

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

MAY, 1906.

CLERGY :

RECTOR—REV. JAMES E. ARCHER, B.D.,
The Rectory, Seagoe.

CURATE—REV. JOHN TAYLOR, B.A.,
Seagoe Villa.

N.B.—The Clergy will feel greatly obliged if the Parishioners will notify to them any cases of illness at the earliest possible moment.

Churchwardens :

MR. ATKINSON COSTELLO, Carne.
MR. T. E. M'GUINNESS, Hacknahay.

Select Vestry :

ALBIN, MR. JAMES	MONTGOMERY, MR. J.
ATKINSON, MR. W. R.	MONTGOMERY, MR. T. J.
COSTELLO, MR. ANDREW	MURRAY, MR. J.
GRACEY, MR. ROBERT	M'DOWELL, MR. WM. J.
LAVERY, MR. J.	ROCK, MR. DAVID
MONRO, MR. JOSEPH	STEVENSON, MR. J. H.
ATKINSON, MR. W. R., Secretary and Treasurer.	

Easter Vestry.

THE annual meeting of the General Vestry of the Parish of Seagoe, was held in Seagoe School on Easter Tuesday, April 17th, at 7-30 p.m.

The chair was taken by the Rector,

and after the reading and signing of the minutes it was proposed that the meeting be adjourned as a mark of sympathy with our esteemed Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. R. Atkinson, on the occasion of the death of his eldest daughter, Miss Charlotte Atkinson. This was passed with many expressions of sincere sympathy, and the meeting then adjourned until Monday, April 23rd.

On Monday, April 23rd, the adjourned meeting of the General Vestry was held. There was a large attendance, including the Chairman (Rev. J. E. Archer), and the Rev. J. Taylor. After prayer and the reading of the minutes, the Rector gave a short address on the work of the Parish during the past year and the prospects for the coming year. He referred in sympathetic terms to the great loss the Parish had sustained in the resignation and death of its late Rector, the Very Rev. the Dean of Dromore.

The great and good work done by the Dean in restoring the Parish Church, and his unwearied diligence in Parochial duties, had established a lasting memorial which time could not efface; but the erection of a special memorial, recording the Dean's work and worth, was an object which he hoped would be taken in hand in the near future. In many departments of parish life progress was recorded. The congregations had considerably increased, and the offertories, though not yet quite what they might be, had been liberal. Special attention had been devoted to the Sunday Schools, and he was glad to say that both in attendance and efficiency there had been a marked improvement. The importance of the children being taught the habit of attendance at Public Worship was also being kept in view.

A Church Army Mission had been held during Lent throughout the whole Parish, and with gratifying spiritual results. The Mission was now being conducted by the Clergy and Church Army Evangelists each evening in the open air in the district of Edenderry. The Chairman thanked very heartily the out-going Churchwardens and Select Vestry for the great help they had given him in the work of the Parish, and he also acknowledged with much gratitude the splendid services rendered by the Rev. J. Taylor, Curate of the Parish, in all branches of Church work. They hoped to have a Church Mission in the Parish in the autumn, and he asked their heartfelt prayers for its success.

Mr. W. R. Atkinson then in a few words expressed his gratitude to the members of the Vestry for their kind resolution of sympathy with him and his family in their bereavement. In referring to the Finances of the Parish he said they were in a healthy condition, and there was a balance of £23. He proposed that £10 should be devoted to the debt on the Stable Fund, and hoped that an effort would be made that night to clear off the rest of the debt. We are glad to record that the debt on the Fund was practically cleared off before the meeting concluded.

The following elections were then made :—

Parochial Nominators—Major Stewart Blacker, Mr. W. R. Atkinson, and Mr. George Calvert.
Churchwardens—Rector's, Mr. Atkinson Costello; People's, Mr. T. E. M'Guinness.

Diocesan Synodsmen—Mr. W. R. Atkinson, Mr. G. Calvert, Mr. T. Martin, Mr. J. H. Stevenson.

Select Vestry—Messrs. W. R. Atkinson, Andrew Costello, J. Murray, J. Monroe, T. J. Montgomery, J. Lavery, J. H. Stevenson, R. Gracey, J. Montgomery, J. Albin, W. J. M'Dowell, D. Rock.

The following members of the retiring Vestry agreed not to seek re-election so as to make room for some new members—Messrs. G. Calvert, Wilson Irwin, and T. Martin.

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Sidesmen—Messrs. J. Murray, J. Montgomery, D. Rock, and D. Warnock.

Much regret was expressed at the retirement of the Rev. Canon Blacker from the position of Parochial Nominator which he held for so long a time, but we are glad to record that his son, Major Blacker, who is about to reside in Carrickblacker, was unanimously appointed in his place.

The meeting closed with the Benediction pronounced by the Chairman.

OFFERTORIES FOR APRIL.

