

Seagoe Parish Magazine.

OCTOBER, 1935.

CLERGY :

Rev. Chancellor Archer, B.D., The Rectory, Seagoe.

Rev. W. F. Hayes, B.A., The Bungalow, Lower Seagoe, Portadown.

CHURCHWARDENS :

Rector's—Mr. H. MURRAY GIBSON.

People's—Mr. THOMAS MARTIN.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services.

The annual Services of Thanksgiving for the Blessings of Harvest will (D.V.) be held in the Parish Church on Thursday, October 24th, at 8 p.m., and on the following Sunday, October 27th, at 11.30 a.m., and 7 p.m. Special music has been arranged for the Services. The Rev. G. C. Johnston, M.A., Rector of Magherally, will preach at the Service on Thursday, and the offerings will be given to Foreign Missions. On Sunday, at the 11.30 a.m. Service the preacher will be the Very Rev. E. A. Myles, M.A., Dean of Dromore, Rector of Tullylish. At Evening Prayer the Rev. Thomas Parr, M.A., Rector of Seapatrik, will preach. The offerings at the Services on Sunday will be on behalf of the Parochial Fund for the upkeep of the Church and its services.

District Harvest Services.

District Harvest Services will be held on the following dates:—

Levaghery—Sunday, Oct. 6th, at 3.30.

„ Monday, Oct. 7th, at 8.

Drumgor—Sunday, Oct. 13th, at 3.30.

„ Monday, Oct. 14th, at 8.

Carne—Sunday, Oct. 20th, at 3.30.

„ Monday, Oct. 21st, at 8.

Edenderry—Sunday, Nov. 3rd, at 3.30.

„ Monday, Nov. 4th, at 8.

The collections at these Services on the Sundays will be given to the local Sunday School Fund, and on the Mondays to Foreign Missions. The Rev. B. de G. Loughheed, B.A., Curate of Seapatrik, will preach in Levaghery on Sunday, October 6th, and on Monday evening the Rev. E. Burns, M.A., Rector of Aghaderg, Loughbrickland, will be the preacher.

Bocombra Harvest Services.

The first of the district Harvest Services was held in the Bocombra Church Hall on Sunday, September 22nd, at 3.30. The Hall was very nicely decorated with splendid samples of flowers, fruit and vegetables. The preacher was the Rev.

F. McCulloch, Curate of Shankill, Lurgan. There was a very large congregation, who joined heartily in the Service. Miss Hilda Walker presided at the organ, and a solo was sung by Miss Clara Kirby. On the following Monday evening the Service was continued. The Rev. J. G. Sandford, Curate of Ballinderry, was the preacher. The offerings were on behalf of Foreign Missions.

Harvest at Hacknahay.

Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held in Hacknahay on Sunday, September 29th, at 3.30, and on the following Monday at 8 p.m. The School was very prettily decorated. The large congregations at both Services joined heartily in the singing and in answering the responses. Mr. T. H. Wilson, organist of Seagoe, presided at the harmonium and arranged the musical part of the Service. The Rev. J. Hamilton, B.A., Curate of Donagheloney, Waringstown, was the preacher on Sunday afternoon. On Monday evening the Rev. Canon Orr, LL.D., Rector of Gilford, preached. The offerings were on behalf of Foreign Missions.

The Mothers' Union.

A meeting of the Mothers' Union was held in Seagoe School on Tuesday evening, September 10th, at 7.30. It was the first meeting of the year. There was a very large gathering. The Rev. Canon Taylor, Rector of Lisburn, addressed the mothers. The Rev. W. H. Ruddock, Rector of Broomhedge, was also present. Canon Taylor expressed regret at the Rector's illness and deep gratitude on the recovery which he was making. In the course of a very practical and stirring address based on the faithfulness of Naomi and Ruth, Canon Taylor stressed the great privileges and responsibilities which are shared by the members of the organisation. He emphasised their need for the continual deepening of their spiritual lives, both privately and in the public worship of their Church. Especially he urged that they should not neglect the Church's great Service of Witness, the Holy Communion. After tea, Mrs. J. H. Twinem, the President, thanked Canon Taylor for so kindly coming to speak to the members. The Rev. W. F. Hayes also thanked him on behalf of the Rector. The next meeting of the Mothers' Union will be held in Seagoe School on Tuesday, October 8th, at 7.30. An address will be given by Mrs. A. G. Hannon, Shankill Rectory, Lurgan.

