

# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

SEPTEMBER, 1914.

## A Prayer.

TO Thee, O God, most merciful and most mighty,  
we turn in this time of tumult and distress.

Look in pity upon us and upon the nations now engaged in conflict. Pardon our sins and avert the evils which we have deserved. Save and defend our King and country; grant wisdom and strength to our leaders, and quietness and self-control to our people: watch over our soldiers and sailors and all who are in peril by land or sea: give victory to the right and make wrong-doing to fail: succour the weak and distressed and assuage the miseries of war: keep far from us bloodshed and oppression: and if it be Thy will, speedily restore peace to the world. These petitions we present in the name of Him who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Intercessory Service for our Soldiers and Sailors.

A Service of Intercession on behalf of our Soldiers and Sailors engaged in the War will be held on every Wednesday evening in the Parish Church at 8 o'clock. The Special Form of Service sanctioned by the Archbishop and Bishops of the Church of Ireland will be used. There are many anxious hearts among us just now, and the gracious invitation of the Divine Saviour must appeal to us more than ever before—

“Come unto Me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.” Let all our people join together frequently in public and united prayer as well as in private supplication that the God of Battles may grant success to our armies in the field, and that the great Captain of our Salvation may take into His keeping the souls and bodies of our dear ones now fighting in the cause of King and Empire.

## THE WAR.

The subject uppermost in our minds a short month ago was the impending danger of Home Rule. To-day we are plunged into the horrors of a European War, and our local anxieties are thrust into the background by the danger which threatens the very existence of the Empire. It is said that in actual warfare no movement is so difficult to accomplish as a sudden change of front, and Ulster has been called upon, in a moment as it were, to oppose not as formerly a party majority in the House of Commons, but a foreign foe of great military strength who would strike at the

very roots of our national existence. Our duty is clear. It is to lay aside for the time being our local questions and throw ourselves heart and soul into the task of defending our land against the German foe. Every man of military age should offer himself without delay to the service of his King and Country. If we wish to protect ourselves against the horrible pillage and murder which Belgium and France have had to endure, every man must take his place in the defence of his homeland.

Very many of our young men have already joined the ranks and even now some are actually engaged in the fighting line.

We had hoped to publish in this month's issue the names of those in the Army and Navy who have gone to the front from Seagoe Parish, but owing to the difficulty of ascertaining the names, we have postponed it to next issue.

We will be glad to publish extracts from letters from Seagoe men, serving at the front, although at present the censorship is so rigid that little or no news can reach us through the post.

Every woman in the Parish should do something to help the Red Cross work for the sick and wounded.

## SEND-OFF TO MAJOR BLACKER.

The realities of the War were brought home very vividly to the hearts and minds of the people of Seagoe when they heard that Major Blacker had been called up for active service, and would be leaving Carrickblacker on Monday, August 10th. It is a long time since a Churchwarden of Seagoe has been summoned away from the Parish to engage in active service against a foreign foe. It is doubtful if even in the dark days of Napoleon's projected invasion, Seagoe felt the touch of war so closely as last month.

As soon as it was known that Major Blacker was leaving, the Portadown Battalion of the Ulster Volunteers decided to give him a proper “send-off.” And not alone did the Volunteers turn out in full force but the factories closed down for the afternoon, and the workers crowded out into the streets to say farewell to the Major. Edenderry has seldom witnessed such a stirring sight. The Volunteers were drawn up along both sides of Railway Street, and behind them stood a solid block of men, and women, and children. About five o'clock Major Blacker's motor car turned into Railway Street. A great cheer rose from the crowd, and the Volunteers presented arms. The Carrickblacker Company, who are most closely associated with Major Blacker, were drawn up nearest to the station. Major Blacker was very much affected by the generous warmth of the demonstration, and



expressed his thanks before taking his place in the train. The Rev. G. Bloomer, Curate of Seagoe, was in the absence of the Rector, present on the platform to say good-bye to Major Blacker.

The people of Seagoe unite in wishing Major Blacker a prosperous campaign and a safe return.

Mrs. Blacker presided over a meeting in Portadown on Monday evening, August 24th, for the purpose of organising a Needlework Fund to provide comforts for our Soldiers and Sailors.

