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CSO/SD/2/184(1)

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Telephone No. 22.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE:

S.
2262
D.M.P.

Detective Department,

Dublin, 13th. January, 1916

Crime Special

Subject, MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

I beg to report that on the 12th. Inst., the undermentioned extremists were observed moving about and associating with each other as follows:-

With Thomas J. Clarke, 75, Parnell St.,
John McDermott and John McGarry for a quarter of an hour between 12 & 1 p. m.
Joseph Murray for twenty minutes between 1 & 2 p. m.
Mrs Sheehy-Skeffington for a quarter of an hour from 3 p. m.
J. J. Buggy for ten minutes between 8 & 9 p. m.
J. R. Reynolds for half an hour from 8-30 p. m.

Countess Markievicz in the Office of J. R. Reynolds, 1, College St. between 1 & 2 p.m.
Reynolds being there at the time.

Bulmer

The Chief Commissioner.

The under Secretary
Submitted
W. H. H. T. M.
Comm 3/16
Under Secretary
Submitted
W. H. H. T. M.
13/1
Ch. Sec?
To see the papers.
J.R. Reynolds recently came under notice in connection with a request for a passport with which to go on a short visit to New York. The request was suspicious & the F.O. have been advised to report it.
W. H. H. T. M.
13/1

Chief Secy
13/1
San h c Secy
14/1/16

10432

Bulmer Hobson, H. Mellows, and M. J.

O'Rahilly in 2, Dawson Street at 2 p.m.

Victor Collins in Sackville Street

between 3 & 4 p. m.

Bulmer Hobson, P. Ryan, Ed. De Valera,

M. O'Hanrahan, M. J. O'Rahilly, J. Plunkett,

H. Mellows, J. O'Connor, Thomas McDonagh, E.

Kent, John McDermott, P. H. Pearse, E. O'Duffy,

and F. J. McCabe in 2, Dawson Street from

7-30 p. m. till 10-30 p. m.

Attached are Copies of this week's is-

sue of The Irish Volunteer, Nationality, The

Hibernian and Honesty, all of which contain

some comments of an anti-British character.

Owen'Brien

Superintendent.

CSO/JO/2/184(3)

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THE IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 58 (New Series).

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15th, 1916.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

IRELAND'S RUIN.

Future Increase of Annual Imperial Charge **£8,830,000.**

On January 4th MR. GINNELL asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will now state the estimated annual increase under each head of taxation, with the total increase in the taxation of Ireland under the Finance (No. 3) Bill of this Session, compared with the taxation of Ireland under those heads, and the total, in the last completed pre-war financial year?

MR. MCKENNA: The following figures (which must be regarded as provisional only) will answer the hon. Member's question:—

ESTIMATED CONTRIBUTION OF IRELAND TO INLAND REVENUE.

	Estimated total yield in last pre-war year (1913-14).	Estimated total yield in a "Full Year" (including normal increases and the increases under the Finance Act, 1914), the Finance Act, 1914 (Session 2), and the Finance (No. 3) Bill, 1915.	Estimated yield of additional taxation in a "Full Year" due to Finance (No. 3) Bill, 1915.
Income Tax and Super Tax	£ 1,480,000	£ 4,797,000	£ 1,444,000
Excess Profits Duty	—	690,000	690,000
Excess Mineral Rights Duty	—	—	—
	£1,480,000	£5,487,000	£2,134,000
Total Inland Revenue	£2,942,000	£6,822,000	£2,134,000

ESTIMATED CONTRIBUTION OF IRELAND TO CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TAXATION.

	£	£	£
Spirits	2,338,000	2,160,000	—
Beer	1,041,000	2,350,000	—
Wine	81,000	60,000	—
Tea	606,000	1,340,000	420,000
Cocoa	32,000	70,000	25,000
Coffee and Chicory	13,000	22,000	7,000
Sugar, etc.	303,000	1,332,000	1,058,000
Dried Fruits	49,000	47,000	10,000
Tobacco	1,869,000	2,780,000	820,000
Motor Spirit	27,000	77,000	38,000
Licences and Club Duty	309,000	283,000	—
Patent Medicines and Playing Cards	10,000	16,000	7,000
Imported Motor Cars, etc., Cinema Films, Clocks, and Watches and Musical Instruments	—	90,000	90,000
Other Items	7,000	8,000	—
Total Customs and Excise	£6,685,000	£10,635,000	£2,475,000
Aggregate Total	£9,627,000	£17,457,000	£4,609,000

NOTES

Irish Unionists, no less than Irish Home Rulers, claim that the realisation of their political views is for the good of Ireland. The ordinary Unionist, if you suggested to him that he took no responsibility for the welfare of the country but was content to be the blind follower of a faction, would deny the charge angrily. The ordinary Home Ruler of Mr. Redmond's following or of Mr. O'Brien's, if you asked him was he content to be a factionist saying Amen to everything his leader said, right or wrong, would tell you warmly that he was nothing of the kind. Now a test has come that will prove whether these men and their leaders and their organs in the Press are for Ireland or for a faction.

Some months ago in this paper I warned my readers that Ireland was being drawn into a most disastrous financial plight. I argued from the Imperial taxation figures and forecasts published under the heading "A Grave Warning," by the London "Times." I calculated from the forecast by a specialist in the "Times" that the Imperial scheme of war finance meant the imposition of at least four millions sterling of increased annual taxation on Ireland for a long period, and I asked people to realise that any such permanent increase must be disastrous to Ireland, involving the ruin of her industrial development, the cessation of the remedial measures won by the sacrifices of her people in the past, and the continued depopulation and impoverishment of the country. I asked the reader to believe that I was writing pointedly and moderately and in no alarmist spirit, though the political heads and organs of parties were playing Mumm.

No one can deny, no one would have ventured to deny two years ago, that an addition of four millions to the taxation of Ireland would be ruinous to Ireland. The most bigotted Unionist would not have denied it. Unionist or Home Ruler, if you had foretold to them that British statemanship would succeed in manoeuvring or manipulating them into acquiescence in such a prospect of oppressive and calamitous taxation, they would have laughed in your face. This week I present them with a carefully prepared account, not my own alarmist forebodings, not the "grave warning" of the "Times" specialist, but an account drawn up by the Imperial Treasury and published by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The account is based on Treasury calculations and estimates, and may be considered as favourable to Ireland, as Treasury calculations and estimates have always been. It shows that the expected permanent increase of Irish taxation is not Four Millions but nearly Nine Millions. It is an increase of more than Two Pounds

sterling per annum for every man, woman and child in Ireland, including Lord Iveagh and the most destitute and derelict orphan in the streets.

Will our Members of Parliament face these figures, or have they all ceased to be representatives of Ireland and become representatives of the British Government in Ireland at £400 a year each? Will Sir Edward Carson face them, will the Belfast "Newsletter" face them, will the "Northern Whig" face them, will the "Irish Times" face them, and discuss them honestly in the interests of their Irish readers? Mr. Arthur Samuels, K.C., is distressed because Ireland has been dishonoured, because we have not received the honour of being compelled into military service by the Imperial Parliament. Mr. Samuels used to be greatly distressed about Irish finance. Are we to suppose that, now that the Empires have turned the world topsy-turvy, Mr. Samuels finds his principles also turned upside down and finds it an honour to be compelled to pay Nine Millions of increased taxation? Mr. John J. Horgan, of Cork, was a champion of Ireland's financial interests in the days before the Sharp Curve; so was Mr. E. A. Aston, of Dublin; so was Mr. M. A. Ennis, of Wexford. The Irish "Daily Independent" prided itself till recently on its vigilant care for Ireland's financial welfare under the Home Rule proposals, and never missed a chance to score off Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon. Messrs. Redmond and Dillon, for their part, told us that all would be well if we only held our tongues, voted confidence, trusted them and Mr. Asquith and the British Democracy. Nine Millions additional taxation, and all the spokesmen of our financial interests are fallen silent! What price Silence?

The Income Tax was imposed on Ireland by Gladstone. Two years ago it came to nearly a million and a half. Now the Treasury expects nearly Five Millions of Income Tax from Ireland. Two years ago the total Inland Revenue from Ireland was under Three Millions (Treasury estimate); now the Treasury expects nearly Seven Millions. In Customs and Excise the Treasury expects to get about Four Millions extra from us. These are "the Free Gifts of a Free People."

As if this was not enough, Mr. T. W. Russell announces, again in reply to Mr. Ginnell, that his Department proposes to save £6,000, which will run the war for about two minutes, by starving for a year if not permanently the most necessary work of public expenditure—the training of teachers. He "could not state whether there was any British precedent for the suspension of these grants." There is. Ireland is included in the foreign policy of the British Government, and in time of war many financial obligations to foreigners have to be suspended.

The British Premier, nearly two years ago, broke his treaty with Mr. Redmond and went back on his pledge of Home Rule, embodied in his Home Rule Bill. Of course he did so with pain and sorrow and so on. With equal searching of his soul, he has obeyed the demands of the whole reactionary party in England and has become a Conscriptionist. Mr. Balfour, his intimate friend, has done likewise, and has given the reason with characteristic cynicism. The Government's Conscription proposals, we are told, will really only affect a very small number of men. It is a fleabite, not worth considering on grounds of principle or making a big stand over it. So Mr. Asquith and all the Whigs have swallowed militarism, introduced a revolutionary principle, and are going to force it through, just for the sake of this fleabite, and not at all because they belong to the privileged Oligarchy and are glad of the opportunity to get the democracy under military law.

Last summer I told you how I went to a Volunteer meeting near Pomeroy, Co. Tyrone, how somebody got up a report that the local Hibernians were going to create trouble, how District-Inspector Barrington collected a large force of armed police and came to see the fun, how the meeting was successful, orderly and unanimous, how Hibernians took a prominent part in it, and how it was followed by a conference, which I attended, in the local Hibernian hall (B. O. E.). Whoever it was that wanted and plotted mischief and failed to bring it off has succeeded in another attempt in the same neighbourhood. A concert was held in a schoolhouse near Carrickmore, in aid of a local Catholic charity. Some Irish Volunteers took part in the concert arrangements. I should say that, since the Pomeroy meeting, I attended a meeting at Carrickmore, where again Inspector Barrington and his forces were gathered, at the public expense, to witness an orderly, peaceful, enthusiastic and unanimous assembly in the public street. This was a second disappointment for Law and Order. Better luck next time. Before the Mullaghslin concert, the report of intended trouble was again circulated, and again General Barrington and his forces were on the spot, and these guardians of Law and Order had the satisfaction of witnessing the actual performance about which the report was circulated. An organised attack was made, and the schoolhouse was wrecked. The attacking party, having so far completed the programme drawn up for them, did not disperse until they had very fittingly given three cheers for the police.

In Tyrone, Nationalists and Unionists are almost equal in numbers, but this attack on Nationalists was not made by Unionists. According to the Press reports it was made by Hibernians. The Press reports, however, have been care-

fully prepared to create the impression that the Irish Volunteers and the Hibernians are two hostile factions in Tyrone. That is not true. Many of the Hibernians in Tyrone are Irish Volunteers, and between the two associations there has never been any hostility, despite every secret endeavour to stir up bad blood among the Hibernians against the Volunteers. I see no satisfaction to be got from following up this mad and disgraceful episode. It would have been disgraceful between Nationalists and Unionists. It is ten times more disgraceful, because even the old foolish feud was not there to palliate it. To the Irish Volunteers of the district I say, make up your minds that you will not be excited over this thing, that you will forgive the authors of it because they are Irishmen and because you refuse to be their enemies. Hide away their disgrace if you can. Show that you are men, with one cause and only one to fight for, and do not be drawn into any quarrel with any faction. Don't play the enemy's game.

E.OIN MAC NEILL

A Hint on the Use of Cyclists.

