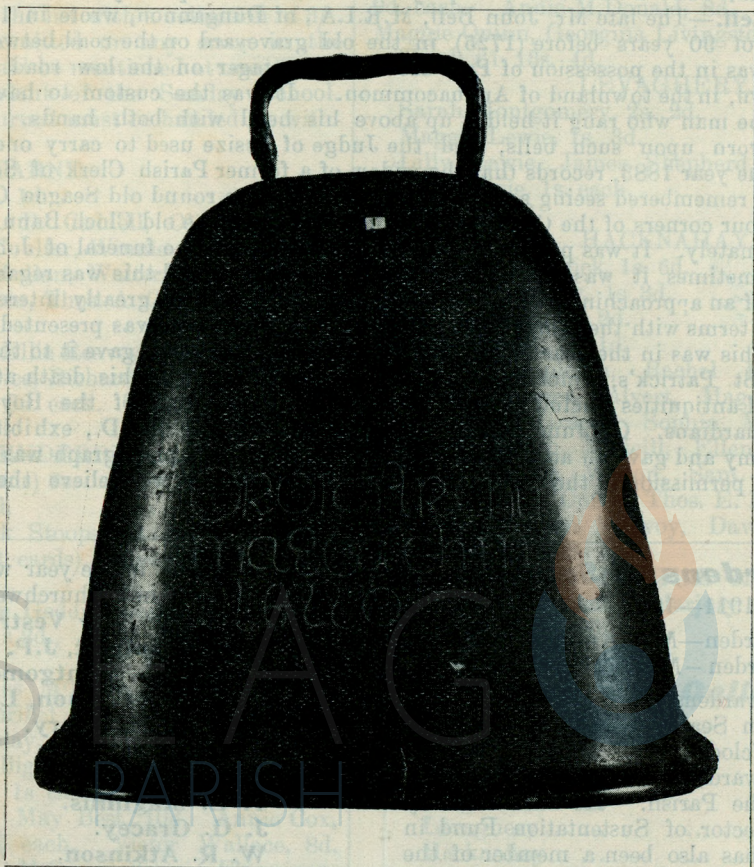


# Seagoe Parish Magazine.

MAY 1911.



## THE CLOCH-BANN.



WE PRESENT our readers this month with a photograph of the Cloch Bann or Sacred Bell which is undoubtedly the most ancient relic in existence connected with the parish and neighbourhood of Seagoe. It is exactly 1,000 years old, so that it is 150 years older than the British Constitution, which is usually said to have come into existence in A.D. 1066, whereas the old bell was made about A.D. 904. The Bell is at present to be seen in the room containing the collection of Irish antiquities in the Museum in Kildare Street, Dublin. It is a hand-bell. Its height is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches, including the handle, and the width of the mouth is 11 inches by 8 inches. It is of an oblong form, quadrangular, the four corners being rounded off. The body is composed of light-coloured bronze, and the handle and tongue are of iron. A small hole in each of the two flat sides has been drilled through the metal. There is a slight crack near the mouth, and a small piece has been clipped out. The Bell, save for this small defect, is in good preservation.

There are eighteen other bells of a similar kind in the Museum in Kildare Street, but this is one of the finest and most remarkable. The age of the Bell can be determined from an inscription on it in ancient Irish characters (faintly seen in the photograph). The inscription is in three lines, deeply incised, and at the beginning of it there is a small cross. The letters are not divided into words, and are as follows:—**OROI TARCHUN | MASCACHAM | AILELLO** | Several different translations of these letters have been suggested. The first is "Pray for Cumuscach, the son of Ailill." This Cumuscach was an official in Armagh Cathedral, and is recorded in the "Annals of the Four Masters" to have died in the year A.D.