	Morning			Evening		
	£	s	d	£	s	d
April 1st—5th Sun. in Lent	1	3	8	0	13	8
„ 8th—Sun. before Easter	1	2	8	0	14	7
„ Holy Week				0	8	2
„ 13th—Good Friday	0	5	0	0	2	7
„ 15th—Easter Day	0	6	10			
„ „ „ „	4	4	5			
„ „ „ „	0	9	6			
„ „ „ „ Children's Service				0	17	0
„ „ „ „				1	8	0
„ 22th—1st Sun. after Easter	0	18	6	0	10	0
	£8	10	7	£4	13	0

* * *

Thanks.

We acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions towards our Sunday School Funds—Rev. Canon Blacker, £1; Miss Macoun, 10s.

Sermon to Men.

There will be a Parade of the C.L.B. at the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, April 29th. A sermon will be preached by Rev. J. Taylor. All the men of the Parish are earnestly requested to attend the service.

Baptisms.

“As many of you as have been baptised into Christ, have put on Christ.”

- April 7th—Mary Ellen, daughter of Thomas and Mary Ruddell, Lisniskey
 „ „ Norman, son of George and Esther Fletcher, Carrickblacker Road
 „ „ Sarah Elizabeth Lennon, daughter of David and Letitia Rock, Hanover St, Portadown
 „ „ Valentine, son of Valentine and Amelia Carvill, Killycomain
 „ „ Henry, son of George and Mary Steenson, Meadow Lane
 „ „ Anna, daughter of Charles and Anna Fryar, Seagoe
 „ „ Ambrose, son of Alex. and Jane Eliza Hewitt, Tamnificarbet
 „ „ Amelia, daughter of Thomas Henry and Caroline Webb, Lylo
 „ „ John, son of John and Sarah Jane Weir, Killycomain
 „ 12th—Wm. John, son of Wm. and Mary Shanks, Kernan
 „ 16th—James, son of James and Margaret Flannigan, William Street, Portadown

Marriages.

“Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder.”

- April 16th—Samuel Alexander Grimason to Martha Jane Bailie, Edenderry
 „ „ William Thompson, Obin Street, Portadown, to Hannah Jane Shanks, Seagoe
 „ 18th—William Edward Webb, Edenderry, to Annie Conn, Dungannon Street, Portadown

Burials.

“I know that my Redeemer liveth.”

- April 3rd—Ellen Couser, Lurgan, aged 55.
 „ 2nd—Sarah Gracey, Drumgor, aged 90
 „ 4th—Richard Robinson, Seagoe, aged 65
 „ 4th—Eliza Gracey, Joseph Street, aged 29
 „ 15th—Wm, John Shanks, Kernan, 3 months
 „ 18th—Charlotte E. B. Atkinson, Edenvilla.
 „ 23rd—William George Lavery, Tarson, aged 52
 „ 24th—James Atkinson, Seagoe, aged 93.

Death has been busy in our midst during the past month, both among old and young, and many homes have been darkened by sorrow. Mrs. Gracey, of Drumgor, passed away in the fulness of years. We shall miss her much for her brightness and the pleasant recollections she could give of long past days. God has taken her to himself at a ripe old age, but she will be much and sadly missed. Miss Atkinson, of Eden Villa, has been called to her rest after a long period of suffering. On the evening of Easter Day, that Day which so much brightens the Shadow of Death, she found release from the burden of pain. So gentle, patient and peaceful a sufferer we have seldom seen, and we offer to her bereaved parents and relatives our deepest sympathy. Just as we go to press the sad news comes to us of the death of Mr. James Atkinson, of Seagoe, at the great age of 92 years. For almost 50 years he was a member of the Vestry of Seagoe, and also filled with diligence and success the difficult post of Hon. Sec. and Treasurer under the late Archdeacon Saurin, and then under the late Dean Dawson. Mr. Atkinson was ever ready to give of his best to the service of the Church. After this long period of faithful and willing service, God has now summoned him to his eternal reward. During an illness accompanied by much pain and weakness he was sustained by the Faith which had marked his whole life. We extend to his wife and family our very sincere sympathy, and we thank God for a life so full of Christian service and marked by so many evidences of heartfelt devotion to his Lord and Master. "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

To the Parents of the Parish.

DEAR FRIENDS,

It has been in our minds for some time to write you a letter through the Parish Magazine on a subject which has been engaging a great deal of our attention since we came to the Parish. The subject is the Morning Sunday School. The idea seems to have been in the past, that if the children attended the Afternoon Sunday School their obligation was at an end. This idea is an altogether wrong one. The morning School ought to be the principal one, and the children ought to be taught by you that they must give the first fruits of the Sunday to God. That is, by going to School in the morning and to Church afterwards. When the afternoon School is substituted they never enter the House of God at all, and there can be no doubt that the appalling number of non-church-goers in this Parish is due to the fact that as children they have not been trained in the habit of church-going.