The following extract with reference to the tactics of the German cavalry in the wooded districts of northern France eighteen months ago contains a useful lesson for cyclists in Ireland: "Especially in rear-guard work the absence of mounted troops is likely to lead to infantry being intercepted by German machine-guns and **small bodies of mounted** Uhlans, who hang on to a retiring force with great determination. These Uhlans are bold to excess and do a good deal of dismounted work."

Evidently in a country with plenty of roads an enterprising cyclist officer could do much to demoralise retreating infantry in this way—either by direct pursuit, or by working around the flanks, or by both. He is so much more mobile that infantry can never escape him. The hedges in enclosed country screen his cyclists just as well as the woods in Picardy screened the German horsemen. On one Volunteer field-day this method was successfully tried. A retiring infantry detachment was pursued by cyclists and compelled to fight. The infantry beat off the attack and inflicted heavy loss, **but became immobilised**. The result was that the infantry supporting the cyclists were enabled to come up and clinch the matter.

In reading the accounts of the flight to Wexford after the storming of Enniscorthy and the subsequent retreat from Wexford to Duncannon in 1798, one cannot help wondering what would have been the fate of the English troops if the insurgents could dispose of a few score of cyclists to hang on their rear and compel them to stand to be beaten.

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A MILITARY CAUSERIE

If you are of a hasty temper and quarrel with somebody, and in the heat of the moment you throw a soda-water bottle at him you will probably do him a serious injury. If not, it speaks badly for your powers of throwing. The same will happen even if your adversary wears a military uniform, carries a modern rifle, and is backed up by high-class organisation and commissariat. If he comes within range your bottle will put him out of action.

The point of this observation is that no weapon, given suitable conditions, is despicable. The oldest imaginable gun that can be made to shoot will kill a man if the bullet hits him in the right place. A well-directed stone or bottle will certainly put a man out of action. "But shall we get a chance to use them?" you ask. Of course you will. Hand grenades are in constant use in modern warfare, and you can throw a stone further. Of course a hand grenade does more damage, but still a stone does damage, as much as ever it did. A Volunteer officer who had to hold a position would be guilty of great negligence if, knowing his ammunition supply to be limited, he failed to collect heaps of stones in suitable positions. They would be used to great effect at close quarters. Despise nothing.

The Irish countryside is full of things useful to the soldier. For instance, there is no lack of barbed wire which could be used for entanglements, and it could be supplemented by great quantities of ordinary wire. The latter can also be used as a low-wire trip entanglement on its own account. Ordinary furze or gorse is a formidable obstacle, but brambles are better still. Both can be used to eke out the supply of barbed wire. An abatis is an easily-constructed obstacle. It consists of branches of trees, about 15 feet long, laid on the ground, butts pointing to the rear, all small twigs being removed, and the larger branches being sharpened and interlaced.

I have often remarked that a characteristic of most Volunteer officers' plans of action on manœuvres is that they take for granted a certain line of action to be followed by the enemy, and then set to work to forestall that. This is a bad thing to do, for it ties one down to a certain position, which the enemy may be disobliging enough to disregard altogether. Only when the nature of the ground renders more than a single line of action impossible to the enemy is this procedure safe. Nearly always there are three or four courses open to him, and you must be mobile enough to forestall them all.

I mention this point because I heard that on certain battalion manœuvres re-

cently the defending officer had fixed on a definite plan for the enemy, which the enemy did not employ; but on this occasion the defender discovered his mistake in time. As a rule it is best to decide your general position by the lie of the ground, and not commit yourself to any very definite arrangement until the enemy's intentions are made manifest. Of course, if you can compel the enemy to any particular line of action against which you are prepared, all the better. But that requires a good deal of skill.

Discipline being such an important point in military training, and ill-discipline being the principal cause of so many Irish defeats, I hope I shall be excused for referring to the matter again. Direct breaches of discipline are rare in the Volunteers, but indirect breaches are as frequent as in other armies. On field-days, for instance, men get out of hand, and it is quite excusable. In the open air and scattered over the country the sense of discipline is naturally relaxed. It is then we should keep the strictest watch on ourselves, so as to acquire the **habit of discipline** in action, the habit which will make it seem the natural thing to obey an order instantly.

It is also important that orders be obeyed as much in the spirit as in the letter. An officer who has doubts about the wisdom of an order he has received should not on that account set about obeying it in a half-hearted way, and thereby making the failure of its object likely. It would be far better to refuse flatly to obey, because then you could be court-martialled and shot and be out of harm's way.

A fatal example of this kind of behaviour on the part of a subordinate occurred at the battle of Gettysburg. Lee entrusted the command of the decisive attack to Longstreet, who, not pleased with the plan, and angry that his own alternative had been rejected, delivered the attack without confidence, having made insufficient preparation for it, and neglected to support it properly. The result was total failure, in spite of the gallantry of the attacking divisions. Now had Longstreet carried out the attack as originally intended it might or might not have succeeded. His doubts on that point did not justify him in making failure a certainty.

This is an extreme case, but there are plenty of others on the pages of military history. And if some of us search our consciences we may find instances of similar behaviour on a small scale in ourselves. There is time for us to eradicate the tendency now, and to acquire that habit of discipline to which I have referred. Anyway, it is always better to disobey openly than the other way.

E. O'D.

CUMANN NA mBAN (Central Branch).

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HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Τιονότ το βί αγ Κομάρτε ζνότα φέιννε
φάιλ ινα ν'Ούνφορτ τράτνόνα Ό. Μάρτ
αν 4 αδ λά δε'ν μί ρο, αςυρ αν Σεαν
CATA PÁDRAIC MAC PÍARAIΓ INACÁEÁOIRLEAC
ORÉA.

Όο μιννεαδ α λάη ζνότα το θαιν τε
ναρμáιλ αςυρ τε ηορτουζαδ να φέιννε.

Όύνφορτ να φέιννε,
Δέ Cιιατ, 5 Εαν. 1916.

αν Κομάρτε Κοιτσεανη.

Τιονότραρ αν Κομάρτε Κοιτσεανη ι
ν'Ούνφορτ να φέιννε Ό. Όόμναίξ αν 16αδ
λά δε'ν μί ρο um μεαδον λαε.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Tuesday evening, 4th inst., Commandant P. H. Pearse in the chair.

A large amount of business connected with organisation and arming was transacted.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 5th Jan., 1916.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council will meet at Headquarters on Sunday next, 16th inst., at 12 noon.

Notes from Headquarters

GENERAL COUNCIL.

The General Council of the Irish Volunteers will meet at Headquarters on Sunday next (January 16th) at 12 noon.

MOBILISATION SCHEMES.

Some recent attempts to mobilise Battalions at short notice have been disquieting. There is not much use in having a Battalion if you cannot get it together when you want it. These Notes dealt again and again during the course of last year with the importance of mobilisation schemes. Such schemes must be perfected at once for every Battalion and for every Company. A mobilisation scheme, to be effective, must provide for getting into touch with every man in the unit in the minimum of time. The scheme must be such that it shall not depend for its working on any one individual. It must not depend on the Commanding Officer, but must be capable of being carried out smoothly and successfully even in his absence. It must not depend even on Section Commanders. If a Section Commander is away or ill, is his Section to remain unmobilised? Obviously all such contingencies must be provided against, and they can be provided against if the scheme is carefully thought out beforehand with all the local circumstances fully in view. It is the business of Company and Battalion Commanders to set right at once any defects which experience may have shown to exist in their mobilisation schemes. The schemes should be tested in practice at sufficiently frequent intervals, and after each test every partial breakdown should be carefully noted and its cause removed. Headquarters desires to impress Commanders of all ranks with the extreme importance of the points here urged.

TARGET PRACTICE.

We trust that the recent Order on Musketry is being acted upon everywhere. One weekly practice under the supervision of the Company officers is the minimum that Headquarters can regard as satisfactory. If there can be two prac-

tices weekly so much the better. And the men should get as much private shooting as they can. There should be frequent competitions in the Company, and inter-Company and inter-Battalion shooting tournaments should be promoted as often as possible. Well-managed competitions are perhaps the best way of encouraging constant practice among the men.

THE CARE OF RIFLES.

Another very urgent duty of officers is to see that their men take proper care of their rifles. Frequent instances have been brought to the notice of Headquarters of rifles which have been kept in anything but a creditable condition by the men to whom they have been entrusted. Rifles should be cleaned at frequent intervals, and when not in use should be kept well coated with vaseline. The number of men who have pull-throughs and who use them constantly is said to be astonishingly small. Every Volunteer requires a pull-through. One elementary precaution which many men neglect is to relax the springs of their rifles when they are putting them away. A spring which is kept under a constant strain tends to wear out. The spring should be relaxed by pressing the trigger.

THE SPECIAL COURSE.

The special course which will be given at Headquarters during the week Jan. 15th to 22nd, is intended for officers holding the higher commands or for representatives nominated by them. The idea has grown out of the conferences of officers held in connection with the recent Convention. The course will provide a week's intensive culture in the higher branches of military study. It is hoped that every Brigade District will be represented by one or two of its best officers.

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GENERAL SIR IAN HAMILTON'S DESPATCH.

Every Volunteer officer should try to secure a copy of the London "Times" for Friday, January 7th. It has a supplement containing the full text of Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton's account of the last great attack on the Turkish positions in Gallipoli, illustrated by three admirable maps. It is deserving of the most minute and careful study: never again will any officer be able to get so valuable a text-book for a penny. It is impossible, in the available space, to give anything approaching a complete review of the document, but certain points of interest may be alluded to.

In the broadest sense we must acquit the defeated General of heavy blame. As far as we can judge he was set an impossible task and made a bold bid for victory. Whether success in his design for the attack of August would have meant the fall of the Kilid Bahr forts is questionable. Even had he secured Maidos it might easily have become untenable: for it can be taken under fire by two miles of powerful batteries on the Asiatic shore between Chanak and Abydos, at an average range of two and a half miles. But, at all events, any other project was clearly worse—the attempt had, therefore, to be made.

In the matter of organisation and preparation very elaborate steps were taken: in many respects the measures will serve as a model for all time. But a few points seemingly were neglected. For example, all three of the spheres of operations, Sedd-el-Bahr, Anzac, and Suvla were connected by cable with Imbros, the General Headquarters, but were not connected with one another. There seems no reason why this could not have been done between Anzac and Sedd-el-Bahr at any rate, both of which had been in English hands for months. Again, there was no certain information of the existence of a water supply in the Suvla region, and this entailed great complications of transport. Now, in point of fact, the water was there, and if reconnaissance were possible its existence should have been placed beyond doubt. Considering that the actual attack was largely a surprise to the Turks, it is reasonable enough to assume that reconnaissance was possible.

Briefly, the scheme of attack was this: In the southern area at Sedd-el-Bahr the 40,000 troops there were to deliver a holding attack, pinning as many troops as possible to that theatre and gaining all the ground they could. The main attack was to be delivered against the Sari Bair heights from Anzac with 35,000 men. The newly-arriving troops (30,000 strong) were to land on the northern flank at Suvla and second the Anzac attack by operating against the Turkish right. At both Sedd-el-Bahr and Anzac the troops knew the ground well; at

Suvla the men were absolutely new to the terrain, besides being quite raw troops. The preliminary movements were all successfully carried out and a certain measure of success attended the operations in all three theatres. In a short review, however, it would be impossible to go into any details about the fighting.

One noteworthy feature of the attacks is the very small proportion of artillery to infantry. For example, at Anzac Gen. Birdwood had only 72 guns—about two per 1,000, "with naval support from two cruisers, four monitors, and two destroyers"; and naval support under the circumstances has only a very limited effect. At Suvla only 20 guns went with the landing force, but it was not expected that very formidable resistance would be encountered here. But upon the whole it is clear that the artillery support was small against very formidable positions. Even so, the resolute night attack from Anzac obtained a complete measure of success up to a certain point. It is possible that a better result at Suvla might have clinched that success.