## AN INDIAN MUTINY VETERAN.

We have in our midst a veteran of the Indian Mutiny who some 60 years ago bravely fought the battles of his country against a fierce and savage foe. Mr. William Kennedy, of Kernan, served throughout the Indian Mutiny in the year 1857. He fought in the 27th Regiment, the old Inniskilling Fusiliers, under General Cotton, and helped to clear the Punjab of many Indian rebels. On one occasion while marching past a troop of rebels he received a gunshot wound in the leg. Mr. Kennedy is the proud possessor of the Mutiny Medal, and has many interesting tales to tell of that stirring time.

## THE DAY SCHOOLS.

The Day Schools at Seagoe and Hacknahay resumed work after the holidays on Monday, August 10th. The pupils were present in large numbers, and looked the picture of health after their pleasant holiday. The new Class Room in Seagoe has been furnished with a set of new desks of the most approved kind. Each desk is fitted for two children and the seat and desk front are movable. The desks are specially designed to enable the pupil to adopt a healthy and unstrained attitude while at work.

## HARVEST SERVICES.

A Harvest Thanksgiving Service will (D.V.) be held in Hacknahay School, on Sunday, Sept. 27th, at 3-30 p.m.; and on Monday, Sept. 28th, at 8 p.m.

The Harvest Services in the Parish Church have been arranged for Thursday, Oct. 8th, at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, October 11th, at 11-30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Further particulars regarding the Services will appear in our issue for next month.

## THE BIBLE CLASS.

The Men's Classes have been to a certain extent depleted by the fact that several members from each Class have been summoned to the Colours. If many of the Ulster Volunteers enlist, the numbers will be still further reduced, but all those who have to leave for this Cause will be marked as present each Sunday. The lessons our men have learned in the Classes will

help to make them better soldiers on the battle field. We hope that every man who goes from Seagoe to serve his King will ever remember that he is also a soldier in the army of the King of Kings. "Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a Crown of Life."

## Baptisms.

Baptized on August 1st 1914.

**Robinson** Anne Jane, daughter of Joseph and Mary Robinson, of Tamnificarbet.

*Sponsors*—Joseph Robinson, Mary Robinson.

**Quinn**—George, son of Rachel and Alexander Quinn, of Ballynaghy, Parish of Knocknamuckley.

*Sponsors*—Susanna Livingston, Rachel Quinn.

**Milligan**—On August 10th, 1914, Emily, daughter of Joseph and Mary Milligan, of Edenderry.

*Sponsors*—Dynes Atkinson, Mary Milligan.

## PRIVATELY BAPTIZED.

**Wilson**—On August 11th, 1914, Thomas, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Wilson, of Kernan.

**Pentland**—On August 16th, 1914, Maurice, son of Edward and Elizabeth Pentland, of Edenderry.

## Marriage.

**Craig and Irvine**—On August 21st, 1914, James Craig, of Lylo, to Elizabeth Irvine, of Belfast.

## Burials.

August 22nd, 1914, Maurice Pentland, aged 4 months.

## Offertories.

Sunday Morning	...	...	£10	0	11
Evening	...	...	2	11	4
Weekdays	...	...	0	12	1
Total,			...	£13	4 4

The pillars at Seagoe Church Gate have been covered with posters containing Royal Proclamations against Aliens, and also concerning the calling out of the Reserves.

\* \* \*

The Collections in Seagoe Parish Church on Sunday, August 23rd, in aid of the Prince of Wales' Relief Fund amounted to £6 8s 2d. The amount was sent direct to Buckingham Palace.

\* \* \*

The Special Insurance Collections at the Church door have now ceased, as the necessary amount of £21 has been raised. We thank all who so liberally assisted by their contributions.



# ITEMS.

A further portion of the Lurgan Road has been laid with tar macadam. We believe it is in contemplation to continue the work as far as Lurgan. The new method of tarring the roads abolishes dust, and gives the roads a beautifully smooth surface.

\* \* \*

It is interesting to know that the two men who have done more than any others to promote easy travelling by road were natives of Belfast—MacAdam who introduced the method of road making with broken stones, and Dunlop who invented the pneumatic. Mr. Loudon MacAdam introduced his system in 1819, in "Remarks on Road-making," and Mr. Dunlop invented the Pneumatic Tyre in 1888.