C. L. B.

A very enjoyable social was held in the Parochial Hall, Edenderry, on Thursday, September 5th, at 7.30 p.m. Twenty-eight members of the Training Corps were present. The tables were laden with a very plentiful supply of tea and cake which quickly disappeared. After tea, the boys joined vigorously in community singing. Games were conducted by Lieut. W. Currie, Sergeant-Major Allen and Mr. H. Hynes. A most amusing football sketch was rendered by Privates Kenneth Pentland and Alan Jennett. An O'Grady drill down was conducted by Capt. Mitchell. At the close Rev. W. F. Hayes spoke to the Lads and said the Brigade Prayer.

!Congratulations.

We offer our hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. George M'Neill, of Ballymacrandle, on the occasion of their Silver Wedding. We wish that they may continue to enjoy many years of happiness.

Service in Edenderry.

A Service will be held in the Parochial Hall, Edenderry, at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9th. That Service will be held on each Wednesday throughout the winter months. The Parochial Hall is within easy reach of those residing in the populous townlands of Edenderry, Levaghery, Killicomaine and Seagoe. It is hoped that many will avail themselves of this mid-week privilege of joining in these bright services.

Resolutions of Sympathy.

At the last meeting of the Mothers' Union and of the Select Vestry resolutions of sympathy were passed with Mrs. Blacker on the sad death of her husband, Lieut.-Col. S. W. W. Blacker.

Edenderry Parochial Hall.

Very necessary improvements have been carried out in the Parochial Hall, Edenderry. The heating installation has been thoroughly overlooked and renovated. A new brick structure has taken the place of the outworn sheet iron casing that enclosed the coil of the pipes in the heating chamber. Other improvements are to be made in the near future. As there is no special fund to meet this necessary expenditure the Hall Committee are asking for subscriptions to defray this outlay. The following list of subscriptions have been received up to the 2nd October:—William Sherman, 10s; Miss Calvert, 10s; James Lewie, 10s; Mrs. Vance, 10s; Hugh Stoops, 5s; George Gracey, 5s; W. A. Casey, 5s; David Rock, 5s; Mrs. Waters, 2s 6d; W. Metcalf, 2s 6d; R. Hoy, 2s; Mrs. Reid, 2s 6d; Mrs. James Allen, 2s 6d; Mrs. Wolsey Atkinson, 10s; Miss G. E. Atkinson, 10s; James Twinem, 5s; James Sands, 5s; John Hoy, 5s; Miss Atkinson, £1; Robert M'Clements, 10s; Mrs.

M'Clements, 5s; Miss M'Clements, 5s; W. M'Clements, 5s; Mrs. W. M'Clements, 5s; A Friend, 5s; Charles Montgomery, 10s; Miss Nora K. Montgomery, 10s; Miss Sarah Dawson, 10s; John H. Twinem, 5s; John R. Reid, 2s 6d; James Wightman, 5s; Rev. Chancellor Archer, 10s.

Parish Register for September. Baptisms

The following were baptised in the Parish Church on September 7th, 1935:—

M'Nally—Brian, son of Richard and Margaret M'Nally, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Elizabeth Milligan, Margaret M'Nally.

Liggett—Martha Iris Gwyneth, daughter of Isaac and Josephine Liggett, of Edenderry.

Sponsors—Margaret M'Nally, Josephine Liggett.

Nesbitt—Kenneth Harold, son of Thomas and Susan Nesbitt, of Levaghery.

Sponsors—Edith M'Keown, Susan Nesbitt.

Elliott—William Victor Chamberlain, son of William and Ellen Elliott, of Seagoe Upper.

Sponsors—William Cox, William Elliott and Maria Elizabeth Cox.

Marriage.

Craig and Livingston—September 21st, 1935, Desmond Craig, of 3 Victoria Terrace, Portadown, to Irene Maud Livingston, of Edenderry.

Silver Wedding.

M'Neill and Fleming—July 8th, 1910, Samuel George M'Neill, Edenderry, to Elizabeth Anna Fleming, of Edenderry.

Death.

Blacker—September 6th, suddenly, at Seatown, Dorset, Stewart W. W. Blacker, Lieutenant-Colonel, of Carrick-Blacker and Woodbrook, Co. Wexford, aged 70 years.

Burials.

Gillis—September 8th, 1935, James Gillis, of Edenderry, aged 66 years. Interred at Drumcree.

Ewing—September 11th, 1935, William Ewing, of Newry, aged 87 years.

Campbell—September 14th, 1935, Ellen Margaret Campbell, of Edenderry, aged 80 years.