About Suvla Gen. Hamilton's despatch is less illuminating than the other operations. All the same it is possible to see the germ of failure in some points touched upon. There certainly was in the command the old sequence, "Order, Counter-order, Disorder," whoever was to blame for the mistakes. Quite possibly no one in particular could be singled out as responsible. Commanders unfamiliar with the ground, assisted by raw staffs, to manœuvre raw troops over difficult country—in all conscience the task was hard enough for everyone. In many places the troops were out of hand. "In some cases the hose had been pierced by individuals wishing to fill their own bottles; in others lighters had grounded so far from the beach that men swam out to fill batches of water-bottles. All this had added to the disorganisation inevitable after a night landing, followed by fights here and there with an enemy scattered over a country to us unknown." This was on the night of August 7th: while the advance parties were engaged in a series of bitter little fights with the Turks in the hills, the bulk of the command was disorganised on the sea shore. The result was that next day, August 8th, was wasted, and the Turks, weak enough in numbers up to that, were heavily reinforced. When the attack was finally launched it was too late for it to succeed.

It is all very well to say, "General, this should have done such-and-such," or "General, that should have done the other." The real question is: were the courses suggested physically possible? In one word the cause of the Suvla failure was **indicipline**, neither more nor less. If General Hamilton or General Stopford is

to be blamed at all, then we must blame them for having been born such as they were. Only men of a truly iron stamp have ever achieved anything with raw troops—such men as Washington, or Görgei, or Chanzy—and even they have not done it all of a sudden. For the Volunteers the lesson of Sir Ian Hamilton's despatch is this one of discipline. The raw troops at Suvla accomplished nothing: the war-inured men at Anzac met formidable difficulties in a way well worthy of careful study. Many of the minor tactical incidents of the four-days battle are also most instructive, and many practical hints are to be gained from them.

A Note on Armament

Some very interesting information on the question of armament in the infantry warfare of to-day has been recently given by Australian officers, as the result of their experiences in the Gallipoli campaign. The views of these officers are particularly instructive and encouraging to the Volunteers.

First of all the opinion was expressed that to arm the bulk of the infantry with rifles was not the best way at all. In their view the most profitable method was to give rifles to snipers only. These would be picked marksmen, adepts at snap-shooting and trained to take the fullest advantage of cover. These men would not, in the usual course, be risked in the assault at all. On the other hand they would be kept in action in their own special way for long spells at a time.

A different armament was suggested for the remainder of the infantry—the cannon-fodder. Their weapons and training would be designed for hand-to-hand combat. Their ideal firearm is a pistol of some sort, a weapon suitable for handy, quick, rough-and-ready work at short range. For bayonet-fighting a handy pike was recommended—one not too long. It was found that the rifles of the cannon-fodder were merely used as handles for their bayonets, and besides being expensive they were in other respects not the best handles. Another recommendation was that the pike-head should be detachable so as to be capable of being used as a dagger upon occasion.

These suggestions largely agree with the French methods in their great attacks on the Western front. There the troops assigned to the duty of clearing out the trenches and dug-outs in an advance are armed with revolvers and clasp-knives.

For more than a year past Headquarters have pointed out a general similarity between modern trench warfare and fighting in an intersected country like Ireland. It is very gratifying to find the theories put forward for the guidance of the Volunteers directly confirmed by officers having several months experience of continual desperate fighting.

LEABAR DRILLE TÓGLÁDÁIB NA HÉIREANN

(AR LEANMÁINT).

Cum sunnaí do "leasáó" agus do "tógáil" taréis "isligte." Leasáó an sunna ar an t-ádh go réir, ar ádh na láimhe leasáó—Sunnaí. Veire, i dtreo go mbeid an meaisirín iompáigíte ar ádh na láimhe veire. Nuair a beirear as leasáó an sunna ar an t-ádh beid an lámh deas ar don líne le bárr na coire. "Driúctear" go meas anhran.

Tógáó—Sunnaí. Cromtar ríor 7 tógáó an sunna agus bítar mar a beiríde taréir an "Írligte."

TAISCIUŠADÓ SUNNAÍ.

Beid an "rcaot" ina dá mharg agus na taircigíó—Sunnaí sunnaí írligte aca. A h-ádh. Rašáó an mharg veirió coircéim ar ádháó 7 iompócaio ríad baipillí a n-sunnaí i dtreo an mhargá tóraig. Carráó šac tuine ra mharg tóraig timceall agus cuiprió ré bar a sunna ioir a dá coir.

Deunraio na huimreáca corra ra mharg taircigíó—Sunnaí. tóraig béil a n-sunnaí do claonad cum beul a dó. Sunnaí na n-uimreáca scoctrom, i dtreo go mbeid na baipillí

ríor, agus leasáó šac tuine aca a lámh deas ar ádh ríor a sunna. Anhran beunraio greim ra lámh veir ar sunnaí na n-uimreáca scoctrom ar an t-ádh go meas a agus deunraio šac tuine aca corra an dá sunna veir áise do coimeáó ruar le méireanna tóraig agus le hóróca a dá lámh agus cuiprió ré béil an dá sunna tóraig a céile cuh an dá coir do cur in áca a céile leigrió šac uimre coctrom a lámh deas ríor lena ádh.

Sa mharg veirió, beid greim as šac uimre coctrom ar a sunna.

Taircigíó—Sunnaí. as an mbanna agus a t-ádh. rcarra an sunna in uacarraise. Claonraio ré beul an sunna amac agus cuiprió ré na corra ar a céile t-ádh an dá sunna veir or a coimair amac ra mharg tóraig 7, lena linn rin, árócaio ré bar a sunna réim com háro agus ir šadad é. Sa mharg tóraig, iompócaio šac uimre corra baipille a sunna i dtreo na huimre coctrome ra mharg veirió, 7 cuiprió reirean rál baire a sunna tuairim ré n-órlac ar veir barr a coire veire cum an ádh an do dáingniúšad.

tween which they must press on. In that case they can easily be fired into either by flanking men of units still in position, or by small parties pushed forward from the rear.

CHAPTER IV.—OFFENSIVE ACTION.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Although the infantry attack in very intersected country is certainly very difficult, it is still possible, and would sometimes have to be carried out. In some ways the nature of the country might be turned to good account.

For example, it will often be possible to manœuvre considerable bodies fairly close up to the enemy and still hold them safe from fire. The fences will prevent a very extended field of fire. But a necessary precaution will be scouts pushed out ahead of the main body. In this case the main body might easily be safe from fire though not at all out of range—for two or three thicknesses of intervening fence might be available as protection.

In one important respect the close fighting in Ireland would differ from the Flanders fighting—it would often be possible to manœuvre against a flank, to bring enfilade fire to bear, and thus to facilitate the advance of other sections of the line.

CONTACT BETWEEN UNITS.

One of the greatest difficulties attending an advance across country in Ireland would be that of keeping contact between the several positions of the attacking force. For this reason it is most impor-

tant to have a sound system of common training to get the men to think alike. Then each man would know what to expect his neighbour to do, and for his own part what would be the likeliest way of coming to his neighbour's assistance. In the case of an attack on a large scale a rough general unity could be restored by the merging of the foremost lines in successive waves. Only a portion of the force should be engaged at first, a large proportion being held in reserve.

Commonly a force moving across country will lose touch with the bodies on its flanks, or even with its own flankers. In such cases it may be necessary to throw out connecting files or parties to prevent hostile bodies penetrating into the gaps between the forces. When the original bodies again come into contact these parties should be withdrawn.

CONTROL OF A UNIT.

When possible a gateway should be used for the passage of the troops: if possible the gates should be taken off their hinges to prevent delay with succeeding bodies. A responsible officer or N.C.O. should remain at the gate to make sure that everyone has passed through. If no gates or gaps exist a gap must be made. Masonry walls must be climbed.

In the case of fairly small bodies it might be possible by making the flank of the unit correspond to the flank of the field to preserve control. In this case, the entire company, section, or as the case might be, would be all in the same field and so under immediate supervision. This will naturally call for a high level of tactical ability on the part of the section leaders.

COVER.

The men should be compelled to make the utmost use of cover. Otherwise sudden—though slight—losses might cow and demoralise them. The varying heights of the fences would often call for different ways of advance. Sometimes the men could sprint, sometimes crouch, sometimes crawl, sometimes roll over and over. The danger spots are the gaps and gates. Thorough combat reconnaissance will save the men from being suddenly fired into at close range. The need of taking cover can be impressed on the men at manœuvres if proper supervision is exercised.

POINTS OF DIRECTION.

If the advance is to be carried out for any considerable distance a distinct point of direction should be indicated. The formations and mode of advance dictated by tactical considerations might necessitate the temporary loss from view of the original point of direction. For this reason it might become necessary to assign a new point of direction until the former one should be recovered to view. In such an advance there might also arise the further difficulty that units might cross each other's line of advance; especially if the country were very close and the several units made different rates of progress.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

COUNTER ATTACKS.

One way in which a counter-attack could be made in such a case would be as follows:—It might happen that a drain affording suitable cover existed inside the position of the firing line and running back at right angles to the front. Men armed with pistols and pikes could be held in readiness here with their pikes lying flat in front of them. So posted they could spring quickly to their feet, and firing a volley, charge home. They would be where supports should be—close up, and flanking the enemy's advance: they could thus attack with great speed. As a matter of fact, in Ireland the attacker exposes two flanks for every separate field he advances across. He cannot avoid this because the longitudinal fences split up his advancing line.

Another possible situation for pikemen for the counter-attack is in front of their riflemen—where a trench exists on that side of the hedge. In this case a good standard of discipline would be required to steady the men while being fired over, especially at first. Men so posted should only charge when success was practically assured, as they absolutely mask the fire of their firing line.

In addition to counter-attacks by a charge, many opportunities for counter-attacks by enfilade fire will present themselves. Hedge country will always leave hedge screens on the attackers' flanks be-

IRISH EDUCATION.

Withdrawal of Grants by Department of Agriculture.

The country is at present seething with discontent at the grossly unfair treatment of Irish educational bodies by the British Treasury. Generally speaking, the people of this country ought not to be surprised at the efforts of the British Government to keep the people of Ireland steeped in darkness and ignorance by depriving them of the means of education. It is to be wondered at, however, that they should let loose their bigoted anti-Irish prejudices at a moment when from hundreds of platforms all over the country Irishmen are being appealed to by them to aid them in the fight to preserve small nationalities abroad. The Minister of Education in England, in answer to a question by Mr. Boland, M.P., has admitted that no purely educational grants have been withdrawn in England. The contrast between the treatment meted out to Ireland and England is instructive, and should be noted by Irishmen. The Cork County Committee of Agriculture has denounced the action of the Department in a vigorous resolution, which was proposed by the Most Rev. Dr. Brown, Bishop of Cloyne, and in the last few days the County Committees of Kilkenny, Queen's Co., Wexford and Roscommon have endorsed the action of the other County Councils and County Committees whose resolutions of protest have already been published. The Dublin Municipal Council and a large number of public bodies and educational institutions and societies all over Ireland have also nominated representatives to attend the monster meeting of protest which is being held under the auspices of the Gaelic League in the Mansion House on Monday, 17th inst., at 8 o'clock. The British Treasury and their willing agents in the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction can make up their minds that there is enough life and vigour left in the Irish people, who have fought to maintain their nationality for 700 years, to defeat the latest mean and underhand attempt of the English Government to strangle that small nationality which, although close to their own doors, they seem so anxious to destroy, while at the same time seeking its help to preserve small nations abroad.

