

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

SEPTEMBER 1911.

Farewell Words.

[The following "Farewell Words" from the Rev. W. T. Grey will, we know, be appreciated by his many friends in Seagoe, and all will wish him a pleasant and prosperous voyage.]

Llandudno, North Wales,
August 29th, 1911.

MY Dear Friends in Seagoe,—Just a word of farewell before I start on the long voyage which is to end in the "Land of the Rising Sun." I am more than grateful to the Rector and to my friends at Eden Villa, whose kind hospitality made it possible for me to visit Seagoe from time to time during my furlough, and who did so much to make my visits the happy ones they were.

I shall long remember the three weeks I have just spent amongst you, and I particularly valued the kind way in which the Rector permitted me to come in contact with your parochial life. I have been allowed to minister to some of your sick and dying, and it was like old times to find myself on three consecutive Sundays sitting in the dear old choir, reading the Prayers, and speaking to you from the pulpit. It has been a source of the greatest satisfaction to me to notice the various ways in which the life of the Parish has developed and advanced during the last six years. I hope you will all pray daily that God's Holy Spirit will bless more and more all that is being done in His name in Seagoe, and that He will lead you into all the truth. Only don't let your prayers be limited by the boundaries of your Parish; never get up from your knees without offering up at least one short petition that the Kingdom of God may be extended throughout the world; and you won't forget, will you, to make special mention from time to time of your own who are in the Mission field, namely—the Misses Dawson in South America and myself in Japan.

And now I must thank you for the wonderfully warm welcome I received on all sides. To one like myself, possessing no longer a family home, there is a certain loneliness in returning after a lapse of years. But whatever degree of loneliness I was conscious of, completely disappeared before the affectionate smiles of recognition that greeted me when I appeared in the Parish of Seagoe. It warmed my heart to find I was so well remembered; and I go back to Japan cheered with the conviction that the friendships I have renewed will find constant expression in mutual intercessory prayer during the years that must elapse before we meet again.

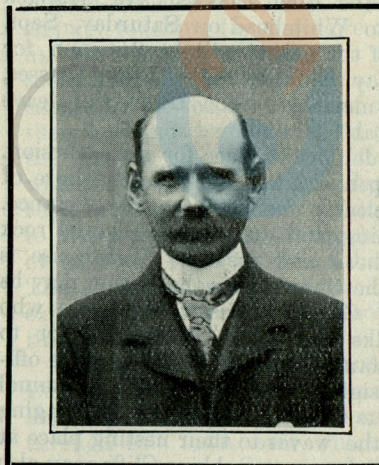
You won't think me guilty of unreal sentiment if,

in wishing you goodbye, I sign myself
Your affectionate Friend,
W. T. GREY.

P.S.—It may interest you to know that the 1st Lesson for the morning of August 24th contained the words—"Behold I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again unto this land." This seemed to me like a direct message from Heaven, and as I read it in the train that was carrying me out of Ireland I was greatly comforted.

Death of Mr. A. Costello.

We announce with much regret the death of Mr. Atkinson Costello, of Carne, which took place on Tuesday, August 8th. For many months Mr. Costello had been in failing health, and within the last few months it had become quite evident that he could not recover. He bore his illness with great patience and



Mr. Atkinson Costello.

submission to the Divine will, and when death came it was an easy and happy transition from pain and weakness to the glory of his Father's presence. Mr. Costello was always greatly interested in Seagoe Parish, and the fact that Carne Church Hall stands upon his ground is an evidence of his strong attachment to the Church.

For many years he was elected to serve on the Select Vestry, and his wise counsel was much appreciated by the members of the Vestry. On the appointment of the Rev. J. E. Archer as Rector of Seagoe in October, 1905, Mr. Costello kindly consented to act as Rector's Churchwarden for 1906-7. The funeral, which took place to Seagoe Graveyard on Thursday, August 10th, was attended by a large number of the residents. The rector gave a short address at the service in the Church, referring to Mr. Costello's work and character. A handsome wreath was sent by the Clergy and Select Vestry. We offer our sincere sympathy to Mrs. Costello and the members of the family. On the Sunday following the sad event the Rev. W. T. Grey in his sermon made a touching reference to Mr. Costello's death.

Bishop's Social - October 10th.