Whiteside—September 15th, 1935, Harold Geo. Whiteside, of Edenderry, aged 6 years.

Dickey—September 18th, 1935, Thomas Dickey, of Edenderry, aged 1 year 10 months.

Hearon—September 22nd, 1935, Ralph Hearon, of Killicomaine, aged 68 years.

Simpson—September 23rd, 1935, Sarah Anne Simpson, of Ballinacor, aged 76 years.

Death of Lt.-Col. Blacker.

We record with the deepest regret the death of Lieut.-Col. Blacker, which occurred under tragic circumstances at Seatown, Dorset, on Friday, Sept. 6th. Lieut.-Col. Blacker had been enjoying a bathe in company with some of his relatives, and Mrs. Blacker was seated in a tent near-by. He had just come out of the water and was vigorously drying himself on the shore, when he suddenly fell backward in a faint. When Mrs. Blacker and his relatives came to him he was found to be actually beyond human aid. We express our deepest sympathy with Mrs. Blacker and the members of her family in their tragic bereavement.

For many years Colonel Blacker resided in our midst, and in the strenuous times of the Volunteers and the Great War he gave up all his time and his attention to the service of his country. "Our loyalty is not for barter," were his great and strenuous words when the War broke out. We give here a description of his funeral, taken from the columns of "The Bridport News" of Friday, September 13th.

"A deep sense of sadness overshadowed the picturesque village of Chideock on Friday morning when it became known that Lieut.-Colonel Stewart William Ward Blacker, D.S.O., D.L., J.P., of the Manor House, had passed away with tragic suddenness.

"In the early morning he had visited Bridport and after shopping in the town returned to the Manor in company with a friend, Major Pym, who was staying with the family. Later, with Mrs. Blacker and his daughter, Miss Joan Blacker, he proceeded to the beach at Seatown, where he took his customary bathe in the open sea.

"He had only left the water a short time when, to the horror of those present, Col. Blacker was seen to collapse. A message was at once sent summoning Dr. J. C. T. Sanctuary, of Bridport, and stimulants were fetched, but in the meantime death had supervened.

"The body was afterwards removed to Bridport by motor ambulance and later in the day, on the instruction of the Coroner for West Dorset (Mr. S. Edgar Howard) a post mortem examination was performed by Dr. Sanctuary. This revealed that death was due to natural causes, and under the circumstances an inquest was deemed unnecessary.

"During his residence at Chideock Manor, covering a period of about five years, Col. Blacker took a keen interest in the life of the village and was ever ready to support any good cause. Previously he had resided at Shute Haye, Walditch, where he was also held in high esteem and respect.

"At Chideock Parish Church on Sunday

morning the Vicar (Rev. C. F. Urquhart) prefaced his sermon with a reference to Colonel Blacker's career and his life in the parish, and at the close of the service the Dead March in Saul was played by Mr. Leonard Hussey, deputising at the organ for Miss Mabel Hanford.

"Villagers mingled with rank and distinction at the funeral, which took place at Chideock at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning. The coffin, draped in the Union Jack, had been brought to the ancient, ivy-clad Church the previous evening, and the funeral service followed a celebration of Communion at 8 o'clock.

"During the service, which was impressively conducted by the Vicar, assisted by the Rev. A. J. Shields and the Rev. J. D. Macpherson, the hymns "Fight the Good Fight" and "Soldiers of Christ Arise" were sung and Psalm 121 chanted, the surpliced choir leading the singing. At its close the Nunc Dimittis was sung, and the organist, Mr. H. Mearning, played Chopin's Marche Funebre. The flag on the Church tower was at half-mast.

"There was a poignant scene as following the service the coffin, covered with flowers, was placed in a motor hearse which proceeded to Bristol Crematorium, where the body was cremated. Wearing his officer's uniform, deceased's sailor son, Lieut. Blacker, was a grief-stricken figure as the hearse moved slowly away. He was accompanied by his brother-in-law, Lieut.-Commander George Thring, who was also in uniform.

"The other principal mourners were Mr. A. T. Bruen, Sir Robert Paul, Mr. H. R. Boileu, Major D. Graham Shillington and Major C. E. Pym.

"In the evening on Tuesday a muffled peal was rung on the Church Bells.

"The 'Bridport News' was informed by a member of the family that after the cremation the urn containing the ashes would be brought to Chideock and finally interred at Woodbrook, Enniscorthy, County Wexford, Col. Blacker's estate in Ireland."

The remains were finally interred in Killane Churchyard, near Woodbrook, on Wednesday, October 2nd.