The **Duala Volunteers** carried out very instructive and interesting field operations on Sunday, 2nd inst. Having divided the Company into two forces, Cap. Colm O'Loughlin (of Dublin) and Sec. Cour. James Ryan took charge of one force, which was to act on the defensive. The attacking force was under the command of Sec. Cours. Patrick O'Donnell and P. Looby. The defending force was well placed in ambush on the slopes of a hill, which commanded a good view of the surrounding country. But such was the skill with which O'Donnell and Looby handled their men, and so well did their scouts do their work, that the defending forces were taken by surprise from the rear and badly beaten, the attackers only losing a small proportion of their men. Discussing the fight afterwards, Cap. O'Loughlin expressed himself greatly pleased with the way in which the men made use of cover, but at the same time he warned some of the more ardent spirits to be more careful in keeping low whilst passing gaps or getting over fences.

"IRELAND FIRST."

The Annual Concert of the Colmcille Branch of the Gaelic League will be held on Friday, 28th inst., in the Father Mathew Hall, Church Street. The Committee are leaving no stone unturned to ensure success. Permission has been obtained to produce the new drama, "Ireland First." Messrs G. Crofts, Sean Connolly, Mollie Byrne, Sighle ni Brion, and P. Ua Suilleabhain will contribute songs, dances and recitations. The tickets are now on sale, 6d. and 1s. Special seats can be reserved on application to the Secretary at 5 Blackhall St.

MR. SHEEHY-SKEFFINGTON'S IMPRESSIONS OF AMERICA.

A crowded house welcomed Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington at the Foresters' Hall, Dublin, on the occasion of his first public appearance in Dublin since his release from prison. Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington has recently returned after a tour in the United States, and he was announced to speak under the auspices of the Irish Women's Franchise League on his "Impressions of America." Mr. James Connolly presided.

In the course of his interesting address Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington said that his impressions of America might be summed up in the reply he made to those who advised him to remain in America rather than face imprisonment by returning: "It is better to be in jail in Ireland than out of jail in New York." His experiences, he said, were confined to the Eastern States, but he was informed that a better spirit prevailed in the Western States, and in Chicago, the furthest western point he touched, there was a better spirit. The German psychology, with "thoroughness" for its special note, was the very opposite to the American; the German Press propaganda had accordingly been clumsy, and had repeatedly rubbed American sentiment the wrong way. Only where the Germans were guided by the advice of the Irish had they been in any measure successful. That advice had been freely given; for the Irish in America, so far as they were organised and articulate, were entirely pro-German. Redmond's hold on them had absolutely disappeared; and such delegates as he sent out were unable to address a meeting. The United Irish League of America was entirely opposed to Mr. Redmond's policy, and Mr. Michael J. Ryan, President of the U.I.L., had spoken on pro-German platforms. The entire Irish-American Press, with the exception of the "Chicago Citizen," was as opposed to Mr. Redmond's policy as the "Gaelic American." Under the pressure of the war, the Irish and Germans in America were cementing a strong political alliance.

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NA FIANNA EIREANN

TRAINING IN OBSERVATION (continued).

Other ways of training the eyes, as well as those mentioned by me in the last two issues of this paper, will suggest themselves to any scout keen on his work. The Quartermaster of the Dublin Fianna suggests the following excellent exercise calculated to develop your quick observation and very suitable for scouts living in towns: Observe the contents of a shop window for a few minutes and, turning your eyes away, get a pencil and paper and endeavour to recall and describe as many articles as possible. It is related that Houdin, the great French conjuror, practised this exercise and was able to describe, by taking a single glance as he rushed passed, every article displayed in a large shop window filled with small wares. Although the training of the eyes is of first importance to a scout, the other senses—hearing, smell, and touch—must also be developed to their fullest extent. On night work a scout depends more on his sense of hearing than on his eyesight. The snap of a twig may reveal the whereabouts of a hidden enemy. At night sounds unnoticed during the day can be heard quite a long distance. By placing your ear to the ground, or against a stick touching the ground, you can hear sounds much more distinctly. The sound of a man's footfall, the beat of a horse's hoof, the noise of a cart or bicycle can be heard in this way when a long way off. A man's voice carries a considerable distance in the stillness of the night.

The best way to develop the sense of hearing, of smell and of touch is to go into the country at night—the darker the better—and practise for yourself. Listen for sounds and try and find out their meaning. Observe the movements of birds at night. Small birds, thrushes, larks, blackbirds, etc., as well as hens, ducks and geese, make a noise when disturbed. Cautiously discover the disturbing element. Sometimes cattle utter a peculiar lowing which can be heard a mile away. It is a warning that someone has passed through their field. Of course the lowing of cattle and bleating of sheep are natural sounds at night. Discover for yourself the warning note.

A scout will find his night-work most interesting, and if he is called on to scout "in reality" he will find that the night is safer for the work than the day. That is, if he is a trained scout and not a blunderer.

Your sense of touch can be developed on your night walks. A scout does not use that free swinging step of the parade ground at night. He pushes his feet forward, touching the ground first with his toes before putting the weight of his body on his foot. In this way he is sensible of every change in the ground he covers, and can quickly recognise the

gravel road from the macadamised road and the stubble field from the fallow. He is thus sure of his ground and is not likely to walk into a swamp or river in the dark.

The non-smoker will get the smell of tobacco a long way off, and as regards the sense of smell the non-smoker has a great advantage over a scout who smokes. Learn to distinguish between the smell of a fire burning, food cooking, men smoking, farm yards, stables, etc., so that when you sniff the air you can tell if there is a camp or a farmhouse near at hand.

In conclusion, I would urge you to accustom yourself to being out in the open field at night. By practice alone can you develop your "night eyes." For the want of them a member of our Headquarters Staff cycled into a cow grazing on the side of the road. He saw stars! The poor cow thought it was an earthquake. But that is a long story, and it happened before he took scouting seriously.

PADRAIC O RIAIN.

[An article on Map Reading will appear in these columns next week.]

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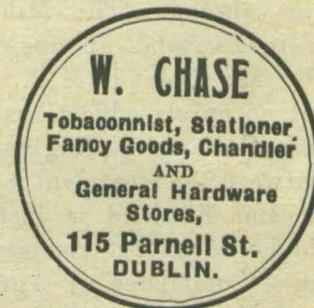
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NATIONALITY

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One Penny.

Notes.

Belgium and Ireland.

The following is quoted from Hansard of December 21st last. The question was suppressed in the daily papers of this country:—

“IRELAND AND BELGIUM.

“(INDEPENDENT.)

“45. Mr. Ginnell asked the Prime Minister whether Ireland and Belgium are two of the Small Nationalities for whose independence he stated in his speech in Dublin that the war was being waged, and if so whether the Government will reconsider favourably the suggestion whereby those two countries may recover their independence without further war so far as they are concerned?

“The Prime Minister—I am afraid that I can add nothing to the answer which I gave to the hon. member on Tuesday.

“Mr. Ginnell—Were all the promises to Small Nationalities an elaborate hoax?”

Then silence reigned supreme. The suggestion referred to by Mr. Ginnell was the suggestion of the great German newspaper, “Koelnische Volkszeitung,” that Germany would restore Belgium her independence provided England did the same for Ireland.

Our Daily Hypocrites.

What should we do without our “Irish Times”? Here is how the champion of “Belgian neutrality” writes of the worst outrage yet committed against international law—the arrest and imprisonment of the German, Austrian, Turkish, and Bulgarian Consuls to Greece, living on Greek soil, by the Allies:—

“It is good news to learn that the Allies are putting a very liberal interpretation on the respect which they owe to Greek neutrality. That neutrality has done us quite enough harm already, and, whenever the question now arises whether we are to suffer more harm from it, or it is to suffer from our action, the choice will be obvious.”

The Post Office Espionage.

The Bishop of Kerry, finding his letters opened by the postal authorities here, under order from the English War Office, protested to that institution, and has been ignored by it. Pointing out that the German Government does not censor letters to German Catholic bishops, his lordship complains bitterly but illogically of the practice here. Neither does the Irish Government censor letters to Irish Catholic bishops. The English Government in Ireland does, and if that Government has a right to govern Ireland it follows it has a right to censor Irish bishops' letters as well as Irish laymen's

letters. We know of no logical remedy except to get rid of it. At present all letters going to Kerry are opened and read by the English Occupation.

The Freedom of the Seas.

In the London “Times” of January 4 the following letter is printed on the leader page from the head of one of England's great shipping firms. Comment would be painting the lily, but the italics are ours:—

“What is the real inwardness of the destruction of the ‘Persia,’ latest tragedy of the sea, and of like episodes which have preceded it? Is there not an attempt, which will certainly fail, to introduce a new and enduring feature into naval warfare *gravely detrimental to our supremacy?*”

“We have heard a great deal of that ‘freedom of the seas’ for which Germany is fighting. *Nothing other is meant by this phrase than the abolition of the right of capture of private property at sea in war—a right we have inexorably applied since the present war began.*”

“The mild practice of taking captured vessels into port for the adjudication of Prize Courts is obviously impossible to submarines. We see, therefore, the destruction of these vessels, with every circumstance of horror, taking the place of their capture and condemnation. But, in claiming the ‘freedom of the seas,’ do not the Germans seek to enforce their contention by making sea passage so fraught with terror *that the nations will gladly welcome the so-called freedom, which would give immunity to private vessels of every class?* We shall be told that if this freedom had been guaranteed by international law, making German vessels and property secure at sea, the ‘Lusitania,’ ‘Ancona,’ ‘Ville de la Ciotat,’ ‘Yasaka Maru,’ and ‘Persia’ would not have been attacked.

“*But the right of capture is one which we have strenuously upheld, against Germany, and also against the United States, and on irrefragable grounds of necessity, and we cannot surrender it.* The submarine, which has been suppressed in home waters, must be suppressed elsewhere, and *the freedom of the seas must always be interdicted to our enemies.*”

Possibly the super-innocents who profess not to understand what “freedom of the seas” means will now be able to grasp that it means that the highways of the seas should cease in the twentieth century to be liable to the brigandage practised on the highways of the land in mediæval times.

There are some who believe that war will be entirely banished from this planet. We are doubtful; but there are three possible and practicable measures which if adopted will render war as rare as truth in an English Blue Book. They are, the recognition of the national principle and, as a corollary, the national independence of the little as well as of the big peoples, the restoration of the freedom of the seas, and the abolition of secret treaties and engagements. When these things

are achieved, the Millennium will not necessarily have dawned, but we shall probably get as near to it as we may until the heart of man is entirely purified.

As a pendant to the announcement that that England which proclaimed on its entry into this war that it drew the sword for Small Nationalities, Civilisation and Christianity, is determined on maintaining the “right” of capture of private property at sea—just as that eminent Englishman, Dick Turpin, was determined in his spacious day to maintain the right of capture of private property on the mail-coach roads—the following elegant extract from one of England's financial organs, the “Investors' Review,” will be read by the votaries of the great god Cant with applause:—

“It must never be forgotten that one of the essentials to a real peace and a peace that shall last and give mankind the time to recuperate is *the disarmament of these smaller powers.* Their freedom shall be absolute in all that concerns their own affairs, but it must not be permissible for states like Greece, Bulgaria, Roumania, or even Serbia to entertain large armies with a view to future conflict with each other or to united aggression against an outside neighbour.”

This truly English concern for the Small Nationalities, this suggestion—for such in our lack of charity we take it to be—that peace should be made between England and Germany on the basis of disarming the small nations of Europe and feeding on them economically, interests us. We trust it will interest, even more effectively, Serbia, Roumania and Belgium.

The Glory of the “Baralong.”