We are very glad to be able to announce that our new Bishop, the Right Rev. C. F. D'Arcy, D.D., has kindly consented to be present at a Social Meeting in Seagoe School on Tuesday, October 10th. This will be a good opportunity for all our Seagoe people to meet with and get to know their Bishop. The Bishop is not altogether a stranger to the Parish, for it was he who held the Confirmation in the Parish four years ago, when the late Bishop Welland was too ill to attend. His beautiful address on that occasion is still remembered by many of our people.

We expect the Social will be a record one for Seagoe Parish. Strong committees have been formed for the arrangement of the programme and for the decoration of the school. Twenty-four ladies are accepting tables at their own expense, and provision will be made for 350 to 400 guests. The proceeds of the Social resulting from the sale of the tickets will be spent on the further improvement of Seagoe School. The price of the tickets will be one shilling each. No one under 16 years of age will be admitted. The tickets are now on sale.

Excursion to Whitehead.

The members of the Bible Classes have arranged for an Excursion to Whitehead on Saturday, Sept. 16th. The price of the tickets will be 2/- each for members of Sunday or week-night Bible Classes, and 2/6 for non-members. The train will leave Portadown station at 7-30 a.m.

Whitehead is a delightful place for an excursion. It is out on the open sea, and the Scotch shore of Ayrshire can be clearly seen in the far distance. There is fine bathing, and the coast walk and rock path round Blackhead and past the Lighthouse is magnificent. In the Quarry near the station may be seen a miniature Giant's Causeway. Those who prefer inland walks can go to Ballycarry, or to Kilroot, where the famous Dean Swift at one time officiated. One of the sights of Whitehead is the continual procession of gannets and other large sea-birds winging their way across the waves to their nesting place at Ailsa Craig. The picturesque Gobbins Cliffs may also be visited from Whitehead. Our excursionists will also be interested in the smugglers' caves at Blackhead. Secure your tickets at once.

Rev. W. T. Grey.

Mr. Grey sails from Liverpool by the White Star liner "Runic," on September 12th. The date of sailing was delayed for nearly a month owing to the strike. Mr. Grey will have traversed 23,000 miles before he reaches his destination. His ship goes first to Capetown, thence to Australia, where he hopes to spend three weeks. He then changes to a Japanese liner and sails north, calling at the Philippine Islands, eventually reaching Japan at the beginning of the year. He will pass through all the seasons of the year in the space of three months—Autumn here, Spring in South Africa, Summer in Australia and Winter in Japan.

Items.

Seagoe Physical Culture Class will shortly resume its work. The class will meet weekly in Seagoe Orange Hall.

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The Rector has been appointed a member of the committee for arranging a New Hymnal for the Church of Ireland.

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All copies of the August number of the Magazine were sold within a week of its publication.

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The Sunday School Excursion this year almost paid its way. In fact there may be a small balance in hand when all charges have been met.

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A good many cases of scarlatina have occurred in Edenderry. As a precaution milk should be boiled before using. We are glad to say the cases are of a mild type.

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The G.F.S. trip takes place (D.V.) on Saturday, September 9th. This is always a very pleasant event. This year the Associates, Members and Candidates will drive to Laurencetown.

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We hope that the young people who leave Seagoe Parish for America will attend the services of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States. Our Church brethren across the sea have the same Book of Common Prayer, the same Hymns, the same Bible and the same Church traditions. There may be slight differences in the form of the services, but in all essential respects they are the same as in Seagoe. The Rev. Manning Bennett, Rector of St. Mary's, South Manchester, U.S.A., is anxious to get helpers in his large Parish of 14,000 souls. Some of our Seagoe emigrants should offer their services.

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We are glad to notice that in the erection of new tomb-stones in Seagoe Graveyard the old stones, (some of great age) are being re-erected in front of the new ones. It is a great pity to allow the old stones to disappear.

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Mr. Robert Gracey, People's Churchwarden, has recently improved the appearance of the Church by cutting the ivy, and has also cleared away an old tree from the School playground.

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Mr. Cecil Winter, who has frequently taken District Services in Seagoe, was one of the ill-fated party on the motor char-a-banc, of whom ten were killed. Mr. Winter providentially escaped injury, and we sincerely congratulate him.

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A fine, new Chancel is being erected in Knocknamuckley Church.

A parishioner has recently, we hear, destroyed no less than 32 wasps' nests. This is a record.