\* \* \*

A very handsome entrance gate is being erected near Seagoe Railway Crossing, as a means of approach to the new portion of Seagoe graveyard.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Gray, of Ashton Villa, and three of her family who left here in June for a holiday in Germany are unfortunately unable to return home or to communicate with their relatives, owing to the outbreak of the war. We hope that they will soon be set free from their present very unpleasant position.

\* \* \*

"Men in Khaki" are leaving Portadown by almost every train, and many affecting goodbyes are witnessed daily at the Station platforms.

\* \* \*

We hear it said that the Linen Trade is not likely to suffer much owing to the war, and that if the foreign Flax supply can be obtained there will probably be a boom in the Trade.

\* \* \*

The painting of the interior of the Church will be proceeded with immediately.

\* \* \*

The Annual Report is in print, and will be issued this month.

\* \* \*

Seagoe Choir will take part in the Choir Festival to be held in Lurgan Parish Church, on Saturday, 26th September, 1914, at 4 p.m.

\* \* \*

The railway line is being carefully guarded by men of the R.I.C. for fear of injury by German Spies.

\* \* \*

The guns of war were heard in Seagoe Parish, on Saturday, Aug. 29th. A resident in Kilvergan distinctly heard the cannonading off the Donegal coast. A northerly wind was blowing at the time.

\* \* \*

We hope that the evil habit of giving drink to soldiers leaving home will not be encouraged. It is a sad thing to see a young fellow under the influence of strong drink when he is saying good-bye—perhaps a last good-bye—to his home and friends. Lord Kitchener has issued a solemn warning to his men against the dangers of strong drink.

We congratulate Miss Dawson (daughter of Mr Thomas Dawson of Park Road) on her enterprise in taking over Stanley's Fruit Store. We are sure the parishioners of Seagoe will give her a liberal patronage in her new venture,

\* \* \*

Mr. Jones, of the "Portadown News," who has ably presided over the publication of the Seagoe Parish Magazine since its foundation nine years ago, has, we are glad to say, been able to return again to work after his serious illness.

\* \* \*

The Rev. Charles Reid, Rector of Thorne, Leslie and North Clarendon, Diocese of Montreal, has arrived in this country, and is staying with his relatives at Derrytrasna. Mr Reid, before his Ordination, engaged in Church work in Seagoe Parish on several occasions.

\* \* \*

Two misprints occurred in our last issue. We regret that Mr. Halliday Gracey's name was incorrectly printed "Harrison." The date of Major Blacker's Churchwardenship was given as 1913-14, instead of 1914-15.

\* \* \*

The very bright star visible each night in the South is Jupiter. Some nights recently have been so clear that it has been possible to see the disc of the planet. With the help of an ordinary field-glass observers can see the Moons of Jupiter. Usually three are visible circling round the planet.

\* \* \*

A Comet is now visible in the heavens between Gemini the Twins and the famous Constellation of the Plough or Great Bear.

## Old Seagoe Notes.

**Seagoe and the Library at Louvain.** The burning of the fine Library at Louvain last week by the Germans, with its store of precious manuscripts, will be remembered against them long after other details of the war are forgotten. It was a monstrous action on the part of a nation which prides itself on its culture and literary pre-eminence. Seagoe has an interest in Louvain because it was there that John Colgan in the 17th Century wrote the "Acta Sanctorum," or the Lives of the Irish Saints, compiled from ancient sources which have long since perished. Colgan's "Acta Sanctorum" contains the earliest authentic reference to the foundation of Seagoe, recording how it was founded by Goban near the banks of the river Bann as a place of prayer. The exact quotation in Latin was printed in these columns some months ago. We have heard that the manuscript of John Colgan's work was some time ago removed from Louvain to Dublin, so it is possible it may have escaped destruction at the hands of the Germans.