After many months the English Government has been compelled to permit the publication of the story published in September and October last in the United States of the sinking of a German submarine by an English war vessel sailing under American colours. The German Government has demanded that the English Government shall indict its captain and his crew for murder, and the English Foreign Minister in his reply does not controvert the charges made, but he evades the issue. The issue is this: The Germans charge that an English warship used the American flag to approach and sink a German submarine, and that the English captain and his crew afterwards, in cold blood, murdered the captain and the other survivors of the sinking submarine who surrendered into their hands.

All the daily papers in this country disguise as far as they can the German note, now presented through America on this subject. The English papers, however—particularly the

"Daily Mail"—print it in substance, the latter paper complaining that the story has been "hushed up in Great Britain and the Germans have been allowed during all this time to get their lies in first." A clear grievance, for obviously the English should have got, as usual, *their* lies in first. We quote the story from an American newspaper friendly to England—the *New York World*:—

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 6 (special to the *World*).—The State Department at Washington and the Imperial German Embassy there now have an opportunity to investigate the steamer *Nicosian's* crew that witnessed the slaughter, by British marines, of eleven helpless Germans, crew members of a submarine which was sunk after it had attempted to destroy the *Nicosian*.

Sworn statements by James G. Curran, of Chicago, foreman; Edward Clark, of Detroit, Mich.; Charles D. Hightower and R. H. Crosby, both of Crystal City, Tex., have been prepared before a notary here. It developed Wednesday that the State Department at Washington was to receive similar sworn testimony through the American Consul at Liverpool, for whom one member of the *Nicosian's* crew, Leon Young, second steward, issued an affidavit on the vessel's arrival in the English port.

The German Consulate in New Orleans on Wednesday sent to the German Ambassador at Washington sworn statements of the men. Interest of the State Department in the story, if it is proved to be true, is found in the allegation that the slaughter was made possible through masking the British patrol boat that sank the submarine with American flags.

HAVE RELICS OF FIGHT.

Curran, Clarke, Hightower and Crosby have in their possession a bloody shirt and parts of shot and shell they swear were taken as relics of the occasion.

After describing the preliminary attack of the submarine on the *Nicosian*, and the abandonment of that vessel, their affidavits say:

"The third officer gave us instructions to follow Capt. Manning's boat. We were the last boat across the line. It appeared to me that the German Captain was deliberately shooting high, to wait hitting our boats.

"This was about twenty-five minutes after we had first sighted the submarine, and the ship, which we had sighted on the horizon, was sufficiently close to us now to make out her American flag.

"She was a ship about the same tonnage as the *Nicosian*—I should judge about 4,500 tons.

"On her sides, amidship, were two boards, with an American flag painted on them. The size of this flag was about 12 x 16 feet.

"The boys in the boats were highly elated to think a neutral ship was near, and that we were sure of being picked up. The *Nicosian* at this time had swung around, and had exposed the entire port broadside, making it a very neat mark for the Germans to shoot at.

"About this time the submarine started toward the *Nicosian*. She came up to within about 100 yards and started close range fire. Every shot now took effect. She fired nine shots at close range. Seven of them did material damage.

RAISED BRITISH FLAG.

"The ship flying the American flag, which subsequently proved to be His Majesty's ship *Baralong*, commanded by Captain William M'Bride, came up behind the *Nicosian* and took her position alongside. About this time the boards underneath the bridge fell away and the American flag at her mast was dipped and the British Admiralty flag hoisted instead.

"Immediately she opened fire on the submarine with small arms, and the gunner aboard the submarine threw up his arms and rolled over backward into the water. The German sailors aboard the submarine all made for her conning tower, and a few of them succeeded in getting down.

"About this time one of the heavy guns of the *Baralong* opened fire. The first shot seemed to be short, but must have ricocheted, as a slight list to port was noticeable on the submarine. The Germans below started to climb to the deck.

"A second shot from *Baralong* carried away the periscope and the flag from the German submarine. There was a heavy list to port at this time. The third shot from the *Baralong* hit the base of the conning tower, carrying it away and several of the Germans. The remainder of the Germans on top rushed to the stern of the boat, which was about 300 feet long, and started taking their clothes off.

"The submarine was slowly sinking at that time, and the men were up to their waists in water.

"Eleven of the German sailors, including the Captain, dived into the water and swam toward the *Nicosian*.

"Five of them were successful in reaching the rope ladder and clambored aboard. The other six swam around to the tail lines, used for the lifeboats, which had been lowered, and grasped the ropes. They were in plain sight.

SHOT THE GERMANS.

"In the meantime all of our boats went alongside the *Baralong*, and we went up their ladder to the decks. The Captain of the *Baralong* went around shaking hands, and seemed to be highly elated over the outcome of the encounter, as he claimed they had been cruising around for two months looking for that submarine. He then ordered his men to line up alongside the rail.

"They started firing, and all of the six men were killed in cold blood.

"There was a remark made that five men had been seen going over the side of the *Nicosian*, and the Captain of the *Baralong* ordered his ship over to the *Nicosian*. When she reached there she was made fast, and the British marines, accompanied by some of the officers of the *Nicosian*, started after the five Germans.

"Capt. M'Bride, when ordering the marines out in charge of a petty officer, gave the command: 'Get them all; take no prisoners!'

"The ship's carpenter was one of the first to board the *Nicosian*, and he was off in the lead with the British marines, and the chief engineer following. Some of the marines rushed to the engine room hatch, while the carpenter and the remainder went down the hatch to the fire rooms.

"One of the German sailors was shot in the engine room hatch, as he was going down the ladder, by the marines.

"The carpenter and the marines who had gone down the fire room hatch got away below before encountering any of the Germans. The carpenter was the first to strike the Germans. He levelled his revolver at one of them and ordered him to throw up his hands and told him to come toward him. As the German sailor approached the carpenter he shot him in cold blood.

"A shout went up, 'There's one of them!' The marines and Capt. Manning went over to the bow of the ship.

"The German Captain was swimming toward the *Baralong*. The marines opened fire from the bow of the *Nicosian*. The Captain looked up at the *Baralong* and threw up his hand in token of surrender. He was hit in the mouth, as blood was seen streaming from his chin. He clenched his teeth and waited for the end. One of the shots in the next volley hit him in the neck, and he rolled over on his back dead, floated a while, and sank.

"After the Captain was shot, the marines returned to their own ship, and there was great rejoicing among them. The steward of our ship opened up a bottle of whiskey and presented it to the gunner and his friends. They served tea to a number of the crew of the *Nicosian*, and a number of the men, only enough to man the ship, including the engine room force, the officers, the foremen, and about thirteen muleteers to take care of the stock, returned to the *Nicosian*.

"The Captain of the *Baralong* sent a letter to Capt. Manning, which the Captain sent back to our veterinary officer, who in turn let us read it.

"The letter requested the Captain to caution the men, particularly the Americans aboard, to say nothing about the matter, either on their arrival in Liverpool or on their return to America.

"The letter was signed, 'Capt. William M'Bride, H.M.S. *Baralong*.'

In addition to the affidavits of Curran, Clarke, Hightower and Crosby, referred to in the American papers of October last, two other American citizens—J. M. Garret of Hancock, Mississippi, and Bud Polen of Detroit—afterwards swore affidavits corroborating the horrible story. Mr. Garret, who was on board the "*Nicosian*," testified that the English warship, disguised as an American merchant vessel, approached by signalling that she was going to take on board the "*Nicosian's*" crew. After the surrendered Germans had been shot, their bodies were flung overboard with weights tied to them. In concluding his affidavit, Mr. Garret says:

"I make this statement and swear to it, hoping that if it is read by some other young American fired with adventure it will make him pause before going through the experience which I had. I hope never to see or hear of again a scene like I witnessed when the naked Germans in the water and hanging to ropes on the side of the "*Nicosian*," and the officer, were murdered. We were instructed by British members of the crew not to say anything about how the Germans were killed who escaped from the submarine."

All who know that England stands for civilisation and humanity in this war will recollect when reading this that in 1798 in Ireland England had to perform similar acts to civilise the Irish. Let us add that the "*Nicosian*," which the submarine attacked, was carrying mules for the English army, and according to the sworn statements of the Americans on board her the crew were permitted to get out of the firing line before the submarine started to sink her. But surely Mr. Redmond can prove the whole thing to have been a German atrocity?

Mr. Dillon's Breakfast Host.

On Christmas Day Mr. Lloyd-George, at whose breakfast parties Messrs. Redmond, Dillon and Devlin gave away Home Rule, addressed the working men of Glasgow, and received such a hostile reception that when the report of the meeting was set up in type in the various Irish and English newspaper offices for their Sunday editions, telegrams from the English Press Bureau peremptorily ordered the suppression of the true report and the insertion of a cooked and supplied report instead. "Forward," the Glasgow Socialist paper, however, published a true report of what happened, and it was thereupon seized by the military—acting on the instructions of Mr. Lloyd-George himself. At the meeting in question Mr. Lloyd-George was refused a hearing until the Socialist leader secured him one by an appeal. Mr. Lloyd-George gratefully thanked the Socialist leader, and when he got back safe to London he ordered the military to suppress the Socialist paper.

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PHIBSBORO'.—The House at Blauquiere Bridge.

THE VOLTA, MARY STREET.

A New Censor.

Mr. Herbert Pim, who had been asked by Westport Nationalists, and consented, to lecture there last week in support of the fund being raised to defray the expenses of the defence of the Nationalists recently prosecuted there by the English Government, was again censored, this time not by the English Government, but by the Rev. Father Canavan, the Administrator. The letting of the Westport Town Hall is in that reverend gentleman's hands, although the people of the town built it, and it was decided on the occasion of its building that it should be freely used by any section, class or creed for meetings or entertainments, provided it was paid for. So far this had been observed—for although the pro-English faction in Westport is not 5 per cent. of the population, the hall has been let to them for their recruiting meetings, Red Cross concerts, and other harmless amusements. To the astonishment of the Nationalists, however, Father Canavan declared that he would not permit Mr. Pim to lecture in it, and as there is no other hall in the town, the lecture was temporarily knocked on the head. The Rev. Father Canavan is the Bishop's Administrator in Westport, but we can say that his ecclesiastical superior was in no way consulted by him, and is in no way responsible for his action.

"The Scottish Review."

The current number of "The Scottish Review" is one of the best. In a trenchant article, "Following the Drum," Mr. William Diack deals with the evils that have accrued to Scotland through England's war, and by an interesting calculation shows that the cost of the present war up to December 31 has been nearly nine thousand million pounds, or fifteen hundred million more than the cost of the whole of the world's war from the Napoleonic era up to eighteen months ago. Writing on "The Future of Peace," "A Scots Nationalist" argues that to the "Federal idea (or rule by and through the associated national group) belongs the future of Christendom." Mr. Herbert Pim has an interesting essay on the Doctrine of Rest in Irish Mythology, and "Luath" an able article on Burns as the poet of Scottish Nationalism. The Hon. R. Erskine of Marr contributes a fine criticism of Sir James Ramsay's Preface to the Banff Charters, and a spirited translation of Domhnall MacEachann's Exploits of the Aged. The most interesting article, however, in a Review where all is interesting, is the Duke of Marr's "A New Way to an Old Balance." His Grace is the descendant of the famous Earl of Marr, who all but succeeded in restoring the Jacobites to their throne, and his account of Marr's plans for the future of Scotland, Ireland, and England are of intense interest to Scotsmen and Irishmen. The Earl of Marr had no faith in the native honesty of England. He knew his England would absorb Scotland and Ireland into her stomach if she could find the opportunity and some salt. So the plan he laid for the restoration of James III. of Eng-

land and VIII. of Scotland included the re-establishment of "the Kingdoms of Scotland and Ireland in their ancient liberties and the freeing of them from their dependence on the Kingdom and Parliament of England. James was to reign in England as King of England, in Scotland as King of Scotland, and in Ireland as King of Ireland, but Scotland and Ireland, independent of England and independent of each other, were yet by arrangement to unite their forces against England should that country attempt to assume a dominance over either."