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Seagoe people will thank Mr. Dorman, the county surveyor, and his assistants for the splendid new asphalted paths along Seagoe Road.

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An appeal on behalf of the Diocesan Poor Parishes Fund will be made in Seagoe Church on Sunday morning, September 3.

Baptisms.

"He shall be lent to the Lord as long as he liveth."

- August 5th—Wilson, son of Thomas Henry and Frances Jane Holmes.
 " " Joseph Henry, son of William Henry and Elizabeth Harrison.
 " " James, son of James and Sarah Hara.
 " " Margaret Jane, daughter of William and Sarah Jane Gregson.
 " " Alexander, son of William and Sarah Jane Gregson.
 " " William Brown, son of William James and Margaret Cordy.
 " " Irene Doris, daughter of Hugh and Margaret Shields.
 " " James Henry, son of William Joseph and Anne Watson.

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Marriage.

"Thy vows are upon me."

- August 30th—William Robinson, Drumnacanvey, to Sarah Jane Thompson, Ballygargin.

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Burials.

"Until the day break."

- August 8th - Dynes Atkinson, Drumnagoon, aged 78 years.
 " 10th—Anne Calvert, Breagh, aged 59 years.
 " " Atkinson Costello, Carne, aged 52 years.
 " 16th—John Best, Lisniskey, aged 64 years.
 " 17th—Alexander Hughes, Belfast, aged 55 years.
 " 18th—Margaret Wilson, Seagoe, aged 72 years.
 " 27th—Margaret Killow, Edenderry, aged 38 years.
 " 29th—John Wells, Edenderry, aged 78 years.
 " " James Henry Watson, Killycomaine, aged 4 months.
 " 31st—Thomas Haddock, Kernan, aged 70 years.

Offertories for August.

- Sundays—Morning, £4 17s 8d ; Communicants, 13s 5d
 Evening, £2 15s 6d.
 Week-days—8s 9d. Total, £8 15s 4d.

Old Seagoe Notes.

An Account of the Barony of O'Neilland, Co. Armagh, in 1682.

[We are indebted to Mr. T. J. Atkinson, LL.B., for the following most interesting contribution to our columns. The references to Fruit Culture and Cider are especially interesting, dating as they do from the year 1682.]

The following description of the Barony of O'Neilland or O'Neilland (now the Baronies of O'Neilland East and West) was compiled at the instance of Dr. William Molyneux, who was commissioned in 1682-3 to collect (principally from clergymen) statistical accounts of Irish Districts for publication in Moses Pitt's *Grand Atlas, and was first published in the Ulster Journal of Archaeology, Vol. IV., Pt. 4, in July, 1898.

O'Neilland Barony, in the County of Armagh,
 Portadown, November 26th, 1682.

Sir,—In obedience to your request, I have made enquiry touching the massacre of this town, and doe find that seven score was the full number that lost their lives in that inhumane butchery—they, too, consisting for the most part of women and children, their husbands being sacrificed to a more early rage ; the manner thereof was by forcing them into the water of that part of the Bridge which the Rebels at their first setting out had cut down, thinking thereby to intercept the English, which lay on the East side of the river, from molesting their intended villanies. The chief commander of the Rebels in this bloody expedition was one Captain Tool M'Cann, a native of this Parish.

Portadown is so called from Purt and Dunam, Purt in Irish being a port, and Dunam, a place to land upon from off the Bann River, which runs through this town, over which stands a fair wood bridge near upon a thousand foot in length. This river parts the Diocese of Armagh from that of Dromore. It divides also the Barony of Nealand into East and West. That proportion of land lying on the East side of the river is called Clanbrazill, which lately gave title to an Earldom ; that on the West side, especially that part of it which joins Lough Neagh and the Bann, Clan Cann, probably so called from the M'Canns, a family of Irish gentry formerly owners thereof. This river has its banks adorned with spacious and profitable woods ; is replenished with salmon, trout, pike, and eel, has a slow and smooth course, fetching its rise from Sleaghnekirk, so called in the County of Down, from whence it gently glides into Lough Neagh. What

*The Atlas was not completed, and the portion relating to Ireland was not reached.

has been reported of the virtue of this Lough in petrifying wood has so little of truth in it that 'tis unfit to abuse posterity with a fresh relation thereof, the long stones, as they call them, being usually found in dry and sandy hills. Besides, a gentleman of this county, to try the experiment, fastened an oak stake in a private place of the Lough near upon twenty years ago, the same retaining still all the qualities of wood, without any alteration in the least otherwise than what is usual to wood lying so long in water. The circumference of this Lough, with the nooks and bendings thereof, can be no less than an hundred miles.