904. His mother, who was named Gormlaith, was a daughter of Muirdeach, King of Ulster. The above is the meaning assigned to the inscription by the Rev. Dr. Petrie, a famous Irish scholar, in Trinity College, Dublin. In 1816, Mr. John Dunn, in the *Newry Reporter*, suggested that it might be translated "Christ a King who shaped my frame to sing Alleluia." Another translation suggested by a Mr. Wilson, a Scottish antiquarian, runs as follows—"A prayer for Him who shaped my frame to sacred Alleluia."

**History of the Bell.**—The late Mr. John Bell, M.R.I.A., of Dungannon, wrote in 1815 that the Bell was found upwards of 90 years before (1725) in the old graveyard on the road between Tandragee and Scarva. In 1815 it was in the possession of Paul Hennon, a cottager on the low road half way between Lurgan and Portadown, in the townland of Aughacomon. It was the custom to have the Bell rung in front of funerals. The man who rang it held it up above his head with both hands. In ancient times oaths used to be sworn upon such bells, and the Judge of Assize used to carry one with him. Dean Dawson, writing in the year 1883, records that the widow of a former Parish Clerk of Seagoe, then living and in her 94th year, remembered seeing a coffin being carried thrice round old Seagoe Church, and being made to touch the four corners of the Church at each round, whilst the old Cloch-Bann was rung, and the Keeners chanted alternately. It was publicly used for the last time at the funeral of John Hennon, about the year 1836. Sometimes it was said that the Bell "sweated," and this was regarded with a kind of dread as a sure sign of an approaching death. Archdeacon Saurin became greatly interested in the Bell, and being on friendly terms with the family who had it in their possession was presented with it as a token of their gratitude. This was in the year 1839. In 1840 Archdeacon Saurin gave it to the Very Rev. Henry R. Dawson, Dean of St. Patrick's, a most distinguished antiquarian, and on his death at an early age, in 1842, his collection of antiquities (including the Bell) passed into the hands of the Royal Irish Academy who are its present guardians. On June 22nd, 1840, Rev. Dr. Petrie, F.T.C.D., exhibited the Bell at a meeting of the Academy and gave an account of its history. The above photograph was obtained for this Magazine by the kind permission of the Council of the Academy, and is we believe the only photograph ever taken of it.

### **Churchwardens of Seagoe.**

1911—12.

Rector's Churchwarden—**Mr. Andrew Costello.**  
Peoples' Churchwarden—**Mr. Robert Gracey.**

The new Churchwardens were appointed at the Easter Vestry held in Seagoe School on Thursday, April 20th, at 8 o'clock. Mr. Andrew Costello, the Rector's Churchwarden, is held in very high esteem throughout the Parish. He has for many years acted as a collector of Sustentation Fund in Tannificarbet. He has also been a member of the Select Vestry, and has in many other ways given very valuable assistance in the work of the Church. He is a brother of Mr. Atkinson Costello, of Carne, who acted as Churchwarden in the year 1906. The family of Costello have for a long time resided in the Parish. The first mention of the name in the Registers occurs in the year 1796, when the burial of Richard Costley (Costello) is recorded.

Mr. Robert Gracey, the new People's Churchwarden, is very well known throughout the Parish for his kindly disposition and the keen interest he has ever shown in the welfare of Seagoe. He has been elected on the Select Vestry continuously for many years past, and has also occupied the important post of Sustentation Fund Collector for Balteagh for a long time. Last winter he most generously entertained at his own expense the children of Drumgor Sunday School, and he has recently offered to bring stones from his Quarry to build a Church Hall in Drumgor at a nominal sum. The Graceys, like the Costellos, are an old Seagoe stock. The name first occurs in the Registers in the year 1771, when the Baptism of one Sarah Gracey is

recorded. Later on in the year we hope to publish photographs of the new Churchwardens.