When speaking to parents on this subject we are invariably met with two excuses. In the country we are often told that it is too far to Seagoe. Now

we do not consider that there is any part of the Parish too far away for any children above the infant class to come to Sunday School if they start in time. These parents seem to forget that if the children are allowed to stay at home in the morning they run about a great deal more than would take them to Seagoe. Another excuse is that they are too tired on Sunday morning to get up and dress the children. But our religion is nothing if it does not cost us some self-denial. Remember what our Saviour said, who was never weary in well-doing—"He that will not deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me, cannot be My disciple." To be entrusted with children by Almighty God is the most solemn responsibility that could rest on human shoulders. You have been given into your care beings with immortal souls to be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Think of what a terrible thing it would be if those children rose up at the last day to condemn you as having neglected to bring them up in the way they should go, which they will certainly do if you fail in your duty towards them. You solemnly promised at their Baptism that you would have them instructed in the Church Catechism and that they should hear sermons. Are you carrying out your promise?

Let us plead with you as your Spiritual Pastors not to allow your children to be absent from Sunday School, morning and afternoon, and see that they go to Church afterwards. If you fail in this, your children may grow up to be a curse to you and not a blessing.

In conclusion, let us say that you must attend the House of God regularly yourselves, so as to teach your little ones by your example.

Believe us,

Your Faithful Pastors,

J. E. ARCHER,

J. TAYLOR.

P.S.—Would those parents who get this Magazine kindly pass it on to others, so that all may see this letter.

Our Easter Services.

The Church was very bright and pretty at Easter time. Willing hands had most tastefully decorated it with Easter flowers, and with the large congregations, hearty music and anthem and fine weather, we could join in the gladness of Easter joy. In the afternoon we had a very largely attended Children's Service, the spacious nave was crowded with children from all parts of the Parish. Nice hymns were sung and Captain Gaskell sang very sweetly as a solo, "Shall we gather at the river" the children joining heartily in the refrain. The prayers were said by the Rev. John Taylor, and the Rector gave a short address on "Stones rolled away."

We thank Miss Armstrong, Mrs. Ruck, and Miss Irwin very heartily for their kindness in decorating the Church and for their gifts of flowers.

Church Army Mission.

Since the publication of the last number of the Magazine, the Church Army has been continuing its good work in various parts of the Parish. Seagoe, Hacknahay, and Edenderry have been favoured. The attendance at the various meetings was good, and Captain Gaskell's addresses were very earnest. His soul-stirring words ought to find an echo in many a heart hitherto untouched by the Saviour's love.

A new departure was made in Hacknahay and Edenderry in having some of the meetings in the open air. Various streets of the latter district have been visited, and the residents showed their appreciation by the numbers which attended and listened with devoted attention. We earnestly pray that the lessons which they heard may be the means of bringing many to the side of Christ and, forsaking the fleeting enjoyments of a passing world, may cause them to become loyal to Jesus Christ and to His Church.

Last month an interesting meeting was held in the Waiting Room at the Railway Station. Thirty of the men employed in various branches of railway work attended. Several hymns were very heartily sung, and a short practical address on the question, "What shall I do?" was given by Captain Gaskell. The Rector presided and expressed his pleasure at seeing so many of the men at the meeting. It is hoped from time to time to hold similar gatherings.

Service of Song.

A very successful Service of Song, entitled—"The Lion-hearted Bishop," was given by the members of Miss Armstrong's Missionary Class, in the Parochial Hall, on Thursday evening, April 19th. The Hall was crowded with a most interested audience, and all were delighted with the singing of the beautiful music which accompanied the Service. The good time and tune and excellent voice of the singers reflect great credit on Miss Armstrong, who had spared no pains to make the Service a great success. The readings were given by the Rev. J. Taylor, and the slides were shown by the Rector. The proceeds were devoted towards the expenses of the Hall.

Notes on Old Seagoe.

N.B.—Through pressure on our space we have to hold over our notes until next month.

Excursion to Newcastle.

Secure your Tickets at once for the Newcastle Excursion. They are now on sale at the leading shops in Portadown, price 2/- each.

Mr. Joseph Monroe, our valued superintendent in Levaghery School, has been ill recently, but is now, we are glad to say, much stronger.

Items.

We heartily congratulate Mr. Robert Montgomery on being awarded First Prize in Ireland for the best arranged shop window. The competition was organised by the Grocers' Association.

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A combined Parade of the three local companies of the C.L.B., Seagoe, St. Mark's, and Drumcree, took place in Drumcree Parish Church on Sunday evening, April 22nd. Over 100 lads took place in the magnificent turn-out.

* *

We congratulate Miss Armstrong's Women's Bible Class on having provided four new teachers for Edenderry Sunday School.

* *

The solos in our Easter Anthems were excellently rendered by Mr. David Murray and Master Nicholas England.

* *

Mr. Robert Sweeney, of Hotikita, Woodstock, Westland, New Zealand, is on a visit to the Parish after an absence of thirty years. Mr. Sweeney has engaged extensively in gold mining. He has also, we are glad to say, engaged actively in Church work, having been Select Vestryman and Churchwarden in his Parish Church in that Colony.

* *

We are sorry to hear that Miss Wade has not been very well lately, but hope she may soon be restored to health.

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