**A Visit to Enachloisgy or Annaloist.** We recently visited the site of the Old Church on Oxford Island, near Lurgan, in the townland of Annaloist, which was, as we recorded in a previous issue, annexed to Seagoe Parish in the year 1444. It was clearly at one period a self-contained ecclesiastical community. The island was separated from the mainland by a narrow channel which is now partly filled up. The approach was by a causeway, banked up to avoid flooding. On the island are to be traced the ruins of a residence house and garden, now known as Kilwilk Glebe, also a roomy building some distance from the house, which is now known as the Barn. At a short distance on the other side of the Glebe House there are the remains of a Corn Mill. The site of the Church and Graveyard can be traced, and is marked on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1845, but not a stone of the walls remains. It was no doubt an important settlement when Lough Neagh was the only channel of intercourse between the various districts in the old days before roads and railways.

**Illiteracy in Seagoe 1846.**—The state of Education in the Parish may be fairly estimated by a glance at the Registers of Marriage for any particular year. During the year 1846, there were 32 marriages in Seagoe Church 20 of the Bridegrooms were able to sign their names, 12 made their mark while only 6 of the brides signed their names, the remaining 26 being content with making their mark. It is now quite an exception for a bride or bridegroom to be unable to write their names.

**Seagoe in War time, 1803.**—During the Napoleonic wars the parish of Seagoe was called upon to help in defending the country, as is apparent from the following entry in the Parish Records. At a Vestry held in the Parish Church, Seagoe, on Tuesday, 19th July, 1803, Due notice having been given the Sunday before, it was unanimously agreed that the sum of Twopence per acre be levied off this Parish for the purpose of raising Six Men as Recruits for the Armagh Militia, that being the number ordered by the General Meeting of the Deputy Governors as the Quota of this Parish to complete the Regiment, or in the failure of so doing to be liable to a fine of Ten Pounds for each man so deficient, the surplus to be accounted for at a Vestry which shall be hereafter appointed for said purpose.

GEORGE BLACKER, Vicar.  
RICHARD LUTTON,  
ALEXANDER HICKLAND,

Churchwardens.

Thomas Robinson,  
John Best,

John Lavery,  
John Watson.

**The Building of the present Church.**—It is interesting at the present time to read in the Records that the first sum of money set apart for the building of the present Church was the Balance remaining

from the Levy for the Militia in 1803. The Record is as follows:—At a Vestry held in the Parish of Seagoe on Monday, 30th April, 1804, pursuant to adjournment, the late Churchwardens settled their accounts to the satisfaction of the present Churchwardens and other Parishioners, and have handed over into the hands of Robt. Fivey, Esqr., a balance amounting to Sixty six Pounds Two Shillings and Ten Pence sterling. After settling the account of the money laid on, on Tuesday, the 19th of July last, for the purpose of raising the Quota of this Parish for the Armagh Militia it appears by the statement of the Revd. George Blacker, by us examined and approved, that there is in hands a ballance of Forty Pounds, Five Shillings, and Three Pence sterling, which we agree shall be laid out along with other moneys for the Repairs of, or building a new Church, as hereafter may be approved of and appear necessary to the Parishioners.

GEORGE BLACKER, Vicar.  
ROBT. FIVEY,  
ARTHUR BUCKBY

Churchwardens.

[The figures are entered on the opposite page in the Rev. G. Blacker's writing.]

2d per acre for Militia amounts to	£71	4	4
Collecting the above	£3	11	3
Drawback of 3 Yeomen not paid	0	7	10
Four and $\frac{1}{2}$ Men raised at £6	27	0	0
	£30	19	1
	£40	5	3

**Churchwardens of Seagoe.**—(Continued).

- 1836—John Overend, Esq., of Edenderry.  
John Ruddell, Esq., of Ballynacor.  
1837—Mr. David Ruddell, of Ballynacor.  
Mr. Woolsey Atkinson, of Edenderry.  
1838—James Robinson, of Breagh.  
Joseph Gaskin, of Kilvergan.  
1839—Mr. John Midkiff, of Ballyhannon.  
Mr. James Walker, of Edenderry.

## NATURE'S HAIR RESTORER.

This Preparation will restore Grey Hair to its original Colour.

IT IS NOT A DYE.

But acts directly upon the roots of the Hair, therefore its effects are gradual. It removes dandruff and all impurities from the Head, and prevents the Hair from falling off. It promotes the growth and strength of the Hair, giving it the lustre and health of youth.

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