#### **The New Vestry.**

**George Calvert, J.P.**  
**Thomas J. Montgomery.**  
**Thos. J. Atkinson, LL.B.**  
**John Montgomery.**  
**Charles Collins.**  
**Thos. Martin.**  
**T. E. Maginnis.**  
**J. G. Gracey.**  
**W. R. Atkinson.**  
**David Rock.**  
**Joseph Murray.**  
**Joseph Monroe.**

There was a good attendance of the General Vestry present for the election of the Select Vestry, and much interest was shown in the proceedings. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Choir for their kind help during the year, and the hearty thanks of the Vestry were given to the Belfast Theological Society, who, during the past 2½ years, have assisted at the Sunday evening District Services each Sunday.

The question of having a new Heating Apparatus in the Church was discussed, and it was decided that Messrs. W. R. Atkinson and George Calvert should make a tour of the Parish in the near future to ascertain the feelings of the Parishioners and to obtain subscriptions. We believe everyone will be glad to contribute towards this very necessary improvement.

The following were appointed SIDESMEN for the year:—**Messrs. C. Collins, T. Reid, W. R. Bickett, and J. H. Stevenson.**



**Easter Penny Cards.**

The "Shilling" Cards have proved very successful. Over £6 was presented in the offertory at the Children's Service on Easter Sunday, and this has been largely added to since then. Alick Graham, an Edenderry boy, heads the list with a collection of 3/-. If there is any name omitted or any error in the following list it should be mentioned at once to the Teacher or Superintendent of the Sunday School. Any Cards not yet returned must be handed in without further delay.

**CARNE.**

Adelaide Murray 1s. 1d.

Emma Lavery, H. B. Caddell, Olivia Roland, Lottie Roland, Thos. Coulter, Winnie Coulter, Rosie Coulter, Jeannie M'Mullan, Walter Currie, Thos. M'Mullan, W. M'Mullan, Thos. A. Caddell, M. Reid 1s. each.

Atkinson Connolly, Ellie Reavey 10d. each. S. J. Coulter 7d. Sarah Price, Richard G. Price, Maggie Simpson, Joseph Reid 6d. each. T. R—— 5d.

Total, 18s. 9d.

**EDENDERRY.**

Alick Graham (3 cards) 8s.

Minnie Gates, 2s. 6d.

Lucy Dawson, Jack Stoops (2 cards), Maggie Ellis, May Hynds (2 cards), Eva Fox (2 cards), 2s. each.

Maggie Magee, Ellie Geddis (2 cards) 1s. 3d each.

Florrie Templeton 1s 2d.,

William Cox, 1s 1d.

Arthur Allen, James M'Nally, Kathleen Moore, Robert Grimason, Floribel Best, Mary Long, Wm. Whaley, Miss S. Halliday, Miss Frazer, Wm. Hynds, Annie Best, Isaac Milligan, Emma Webb, Maggie Ford, Miriam Holmes, 1s each.

William Best, 11d. May Best, 10d. Annie Cox, Jemima Matchett, 9d each. Victor Wallace, 8d. Jack Hynes, Minnie M'Crory, Teenie Flannigan, Ellen Flannigan, 7d. each. Susan Cartmill, Edith Haire, Jeannie Cummins, Emily Cox, George Weir, 6d each. Tom Cartmill, R. Flannigan, 5d. each. William Coulter, 4d. Richard Porter, Wm. Gracey, Maria Magee, Sam Roney, 3d each. Mary Best.—  
Total, £2 6s. 2d.

**DRUMGOR.**

Sarah J. Quaile, 1s 4d.

Sarah Gracey, Lizzie Stevenson, David W. Best, Dina Russell, Becca Russell, Mary Martin, Lena Holmes, Emma Martin, Madge Gracey, Julia Hoy, 1s each.

Sam Stevenson, 8d. May Gardiner, 7d. Minnie Dickson, Maggie Turner 6d. each. Teenie Anderson, 5d. Hannah Anderson, 2d.

Total, 14s. 2d.

**SEAGOE.**

Moses M'Kerr (2 cards), Isabella Best, Emma Reid, May Best, 2s. each.

Lizzie Ford, Willie Holland, George Porter, Henrietta Porter, Jane M'Kee, Selina M'Cormick, Lizzie M'Clelland, Florrie Webb, Nellie Best, J.