An alternative scheme, suggested evidently by Sweden, and favourably considered by Marr, although not by James, was the separation of Scotland and Ireland from England, which was to remain governed by King George while James reigned over Scotland and Ireland. "A Federal Union to be established at the same time between these two Kingdoms, by which the laws and separate parliaments of both to be reserved, which would be much more advantageous to those two countries than any kind of conjunction with England."

Marr's second scheme, however, which would probably have succeeded, was destroyed by James VIII., or the "Old Pretender," as the English style him. The throne of England was what James desired, and Scotland and Ireland were merely stepping-stones to him. So his English greed lost him a monarchy. "If the melancholy fate of the Stuarts," writes the Duke of Marr, "can teach us anything, it is surely that greed equally with pride precedes a fall, and that the familiar adage of 'put not your trust in princes' is a maxim that is susceptible of additional force when to that fickleness and ingratitude which is commonly associated with such persons there is added a gross want of political acumen and a blind and obstinate attachment to the selfish promptings of vain ambition."

"The Scottish Review," which is issued quarterly at 1/-, is published at Perth and Edinburgh—in the latter city at 74 George St.

How Ireland is Bled.

Since we referred last week to the increasing plunder of Ireland by the English Government since its war to destroy German trade competition distracted attention from its relentless robbery of this country, Mr. Ginnell, the only English-gold-proof Irish member of the English House of Commons, has extracted from the head of the English Treasury the official estimate of the revenue drawn by England from us last year. In all it amounts to nearly seventeen and a half million pounds—an increase not far from double the amount extracted from us in 1913-14.

In that year the British Tax-gatherers drew from Ireland £9,627,000
Last year they drew ... £17,457,000
All this additional taxation on a country which an English Royal Commission reported was already overtaxed three millions annually was supported by the "Irish Parliamentary Party." In no instance did Messrs. Redmond and

Dillon and Devlin or a single one of their followers "on the floor of the House" vote against or *speak* against the increase of Irish over-taxation last year by nearly eight million pounds.

Irish history will be ransacked in vain for a parallel to such a party. But the end of this plunder is not yet. Millions more will be added this year to our taxation for English purposes, with the connivance of the persons who have, since 1906, bartered everything an infatuated Ireland trusted to their keeping. The story of the member of the Irish Parliament who accepted £15,000 for his vote in support of the Union, and in reply to the reproach that he had sold his country returned that he thanked God he had a country to sell, did not mark the acme of cynical corruption. The Irish members of the English Parliament in the twentieth century have not only sold their country—so far as they had power to sell it (and their purchasers have now found that they over-estimated the power of the party they bought)—but they have even attempted to sell the blood of the people they betrayed, and in whose history they will be ever infamous.

The Home Rule Sham.

There is a cynical admission in the figures of last year's taxation of Ireland of the make-believe game played over the Home Rule Bill. Our readers will remember the myriad articles, speeches, addresses, pamphlets, and arguments produced by English Liberals, English Tories, Irish Unionists, and Irish Nominal Home Rulers, all ostensibly on the "Financial Question," and all, while apparently *pro* and *con* pointing the same conclusion—that Ireland was bankrupt, that Ireland could not exist without generous England's financial help, that Ireland was in fact—on a revenue of some ten millions annually—a beggar whose wants must be relieved out of England's purse if she were not to die upon her hands. The Home Rule Bill is drafted on that basis.

Throughout 1913 and 1914—until the English Government struck down the press in which our voice was heard—we continuously exposed the fraudulent manipulation of figures by which the legally-sanctified brigandage which poses and acts as the Government of Ireland made Ireland appear England's debtor. No penny of money was then or ever has been since the violated Treaty of Limerick spent in the name of government in Ireland which had not been first raised out of the pockets of the people of Ireland. For the rods that scourge them they have ever been forced to bear the full cost. The Home Rule Bill was not intended by its authors to become operative law, but if unforeseen circumstances compelled its being made operative, it was drafted to provide that the Irish should be so tightly fettered financially and commercially that they could never move forward. We analysed the Bill, and pointed this out in 1912, in 1913, and in 1914. But the bought

(Continued on page 7.)

CONNRAO NA GAELI.

British Treasury Raid on Irish Educational Finance.

A GREAT PUBLIC MEETINGTo Protest Against the Threatened Withdrawal of the Grants for Irish by the Department
— of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, will be held in the —**ROUND ROOM, MANSION HOUSE, on MONDAY, 17th JANUARY, 1916.**Chair will be taken by **EOIN MAC NEILL** at 8 o'clock.**Citizens of Dublin, Come and Make a Stand for
Our Small Nationality: IRELAND!**

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be addressed to the Editor.

All business communications to the Manager,

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for the half-year, 3/3; for the quarter, 1/8.Cheques and Postals should be crossed and made
payable to the Manager, Nationality.**THE ENGLISH OLIGARCHS.**

By a vast majority the English House of Commons has accepted the principle of forcible conscription of human bodies. This seems to ensure the profits of English Capitalism after the war. Within fifteen months Magna Charta, the Petition of Right and the Bill of Rights have been voted away by an Assembly which, without consulting those who are supposed to be its creators and its masters, voted itself a salary, and then voted to illegally prolong its own existence. It is an object-lesson in the solidity, beauty and freedom of that paragon of human wisdom, the British Constitution; for no Constitution and guarantee to the citizen or "subject," as the English law terms that entity, could have been so rapidly, effectually, and without serious protest set at naught in any other country of Western Europe. Had it been tried in France the barricades would have been up in the streets of Paris, and that bogeyman, "Prussian Imperialism," could not have dreamed of essaying it in Germany in his most strenuous moment.

The Englishman, under the sway of the most powerful, unscrupulous, and soulless Capitalistic system in the world, and fed by its press, its schools, and its statesmen into the belief that he is a freeman, took the subversion of the Constitution he had been taught to worship as the best of all possible Constitutions, with a meekness inherent in him for Authority, no matter how that Authority acquired its power. Advancing, step by step, his masters now boldly fasten the yoke of military conscription on him—not for the purposes of this war, but for the purpose of keeping him well in hand after the war. There is yet another step it must take to make itself secure when the battle flag is furled. It must annex his money. This we prophesy will be done after the Conscription measure has been passed by conscripting his "surplus wages" into War

Loan. Thus when peace returns the Great Money Power which rules England will hold him fast against strikes and combinations by the power of Military Law, and by the power of confiscating his forced War Loan Investments.

All this is the concern of the people of England, who, without a foot of their territory being invaded, silently submitted to the abrogation of their Constitution, the practical loss of all the "reforms" and "recognition" they boasted they had gained in the past century, and who are now submitting to the conscription of their bodies, while the ship-owners and mineowners are reaping golden harvests by increasing the prices of food and fuel. The price of bread has been further added to this week—not because there is a shortage of wheat, not because sea-communication is interrupted—do we not read every day that England has driven the flag of Germany from the sea?—but because the most powerful section of all English Capitalism has increased the freight on wheat until it is now nearly ten times what it was before the war. This section is making in a month profits as great as they made in six months before the war. The English Government does not interfere with them. It does not interfere with the millionaires who increase their millions by arbitrarily forcing up the prices of what the people must have or perish—food and fuel. It is their servant. It will pass no law to restrain them or indict them for treason to their own country. But it will pass a law to conscript the flesh-and-blood of the English poor, most of whose leaders it has always been able to buy in any crisis to counsel them to follow the path their exploiters desire they should tread.

If the English poor are content to be forever exploited by the English rich, it is their affair—it is a domestic matter. To those countries which England has forcibly exploited and forcibly annexed it is a national matter. The present Bill does not extend to Ireland, for at the moment England is afraid to extend it. But if she carries this Bill successfully, all her agencies of corruption and disintegration will be set at work in Ireland to prepare the way for enforcing Conscription for her service in this country. Let no Irishman be lulled into the belief that the danger is past. An English Government marched slowly through a multitude of Acts and inspired Press Agitation for fifteen months past to the present Bill for the compulsion of British unmarried men, so when it has established the principle of compulsion, it will march through compulsion of surplus wages, compulsion of married men, to compulsion of the men of Ireland, if Ireland relaxes its vigilance and allows the defences it has erected to be unmanned. The things that count in Ireland against English Conscription are National determination, serviceable weapons and the knowledge of how to use them. Through 1914 and 1915 they have preserved Ireland from the designs of those who had arranged to kill two birds with one stone—German trade competition and "the Irish Question." In 1916 Irish Vigilance is the price of Irish Preservation from the Press-gang of the English Oligarchy.

THE VICAR OF BRAY.

aca oipra féin dá réir ná na Searmáinigh. Le linn an dá aois rinne do lagúdaigh ar pporao agus náiruntact na nSearmáineac—o'iméigh ar an nSearmáineac. Na daoine go raib tabairt ruar oipra, na h-uairle, na pporonraí, na ríge, ní labraioir riu a oteangsan féin aet ffrainncir ar rí. Uí éad agus tnué agus fuat as zae ríat beas aca do zae ríat beas eile aca. Ní raib don tír-ghrád coitcianta aca do beairt le céile iad. Ní raib don ní coitcianta aca aet an fuat agus an tnué agus an t-éad—agus a oteangsa. Aet ba éuma leó a oteangsa mar ní raib don méar aca uipru.

Uí curó aca, mar rinne féin, níor fearr ná an curó eile. Do bí na Brúirínigh, le linn na h-aimpíre reo, as out i neairt agus i otreire agus i raibhear. Oream a bead iad ro náir b'péirí a raru ar zairge, ar calmacé agus ar éruadéain o'fulang. Uí ní iongantac oipra, ffréoch Mór (Frederick the Great). I lár na h-octad aoire oéas bí ré reo as tpoio i zcoinnib na Rúipeánae, na n-áirtríánae, luét na Dabáire, na Sacran, na b'frainncac agus na Suaineac ran am éeana. Ní raib aet don éara amáin as na Brúirínigh an uair rinne—na Sapanais. Da beas le ráó cabair na Sapanac—mar ip zraé—airgead ip mó éugadair uata agus ríor-beasán raigóirí. Aet ní raib na Brúirínigh as brat ar a zcabaip—marab' ionann ip náiríun beasa eile inoiú. Oipra féin a bí a rearam. Tar éir reat mblian do as tpoio do buair ffréoch ar a náiríob go léir. Do éuair méro mór ar tír na Brúire. Fuair eadair bpeir élu agus cumáca agus raibruir. Uí na raigóirí do b'fearr ran éoraip aca. Aet bí macail mór ran ríat Brúiríneac. Ní raib maite ip mór-uairle an ríat Searmáineac a noéain. An ní mór féin, ffréoch, ní labrad re a zeanza féin riam. Ní raib don méar aise ar rean-nóraib agus ríeite a muinntíre féin. Ní raibadair ríbiaita, dar leir. Uí do ré i zcoinníob do iarruair ríruibneoirí agus ríí agus zairgíní de zae don tpazar do méallad go Deplin éuige ó ríar na ffrainnce éun poinnt múnad do éabairt do na Brúiríníob boéca. Níor féad ré an Searmáinir do ríruib' i zceairt. Connac féin an reomra leabair a bí aise ra bralár mór i b'potoam. Ciméatair inoiú é oíreac mar bí ré le n-a linn féin. Ní raib oíreac ip don leabair amáin ann ran zeanzain Searmáinire. Leabra ffrainncire do bead iad go léir.