CHURCH REFERENCE.

On Sunday, September 8th, at Morning Prayer in the Parish Church, the Rev. W. F. Hayes read the following tribute to the memory of the late Lieut.-Colonel Blacker, written by the Rector, who was unable to be present:—

I have been asked by the Rector to read to you the following reference to the life and character of Lieut.-Colonel S. W. W. Blacker, whose tragic death occurred on Friday, September 6th, and who was so well known to so many in this Parish. He was a member of a family which has had a connection for centuries with the

Parish of Seagoe. The history of the family and the history of the Parish are most closely interwoven in past days. The present Church in which we worship is the fruit of their generosity; and the ruins of the old Church in Old Seagoe graveyard are the remains of a Parish Church built by a member of the family in the 17th century. But we think to-day not so much of the family as of Lieut.-Colonel Blacker himself. We recall his splendid leadership in the days of the Ulster Volunteers and in the more tragic days of the Great War. His courage, his common sense, his appreciation of the things that mattered most gave to us all a measure of confidence in most difficult days. Those who were members of the Volunteers and who served under him in the Great War know how he shared with his men the dangers and trials of those tremendous days. We mourn his loss and wish to express our deepest sympathy with his wife and family. The Parish has lost a valued parishioner, who had held from time to time every position of parochial responsibility and whom the United Dioceses honoured by election to the Diocesan Council and to the membership of the General Synod. His name will not soon be forgotten.

Sympathy.

We record this month a long list of those, both young and old, who have been called from among us to their Eternal Rest. James Gillis, of Edenderry, always a regular attender at the Parish Church, passed away after a long, tedious illness. His remains were interred in Drumcree Churchyard. The Rev. F. J. Halahan, M.A., M.C., officiated at the Service.

Mrs. Ellen Margaret Campbell, of Edenderry, passed away at an advanced age. She was a lifelong resident of the Parish, to which she was always deeply attached. To the end she could recall many links of the past in the days of Archdeacon Saurin.

The death, with tragic suddenness, of Harold George Whiteside, came as a great shock to his parents and the people of the district. Only six years of age, he was taken suddenly ill on returning from school and died within a few hours. The funeral was a very touching one. The children of Edenderry walked at each side of the coffin, and were present at the Service in the Church and at the graveside.

Thomas Dickey, only a year and ten months, contracted pneumonia which proved fatal after a few days suffering.

Ralph Hearon, of Killicomaine, who had been in failing health for some time, passed away after a short illness.

The death of Mrs. Simpson, of Ballinacor, who had been in her usual health, came very suddenly. Always cheerful, kind and affection-

ate, she will be much missed by all her neighbours.

To all those who have been bereaved we offer our most sincere sympathy.

Death of Mr. William Ewing.

We record with regret the death of Mr. William Ewing, of Newry, at an advanced age. For many years he resided in Edenderry, where he was well known and highly respected. During the intervening years, while resident in Newry, he maintained a close connection with this Parish. His funeral, which was largely attended, took place in the Church ground at Seagoe on Wednesday, September 11th. The Rev. R. A. Swanzy, Vicar of Newry, officiated.

Letter from Archdeacon Crichton

Blacker's Gardens, Cathedral P.O.,
Madras, 11th September, 1935.

My plan at present is to sail from Madras on 6th November, and to reach London about 6th December. As there is nothing to do at Home, I shall not go overland from Marseilles. Probably we shall spend the Christmas holidays at Littlehampton and then move about until Easter. I do not want to take up a parish all at once, but I must have a home for the summer. My girl has just gone to Cheltenham and the boy to Marlborough. It is time for them to have a home of their own.

If the address on this letter starts you thinking about "Parish Notes," you will be interested to know that this house was built by General Blacker, Quartermaster-General of the Madras Army. The last members of the Blacker family to own it were two sisters, who lived in Ireland. I am told that General Blacker died in Calcutta in 1824. The present owner is an Indian.

Thanks very much for all the copies of the "Seagoe Magazine" which you have sent me. I still read the publication with much interest. It is as good, if not better, as ever it was. It is extraordinary to think that it is almost 28 years since I went to Seagoe. The years have passed very quickly. Hoping that you are feeling quite well again.—Yours very sincerely, W. R. Crichton.

ITEMS

Many of the fine trees in the Eden Hall grounds opposite Windsor Lodge have been removed.

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A very extensive petrol station has been opened in Lisniskey having pumps on both sides of the road.

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The entrance to the Railway Station and the lamp standards in the streets of Edenderry have recently been painted and look very bright.