M'Cormick, Maggie Best, Herbert Livingston, James M'Donald, Martha Porter, Eva Reid, Ethel Forsythe, Wm. J. M'Loughlin, Lizzie Dickson, Sarah Dickson, Tom Porter, Eva Neill, 1s. each.

Wm. John Quinn, Minnie Watson, Amy Porter, 9d. each. Annie M'Donald, 8d. Ellie Elliott, 7d. Maggie Quinn, Georgina Livingston, 5d each.

Total, £1 13s. 4d.

**LEVAGHERY.**

Sarah Montgomery, 2s. 2d.

Maggie Lewie, 1s. 3d.

Lilly Lewie, James Shepherd, Geo. Bradshaw, Minnie Lewie, 1s. each.

Total, 7s. 5d.

**HACKNAHAY.**

Minnie M'Cormick, 1s. 6d.

Willie M'Murray, 1s 3d.

Minnie Black, 1s. 2d.

Mary Flavell, 1s. 1d.

Rachel Templeton, Rachel Robinson, Rachel England, Rebecca Calvert, Maggie Neill, Rachel Black, Anna Gracey, Sophia M'Murray, Minnie England, Judith M'Neill, Ellen England, Ellen M'Kane, Sophia Wilson, Sam Jennett, Edward Calvert, Geo. H. Currie, Thos. E. Maginnis, Richard Sturgeon, William M'Evoy, David M'Kane, Miss Stevenson, 1s. each.

Sarah Cooke, 10d. Edith M'Murray, Jas. H. M'Grattan, 9d. each. Marjory Calvert, Hannah M'Murray, 6d. each.

Total, £1 9s. 4d.

**Summary of Collection.**

Carne	...	...	£0 18 9
Edenderry	...	...	2 6 2
Drumgor	...	...	0 14 2
Seagoe	...	...	1 13 4
Levaghery	...	...	0 7 5
Hacknahay	...	...	1 9 4
On Plate, Children's Service	...	...	0 4 5½
			£7 13 7½

**Hacknahay Day School.**

At an examination held in the School before the Easter Holidays the following children especially distinguished themselves:—Class VI.—Lily England, Florence Stevenson. Class V.—Mary Flavell. Class IV.—Eileen M'Kane, Robert Lunn. Class III.—David Thompson, William Jennett. Class II.—Edward Calvert, William M'Evoy, Marjorie Calvert. Juniors—Eliza Thompson, Ruby Calvert, Annie Currie, Sarah Currie, Matilda Mayes, Rachel Fowler, David M'Evoy, Alexander Gillespie, John Quinn.

**Personal.**

Many of our readers will be glad to know the new address of the Misses Dawson, and some, no doubt, will write to them—Miss Dawson, Collegio Ingles, Alberdi Est, Sarratea, Rosario de Sta Fe, Argentina, South America. A very important thing to remem-



ber is that the postage on a letter to South America is 2½d, and on a postcard 1d, and on the Magazine 2d.

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Mr. Ruck, of Peacefield, has written a very interesting and useful pamphlet (price 6d.) on Cider and Apple culture. Our farmers and all interested in Orchards should buy it. It is on sale at Mr. Waugh's, Bookseller, Portadown. Mr. Ruck says (page 8,) "I feel that the soil and climate here are more suitable for the growth of apples than any part of England I have ever been accustomed to." Farmers in Seagoe should note this and act on it. There are two fine photographs in the pamphlet, one of the famous apple Cowrane Red, and the other of the Holmore pear.

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The Rev. E. Jennings, formerly Curate of Seagoe, has been appointed to the Curacy of Dingle, Co. Kerry. Mr. Jenninge has been recently married, and we are sure his many friends in Seagoe Parish wish him much happiness in his new sphere of life.

\* \*

Enterprise in Seagoe.—We congratulate the Messrs. Wilson, of Lisnisky, on their enterprise in securing a Motor Lorry of 35 horse power for their increasing carrying business between Portadown and Belfast. The machine runs very smoothly, and can carry three tons of cargo at a good speed.