The soile of this Barony of O'Nealand is very deep and fertile, being productive of all sorts of grain, as wheat, rye, barley, oats, etc. The vast quantity of wheat that is yearly carried hence into the country of Antrim, besides the maintenance of above two thousand families with bread, which number I find to inhabit this small Barony, most whereof being English, do plainly demonstrate it to be the granary of Ulster, and one of Ceres' chiefest barns for corn; and as it excells all the rest for corn, so it challenges the preference for fruit trees, good sider being sold for 30 shillings the hogshead. Some of our gentlemen can make already twenty or thirty hogsheads in a season, which is but a small increase to what may be expected when their orchards and yearly new plantations come to their perfection. The farmers are enjoined by their leases to plant apple trees proportionable to the quantity of their land; so that if the sinfulness of the people do not forestall those blessings of peace and plenty which God in his bounty designs for us, this county twenty or thirty years hence will be little inferior to the best cider county in England. The great plenty of oak wood which this Barony affords makes our houses much better than those of other parts where that assistance is wanting.

The very roads are here so well planted with houses and other improvements that they seeme to be but as one continued town. Our churches are not so large as decent and well situated, having this to make them renowned that they are once a week filled with loyal and conformable Protestants. The market towns of this Barony are Loughgall, Legacorry, Portadown, and Lurgan, all inconsiderable save the last, in and about which is managed the greatest linen manufacture in Ireland. Those few Irish we have amongst us are very much reclaimed of their barbarous customs, the most of them speaking English, and for agriculture they are little inferior to the English themselves. In a word the fertility of the soile, the curious inclosures, the shady groves and delicate seats, that are everywhere dispersed over this Barony doe all concur to make it a paradise of pleasure. I have travelled through several parts of England, but did never meet with any county or part thereof surpass this of O'Nealand in anything conducing either to profit or pleasure, the buildings only excepted. Sir, I presume your own knowledge can informe you of the truth of most that I have

said; and if there had been anything more of remark in this Barony that could be any way usefull to that good and ingenious designe you are about, which will undoubtless undeceive our very neighbouring Kingdome, as well as more remote parts, in their mean and despicable opinion of this nation, it should have been freely communicated by

Sir, Your humble servant,

WILLIAM BROOKE.

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A Curious Discovery, 1839.—While the excavations for the making of the Railway through Seagoe in the year 1839 were in progress the workmen unearthed an underground cellar half-way between the Rectory and the old Church. The cellar contained a number of very ancient stone jars. Perhaps some of our readers could give us some further particulars about the cellar and the jars. If anyone possesses one of the jars it would be an interesting relic of old Seagoe days. A tradition exists that in old times there was an underground passage connecting the Rectory with the old Church. It is just possible that this cellar may have formed part of the underground passage. We are indebted to Mr. David Walker, of Seagoe Villa, for this information.

Old Seagoe, 1861.—The Rector has received from Miss Atkinson, of Eden Villa, an interesting and carefully made pencil sketch of Old Seagoe Church before the West Gable fell. The Rectory is also visible in the background, and an old-fashioned engine with lofty funnel is passing along the line. From this drawing it would be possible to produce a correct picture of Old Seagoe Church as it stood before 1814. The sketch was made in April, 1861, by H. Magenis.

The Heating of the Church.

Mr. W. R. Atkinson, our Hon. Treasurer, is anxious that those who have kindly promised subscriptions to the new heating apparatus should pay them in to him as soon as possible as Messrs. Musgrave have furnished their account.

Hacknahay School.

Miss M. B. Stevenson, Principal of Hacknahay School, has been appointed Principal of Slieve-naman National School, in the Parish of Bryansford, County Down. We are very sorry to lose the services of Miss Stevenson, who has fulfilled her duties with great efficiency.

Miss Margaret Reid, of Lower Seagoe, has been appointed Principal of Hacknahay School temporarily, pending the erection of the new school. Miss Reid has had a large experience of teaching, and acted for several years as Monitress in Seagoe School.