Uí an loct mór ro ar ríat na b'Brúiríneac mar rinne, zan méar ceairt aca ar iarruair a rean. Uí a rian oipra. Tpeir báir ffréoch do éuadair a éoilaó. O'iméigh an ríruibead agus an ríruibad ar na Searmáinigh. Éainigh an t-áirru mór, an Revolution ra b'frainne. Do múrgair roin beódaet agus fuinneam ionzangac i muinntíre na ffrainnce. Ní raib don rearam rómpa. Éainigh Napóileón. Ní ríruibead don ní é aet ceannrmaet do éur ar an éoraip uile. Do éur ré cogad ar an Impíreacé, re rinne, ar na háirtríanaigh. Do buair ré oipra. (Tuillead le teact).

The "Irish Times" of the 5th inst., in a special article describing the new Munition Factory in Dublin, says:—

"Every girl worker will be supplied with a khaki outfit, and will be under the supervision of a matron. Miss O'Doherty, sister of the Rev. Dr. Doherty of the Pro-Cathedral, Dublin, has been appointed to the office of matron, and has already entered upon her duties in one of the preparation centres."

"The Freeman's Journal" of January 6th announced that Miss Elizabeth Doherty had been appointed lady superintendent of the Munition Factory, but carefully suppressed the fact of her relation to the Rev. Dr. Doherty. The "Irish Times," however, obligingly let the cat out of the bag.

The public are now in a position to estimate the disinterestedness and honesty of the Rev. Dr. Doherty's notorious burst at Bray. Let us recall his words:—

"Be true to your Church, to your nationality. Come forward like men; put on the khaki and go out and kill the savage Hun. . . . I am a Home Ruler, a Nationalist, and an Irish Catholic Priest, and God in Heaven knows I would not mislead you for the world. What I tell you to do is true. It behoves all of you to don khaki and join the army of England."

The teacher of this new theology for the Catholic Church did not don khaki himself, though we read that chaplains are still needed. Neither did he induce any of his brothers to don the khaki. That is left to the non-combatant members of the family. The new theology is for outsiders to practice. The Dohertys are to be true to themselves. They are to come forward like men and get the jobs or keep the jobs they have. The people of Bray are to go out and kill—or be killed by—the savage Hun.

The Vicar of Bray does not care "three rows of pins" about the Empire or the army of England. Like the Connaught peasants, "his blood is not stirred by the memories of Kossovo" or "the other cosmopolitan considerations that rouse the enthusiasm of the Irish Party, but do not get recruits in England"—nor among the clan Doherty in Dublin. But there are jobs going. There are jobs to be kept despite Sir M. Nathan, and the Reverend Doctor is prepared to sell himself, to misrepresent his Church, and parade Westmoreland Street and other places of public resort with the notorieties of the army of England.

We do not envy the Vicar of Bray or those others of the Catholic clergy—happily so few in number—who have similarly betrayed their holy trust, when their flocks come to them in a year or two to demand the blood they have shed. "We sent our husbands, brothers and sons to kill the savage Hun. You, Dr. Doherty, called God to witness that it behoved them to do so in order to be true to their Church and their nationality. The savage Hun has crippled these, 'gassed' those—the remainder they have killed. What has the Church in Russia or France gained? What has Ireland won? You are a priest, and we trusted you. We have been robbed of our bread-earners—Ireland of her young blood. The only gainers are you and your family, and

those of your kind who stayed at home batten- ing on our flesh and blood. The blood of Ire- land be on you and all the other Sadliers and Keoghs from Redmond and Devlin to your- self and Kettle and Quaid."

"GOD SAVE IRELAND."

The singing in public of "God Save Ire- land" is now an indictable offence. In the eyes of the administrators of British law in this country it is equivalent to "striking terror into and terrifying the loyal subjects of our sovereign lord the King." The fact has been proclaimed at the Carrickmacross Petty Sessions, where last week three young men, Eugene Donnelly, John Quinn and James Ross, were charged with the offence.

It would appear that a few months ago a meeting was held in the town in connection with the Home Defence Corps (familiarly known to Dublin citizens as the "Gorgeous Wrecks"). A hostile crowd assembled outside the place of meeting, and some evilly-disposed person hurled a brick through the window, knocking out of action a Mr. Phelan. The police, according to the "Dundalk Democrat," failed to get the culprit. "Apparently they were everywhere that night," says our contemporary, "but where they should have been." But when, later on in the night, a crowd of local people "marched through the empty streets of Carrick, playing national airs on a melodeon, but harming or insulting no one," the local sergeant of police "spotted" these three young men, and had them haled before the next Petty Sessions Court. The principal charge in the indictment was that the crowd sang "God Save Ireland," and booed when passing the houses of some local people. The bench dis- agreed, and the case was re-tried last week before two Removable Magistrates specially brought down for the occasion and a local J.P. Another J.P. came in shortly after the case started, but was not allowed to adjudicate by the Removables. As a protest, the defendants' solicitor retired from the case. The bench, by a majority, bound the defendants to bail in £10 each and two sureties of £5, or, in default, ordered that they be imprisoned for two calendar months without hard labour. The defendants refused to give bail, and were accordingly committed. On their way to the railway station, en route for the jail, they were given an ovation by their fellow-townpeople, the local Foresters' band forcing its way into the station despite police opposition, and the train steamed out to a big burst of cheering from the male section, while the ladies present waved handkerchiefs.

In the Land League days to whistle "Harvey Duff" or to look at a peeler "in a humbugging sort of a way" was punished by imprisonment, so we have not progressed very far after all, despite the position of a certain Bill in a mysterious volume known as the Statute Book. The action of the "authorities," says the "Democrat," has been to turn the whole com- munity against them—the proper attitude for the community to adopt until they replace the authorities by their own.

(Continued from page 3.)

press and the bought party kept the bulk of the country successfully hoodwinked, until the outbreak of the long-planned war to destroy Germany as the successful commercial rival to England opened the eyes of the people of Ireland and smashed the powers of darkness in this island.

Observe the "bankrupt" Ireland of the 1913 Home Rule Bill—the Ireland which on a revenue of ten millions was declared a defaulter has had eighty per cent. *additional* taxation imposed upon it in 1915 by the Government that declared it insolvent. Last year the Ireland which in 1913-14 was pronounced unable to meet its expenditure of some eleven millions had seventeen and a half millions of money collected from it by the Government of England.

Seventeen and a half millions of money in revenue from Ireland means in round figures four guineas per year per head assessed on every man, woman and child in the country, or over £20 a year on every family. Ireland is the one country in Europe where the population steadily falls and the taxation steadily rises. Just before the Artificial Famine of 1846-9 the taxation per head in Ireland was 14s. per annum. Immediately after, when Ireland was too enfeebled to resist, the taxation was raised to £1 6s. Since then it has steadily risen. In 1896, when it stood at £1 17s. od., a British Royal Commission reported that the taxation was some 33 per cent. in excess of equity. That Commission was appointed by an English Liberal Government, and composed of Englishmen, Scotsmen, and Irishmen, Unionists and Home Rulers. When the English Liberal Government returned to power in 1906, instead of honouring the report of its own Commission, it further increased Ireland's taxation. In 1907, after a year of English Liberal Government, the taxation per head in Ireland had risen to over £2 3s. To-day it has risen to £4 4s., and in the meantime the population of Ireland has been reduced by tens of thousands.

After the death of Parnell the late Joseph Chamberlain declared that England would "bleed Ireland white," and when asked how she would succeed if another Parnell arose, replied that Parnells only arose once in three hundred years. The bleeding process—literally and financially—is now in swing.

The revenue raised from Ireland last year we leave to be digested by those who have been bred in the belief that Ireland is dependent on the English connection—when they compare it with the revenues raised in free and independent States of the world, many of them enormously superior to Ireland in area and population.

REVENUE OF—

Ireland, 1915	... £17,457,000
Republic of Chili	... 15,733,000
Kingdom of Denmark*	... 7,492,736
Kingdom of Greece*	... 8,464,631
Kingdom of Holland	... 18,017,250
Kingdom of Norway	... 10,244,994
Kingdom of Servia*	... 8,572,840
Kingdom of Sweden	... 21,190,865
Republic of Switzerland	... 3,952,800

The figures of the States we have starred

are those of 1914—the last available. The unstarred States are the figures for 1915. For the present we shall leave it at that.

The Anti-Irish Press.

The following resolution has been unanimously adopted by the London Gaelic League and by the Belfast Coisde Ceanntair:—

"That in view of the deliberate boycott of the National language by most of the newspapers of the country, we call upon the members of the Organization to discourage by all legitimate means the purchase of, or advertising in, any Irish newspaper that fails to make provision by the New Year for the regular publication of Irish in its columns, and to support all such papers as do their duty in this matter."

The Exploits of Flynn and his Companions.

A party of persons styling themselves "Irish" journalists are at present "visiting the front." Their expenses are being paid by the English Government, and one Flynn of the "Freeman's Journal"—who is *not* a journalist but a newspaper manager—is looking after them. The champagne and cigars are included. When they return they are to write up recruiting for the English Government. Keep your eyes open.

The "Independent" Day by Day.

Last week the "Daily Independent" published a report of an alleged riot between "Sinn Feiners" and "Hibernians" in Tyrone, the outrageous falsity of which is disclosed to anyone who refers to the account of the affair in the Northern newspapers. The false report published in the "Independent" purported to come from its "Dungannon Correspondent." The Rev. Father Short, C.C., wrote from Tyrone to the "Independent" pointing out the falsity of the report. The "Independent" suppressed his letter. Once again we congratulate Mr. Wm. M. Murphy on the possession of an Editor who knows no ethics.

England's Roll of Honour.

Under the heading "Those whom the King Delights to Honour," an English paper last week published the list of New Year dignities conferred by England upon her pillars and servitors. One Shortall of Dublin and an O'Shea of Cork are included, but these do not interest us any more than they interest humanity. The person who interests us in the list is one Mr. Thomas Beecham, now Sir Thomas Beecham, Knight. Our pious and moral "Irish Times" gives double the congratulatory lines to Sir Thomas Beecham it does to most of the other new Knights.

When we read of Mr. Thomas Beecham being honoured by his country, our memory went back twenty-five years. It went back to the time when a great Irishman, leading his people to a measure of freedom, was accused of the sin of adultery, and done to death by English intrigue and English hypocrisy. We recalled how the press of England, the pulpits of England, the platforms of England rang with horror at the sin of that unmarried man.

And then our memory went back four years to November, 1911, when Mr. Thomas Beecham, a married man, was found guilty by a jury of his countrymen of betraying his friend's wife, and we recalled how the counsel of the betrayed woman's husband denounced Beecham for attempting to stifle by his wealth the voice of the man he had wronged. The divorce case of Foster v. Foster and Beecham is reported in the London "Times" of Oct. 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, and Nov. 1, 1911, on which date the jury found Beecham guilty of adultery. Four years later Beecham is made a Knight by the Nation of Hypocrites who hounded down Parnell. But let it never be forgotten that England is bravely battling to-day for Christianity, for Civilisation, and for the Protection of Women.

A WARNING TO DUBLIN GAELS.

Dublin Gaels are warned to hold themselves free of all other engagements on Tuesday night, January 18th—the date of the Great Concert in the Mansion House. One of the most hopeful indications of the intense national feeling that exists in Dublin at present, in spite of the slavishness of the daily press and the place-hunters, is to be found in the crowded houses that attend all national gatherings. It may be taken that the large attendances are in fact a protest—an unconscious protest perhaps—against the attempts to barter Ireland's national honour and degrade her national dignity. The concert being organised by the Central Branch Cumann na mBan for Tuesday night, January 18th, while national in every sense of the word, will provide a splendid night's enjoyment, as the best talent in Dublin has been secured. Tickets are on sale now.