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The Misses Templeton of Ballymacrandle have been appointed under the Agricultural Department to take charge of a depot for the distribution of eggs for hatching. A splendid flock of Aylesbury ducks has been imported by them from England. Settings of eggs can be had at a very moderate charge.

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The new Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore (Right Rev. C. F. Darcy, D.D.) will be enthroned in Belfast Cathedral on Tuesday, May 9th, at 3 o'clock. This will be a most interesting service. We hope some of our Seagoe Church people will attend. The Bishop will be enthroned in the ancient Cathedral of Dromore on May 16th, at 3 o'clock.

### Presentation.

Last month we had the pleasure of recording two presentations in the Parish, and this month we have to record another. On Friday, April 21st, Miss Armstrong received a handsome illuminated address, accompanied by the gift of a valuable Secrétaire or Writing Desk from the members of the Edenderry G.F.S., and of her Sunday Morning Bible Class. The presentation was made by Mrs. Hadden on behalf of the girls. It was a very pleasant evening and the affectionate regard of the girls for their kind teacher was very noticeable. Mrs. J. H. Stevenson made a very appropriate and eloquent speech expressing how much they all appreciated Miss Armstrong's good work in the parish. The address, and Miss Armstrong's reply have appeared in the "Portadown News." We regret we have not space to insert them here.

### Nature Notes.

The following have been the first in the Parish to hear and see the Summer migrants:—

- April 12th—First Swallow—Mr. John Hunter, at Knock.
- „ 17th—Swallows seen by Howard Stevenson, pupil in Seagoe Day School.
- „ 14th—Cuckoo heard by Miss L. Williamson at Killicomaine.
- „ 14th—Corncrake heard by Mr. Robert Gracey at Drumgor.

### Remember

- May 15th, Monday—Missionary Address in Edenderry Hall by Rev. W. F. Gray, at 8.
- May 27th, Saturday—Choral Festival Service in Seagoe Church, at 4. Preacher—Very Rev. H. McClinton, Dean of Armagh.
- June 13th, Tuesday—Sunday School Excursion.

### Hymns for May.

May 7th. Morning—	9,	192,	199,	360.
„ Evening—	43,	193,	367,	423, 17
May 14th. Morning—	30,	330,	343 (pt 3)	388
„ Evening—	44,	314,	237,	510, 639
May 21st. Morning—	32,	315,	455,	619,
„ Evening—	48,	333,	550,	423, 332
May 28th. Morning—	42,	217,	200,	378,
„ Evening—	50,	631,	496,	277, 542
May 25th. Ascension Day—	205,	204,	208.	

### Offertories During April.

Morning—£10 5s. 11d. Evening—£5 2s. 10.

### Baptisms.

"My Covenant will I not break."

- April 1st—Zena Pearl, daughter of George Edward and Minnie Best.
- „ William Stewart, son of Robert John and Martha Humphries.
- April 16th—John, son of David and Anne Johnston.

### Marriages.

"In the house of the righteous is much treasure."

- April 1st—Benjamin Webb, Edenderry, to Minnie Toner, Edenderry.
- May 2nd—George Montgomery, Portadown, to Margaret Neill, Drumlisnagrilley.

### Burials.

"All things come to an end."

- April 10th—Mary Lynas, Carne, aged 72 years.
- „ 18th—William Serjeant, Lylo, aged 78 years.
- „ 28th—Mary Walker, Belfast, aged 42 years.
- May 2nd—William Bickett, Drumgor, aged 75 yrs.

A splendid Physical Culture Competition took place in Edenderry Hall on Thursday, April 6th. There was a crowded attendance. The Seagoe team came out victorious. Miss Armstrong kindly distributed the medals.

The Easter Services this year were exceptionally bright and well attended. There were 105 Communicants, a larger number than at any recent Easter Service. The Church was handsomely decorated.