic Sol-fa College and the First Grade Staff Notation Certificate. She obtained First Prize for Vocal Music in a Competition at the Training College. She is qualified to teach the Kindergarten System and to hold Cookery Classes on the National Board system. With such qualifications we are justified in predicting that Hacknahay School in the near future will hold a premier position among the schools of the District. No effort will be spared to bring it up to the highest level of educational efficiency.

Miss Stevenson enters upon her duties on September 1st.

Children's Flower Competition.

On Saturday, August 27th, this competition was decided. The show of flowers was small, but very good and representative of the whole Parish. The following were awarded Prizes:—**For Annuals**—FIRST PRIZE—A Work Basket—Sarah Martin (Edenderry). SECOND PRIZES—Pen and Pencil Case—Jeannie Dawson (Portadown); Mouth Organ—Thos. McMullan (Tarson). THIRD PRIZE—Noah's Ark—Isabella Best (Killycomaine). **For Geraniums**—FIRST PRIZE—A Doll—May Best (Killycomaine). We hope shortly to have a Bulb Competition. Hyacinth Bulbs will be distributed and the children will have an opportunity of proving their skill in the cultivation of pretty flowers.

Nature Notes.

The Swallows which have been with us now since April will soon be taking their departure for warmer southern climes. It will be noticed that they are now beginning to gather in groups on the ridges of out-house roofs and along the telegraph wires. 32 were counted on one roof last week. Last year Mr. Leonard Twinem, who is now in New York, was the parishioner who noticed the latest appearance of the swallows in this District. The date was September

23rd. Who will see the last swallow this year? The birds are likely to migrate earlier owing to the severe weather. Some day when a northerly or north-westerly wind blows they will fly away south.

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Those who are interested in the stars may see the Planet Mercury during the first few days of September in the evening sky low down in the west near the point of sunset. Jupiter is also to be seen low down in the west.

Old Seagoe Notes.

Portadown in 1641.—Mr. Richard Bagwell in his recently issued volumes on "Ireland under the Stuarts" devotes some space to a record of the events which took place at the Bridge of Portadown in 1641. In vol. 1, page 342, he writes as follows:—

The Portadown Massacre in 1641 has been more discussed than any other episode in the Irish Rebellion and it has left behind it an inefaceable impression of horror. The victims numbered 100 or 160. The chief actor was Captain Manus O'Cahan, but many of the sufferers had received passes from Sir Phelim O'Neill himself. O'Cahan and his men, Mrs. Price deposed, forced and drove all their prisoners, and amongst them the deponent's five children by name Adam, John, Annie, Mary, and Jane Price, off the bridge into the water. Those that could swim were shot or forced back into the water. When Owen Roe O'Neill came to the country he asked in Mrs. Price's hearing how many Protestants the rebels had drowned at Portadown, and they said 400. If this is correct the cruel work on the Bann must have continued for some time. They also said that those drowned in the Blackwater were too many to count and that the number thrust into lakes and bogholes could not even be guessed at. On November 17th they burned the Church at Blackwaterstown with a crowd of Protestants in it, whose cries being exceedingly loud and fearful, the rebels used to delight much in a scornful manner to imitate them and brag of their acts. Attempts had been made to discredit the evidence on the ground that Mrs. Price, and others refer to apparitions at the scene of the Portadown Massacres. Screams and cries are easily explained for wolves and dogs fed undisturbed upon the unburied dead.

The Ghost at Portadown Bridge.—Mrs. Price says she actually saw a ghost when she visited the spot where her five children had been slaughtered, and that Owen Roe O'Neill who came expressly to inform himself as to the alleged apparition was present with his men who saw it also. It was twilight and upon a sudden there appeared unto them a vision or spirit assuming the shape of a woman, waist high, upright in the water, naked, her hair dishevelled, very white, and her eyes seeming to twinkle, and her skin as white as snow, which spirit or vision, seeming to stand upright in the water, divulged, and often

repeated the words, "Revenge! Revenge! Revenge!" O'Neill sent a priest and a friar to question the figure—both in English and Latin but it answered nothing. He afterwards sent a trumpeter (trumpeter) to the nearest English force for a Protestant clergyman, by whom the same figure was seen and the cries of "Revenge" heard but Mrs. Price does not say she was present on this occasion. The evidence of this lady shows no marks of a wandering mind, and yet it is evident she believed in an apparition. It is quite possible that some crazed woman who had lost all that was dear to her may have haunted the spot and cried for vengeance, but in any case a belief in ghosts was still general in those days and especially in Ireland. The evidence as to the Massacre is overwhelming.

List of Churchwardens (Continued):—

- 1716—George Rodgers, of Ballyhannon.
Thomas Gibson of Moreverty.
- 1717—James McMorvan (?)
Henry Mayes.
- 1718—George Dixon, of Ballygargan.
John Newel, of Levaghery.
- 1719—Henry Dowey, of Kinnego.
William McGowen, of Ballymacrannel.
- 1750—Francis Grayson, of Boconnal.
Francis Dilworth, of Drumgor.

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Seagoe in the Ice-Age.—The Rev. Professor Bonney in his address delivered at Sheffield this week as President of the British Association stated that geologists believed that in the glacial epoch, the great Irish ice-flow covered Ireland from the south of Lough Neagh to Galway Bay. It is difficult to believe that at one period in the distant past the Parish of Seagoe formed the floor of a huge glacier. The only evidence of this state of things open to the eye of the casual observer is to be seen at Ballinacor. The "big stone" and also two other large granite stones lying on the roadside near Peacefield are clearly portions of the Mourne Mountains, and could only have reached their present positions by being borne along on the surface of slowly moving ice which when it finally melted away left the big stones on the surface of the ground.

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The Blue Stone—Talking of big stones reminds us of the "Blue Stone" which gives its name to the District beyond Lylo. The stone is buried at the cross roads and has been lying unseen for over a century. It seems a pity that an interesting stone which gave its name to the District and was evidently a remarkable natural feature of the locality should be buried out of sight. We are sure if the residents in the District desired it the enterprising County Surveyor, Mr. Dorman, would permit of its being dug up and placed in its original position. In coaching days it was well known to the travelling public on the old Lurgan Road.