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ENGLAND'S LAST DITCH

After all the braying and tub-thumping—especially by the "Daily Mail" and its associate organs—the truth is out at last that Lord Derby's scheme of voluntary recruiting has proved a failure, and that England is about to force conscription on an unwilling people. Yes; the people—the horny-handed British sons of toil—are to be made the pawns in the capitalistic game, and by "force majeure" are, willy nilly, to be hurled into the vortex. So the war party in Britain have resolved. But—The Congress of the trade unions of that country have by an overwhelming vote decided to oppose compulsion in any shape or form. They are an influential entity in the body politic. To quote the words of the "Daily Mail," the political power in England is in the hands of the working man. He holds every Government in the hollow of his hand. Therefore it is that this present time is pregnant with seething discontent on the part of the British masses, who view with dour suspicion the insidious moves of the conglomerate busy-bodies yclept the majority of the Commons.

This question of compulsion is England's last ditch. If compulsion fail—and there is no logical reason to adduce why it should not—at the hands of the incensed toiling masses of Britain, it needs no prophetic utterance to forecast the debacle. The settling of the matter—the Northcliffes and their abettors notwithstanding—will be in the hands of the British workers. The truth can be hid for a part of the time, but not for all the time. To give the English their due, they have furnished—including the Colonies—an enormous quota of men to swell the ranks of their country's fighting forces. But they are not blind to facts. The published casualty lists with their enormous losses have awakened them to a realisation of the disregard shown by those in authority regarding the imperilling of men's lives. The awful holocausts of Neuve Chapelle, Loos, and Suvla Bay have roused their erstwhile phlegmatic natures and filled them with righteous indignation against the ineptitude and incompetency responsible for such colossal blunders. Can it be wondered at, then, that at the present time—notwithstanding the fearful crisis they are faced with—they should in reply to further demands made upon them cry, Cui bono? Oom Paul Kruger once declared he

would stagger humanity, but it may safely be conceded that that is what the Hohenzollern is doing.

Meanwhile we here in Ireland must tread warily. True, our country has been placed outside the scope of the ramifications of the Bill, but judging by the temper displayed by the pro-compulsionist Press of England, and the deep chagrin expressed at the non-inclusion of Ireland, some sinister move must be anticipated and again and again checked. Though the Irish "representatives" in the Talking Shop voted against the first reading of the Bill, one is compelled to view with something akin to amazement the statement made on the authority of the Radical Party official organ, the "Daily Chronicle," that it is "reported that the Irish Nationalists, content with their protest against the first reading of the Bill, will not continue their opposition at the second reading or subsequent stages." The backboneless attitude of Mr. Redmond on the occasion must likewise be taken into account. The so-called "leader" of the Irish race durst not deny he is in favour of compulsion. Do not his wobbly utterances prove it, letting "I dare not" wait upon "I would," like the poor cat i' the adage? And that disgruntled place-hunter, Mr. James Henry Mussen Campbell, M.P. for Trinity College, is, in conjunction with the shining lights of the episcopacy of the "Church of Ireland," striving might and main to extend the provisions of the Bill across the water. They are anxious—to quote the words of one of the dignitaries of that Church—that Ireland "may yet be saved the humiliation of appearing before the world as satisfied to win her freedom and ensure her prosperity at the expense of the lives of Englishmen and Scotsmen!" Did one ever hear such fustian? What reck they that Ireland has been drained of her adult population, so that to-day there remains but a remnant? Naught! In their unholy hate of the Gael, because of his allegiance to the ancient Faith brought to our shores by St. Patrick, they would welcome the day that the last of the olden race bade adieu to Innisfail, and go shed their hearts' blood in foreign fields in defence of that Power which for over seven centuries sought by every inhuman act at her command to conquer and crush under its heel the mere Irishry. Therefore, it behoves the manhood of Ireland to stand steady, ever on the alert to counter any move made by the enemy or our country's false friends. Be not dismayed; thought the outlook seem dark, the future hath much brightness.

Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington on America

A large audience attended at the Foresters' Hall, Parnell Square, to welcome home Mr. Sheehy Skeffington, and hear his impressions of America. The action of America in regard to the export of munitions has shattered some illusions held by Irishmen as to America being in all cases the friend of liberty and fair play. Mr. Sheehy Skeffington, having shown himself courageous enough to tell the British Government what he thought about them, did not flinch from mentioning some of the things he found fault with in American life.

Unlike other travellers that have returned to Ireland, he did not relate, as a true story, what he was told by a man he never saw before, who had told the story from his aunt, that somebody said he had heard from somebody else that it was reported in a neighbouring village that in a town forty miles away there had been German atrocities.

He stated that he only dealt with what he actually experienced, or with matters on which there was general agreement as to the facts. His remarks applied almost entirely to the Eastern States. He had been but a short time in Chicago and St. Louis, and found things in a better condition as he went West.

He was anxious to return to Ireland because he found that, in spite of the efforts of a large number of high-minded people, the love of money seemed to be the predominating feature in American life, and in order to produce wealth human life was sacrificed to an alarming extent. America being a new country, there was a certain crudeness in the life of the country that immediately struck an observer from Europe. The American mind resembled in many way the child-mind—alert, changeable, resourceful, but not given to deep-thinking. It was the very opposite of the German mind, noted for its thoroughness; and the well-reasoned arguments of the Germans setting forth their side of the war had little influence on the Americans, compared with the dramatic details and sensational horrors served up by the British propagandists. The Germans had not been much in touch with the Irish before the war, but now they had profited so much from Irish advice and assistance that their opinion of the Irish was very high. The Irish in America, as far as they were organised and articulate, were entirely pro-German, and were acting in close union with the Germans. One of the leading men in the opposition to the Anglo-French loan was Jeremiah O'Leary, a man who had done a lot to wipe away the stain that had recently come on the name of O'Leary.

The people of the Eastern States sym-
 (Continued on page 8).

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:: "LE BEAU SABREUR" ::

MURAT: SOLDIER AND KING.

The subject of this sketch, Joachim Murat, was, as my friend and colleague, National Director M. J. O'Connor, would say, a clerical error—in other words he was intended for the Church, but— The result was that returning to his father's auberge, he served therein as an attendant till, wearying of the monotonous life, he 'listed in the 12th Chasseurs. Joachim, however, did not remain long in the ranks, as, for some reason or other, he got the push, and perforce had to return to the parental roof. Ultimately, being enrolled in the Constitutional Guard of Louis XVI., Murat re-entered the Chasseurs as a sous-lieutenant, but soon demonstrated that his opinions were anti-monarchical, the young officer acclaiming himself as an out-and-out Republican. At the time that Napoleon became a General, the Corsican appointed Murat his aide-de-camp, and, being in favour, participated in the fortunes of Bonaparte, so that in a few years he was nominated General-in-Chief, then Marshal of the Empire, brother-in-law of the Emperor, Grand Duke of Berly, and ultimately King of Naples.

Students of Napoleon's meteoric career are familiar with the magnificent part played in the many battles of the period by le beau Sabreur—as Murat was rightly called. He was a born soldier. Yet Napoleon—no mean judge of men—once said that Murat had the heart of a lion, but the head of—an ass. But the expression the Little Corporal used must not be taken in its too literal sense. Napoleon meant thereby to indicate Murat's absolute fearlessness on the field of battle when he referred to his heart; but his jibe at his asinine caput was intended to convey the obstinacy shown by him in adhering to his own ideas when seated at the council table.

Previous to Napoleon's escape from Elba, the shifty Talleyrand, who always hated Murat and despised him, persisted in urging on the Congress of Vienna the danger of suffering a sovereign of Bonaparte's family and creation (Queen Caroline) to sit on the throne which belonged of right to the King of the Sicilies. Talleyrand charged Murat also with having throughout the campaign of 1814 been a traitor to the cause of the Allies (blessed word!). When Napoleon landed at Cannes, Murat, without further pause, marched at the head of 50,000 men to Rome, thence northwards through Italy, scattering proclamations by which he called on all true Italians to rally round him, and erect their country into one free and independent State with him at its head. The Austrian commander in Lombardy determined to oppose the progress of the Neapolitans, and advanced to meet them, the rencontre taking place at Occhiobello. But the Neapolitans were made of poor stuff, for they fled in confusion almost at sight of the enemy. Murat was unable to rally them, and boarded a fishing vessel which landed him at Toulon. As Napoleon refused to receive him in Paris, Murat remained for some time at Toulon in obscurity, the while Ferdinand de Bourbon quietly returned to his throne as King of the Two Sicilies.

After the fall of Napoleon, Murat decided

to make a dash and, by turning out the Bourbon, regain his lost throne. To that end, on a Sunday morning in the month of October, 1815, he landed at Pizzo, the party being composed of Murat himself, General Francheschetti, 25 soldiers, and three servants—not a very formidable army of occupation. The hour was 10 a.m. and the people were hurrying to Mass. No one appeared to recognise Murat, but amongst the crowd he noted one Laverna, an old sergeant of his guard at Naples. Buttonholing Laverna, Murat promised to make him a captain if he would declare in his favour, but the wily Neapolitan's reply was to shut himself up in his house. Murat, addressing the people, urged them to rally to his person and pull down King Ferdinand's "dish-cloth," which floated above the castle, but they did not respond, and the ex-King was forced to give orders to his little troop to proceed towards Monteleone. Alas! Murat's bolt was shot. His dreams of kingdom were at an end.

An officer home on leave in Pizzo, by name Trenta Capelli, called the people of his native place to arms and set out in pursuit. Seeing they were followed, Murat and his companions made for the shore, but when they arrived there found that their ships had treacherously sailed away. In endeavouring to launch a fishing boat found on the beach one of Murat's men was killed by the pursuers, but Francheschetti succeeded in floating it, and in his attempt to jump aboard Murat's long spurs became entangled in the fisherman's net, and he fell into the water. Ere he could regain the boat, Murat's pursuers were upon him, and being dragged on the sands his "subjects" subjected him to every indignity, tearing his epaulettes from his uniform, rending his clothes to ribbons and plucking out his hair. Not content, they even spat upon him, loaded him with every conceivable insult, and finally dragged him away to the common jail of Pizzo.

When the news of Murat's capture arrived in Naples, King Ferdinand de Bourbon decided that he should be tried by a military commission, and arraigned him under his own law of quarantine—viz., that anyone landing from a vessel which had not obtained "pratique," incurred the death penalty. The commission assembled and Murat spiritually contended that if he were tried as King it should be by a tribunal of Kings; if as Marshal, by Marshals; if as General, by Generals. His protest was unavailing, and being interrogated as to his name and birthplace replied with splendid dignity:—"I am Joachim Murat, King of the Two Sicilies, born at the Bastide, Fortuniere, and, history will add, assassinated at Pizzo." Condemned beforehand, the alleged trial was a pure farce, for he got but one hour to live, which he spent in writing a most touching letter of farewell to his Queen, Caroline, sister of the Man of Destiny. Murat himself chose the place of execution—the courtyard of the castle—and asked but one favour, that he, who had commanded in thirty battles, might himself give the death signal. The firing squad being ready, Murat, fixing his eyes on a miniature of Caroline in the lid of his watch, gave the command. But

the squad, whether through irresolution or fear, failed to hit him with their volley. Without moving a muscle, erect he still stood—every inch a King—and again in calm cool tones he uttered the word, "Fire!" This time he fell—shot through the heart. His bleeding corse was carried by four soldiers to the church, where it was buried in the common plot set apart for the very poor, not, however, before it had been plentifully besprinkled with quicklime.

So perished le beau Sabreur, whose name—unlike that of the gross and degenerate Bourbon—will ever hold an honoured place in history. As a King, Murat played well his part—kind and generous to the poor, ever striving to take a deep interest in the welfare of his people. In the pages of old Neapolitan writers, Murat is often affectionately referred to as "il nostro re Gioacchino": our good King Joachim. Shakespeare uttered a grim prophecy when he penned the lines: "Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown."

M. J. P.

Redmond's Professional Back-Scratchers.

At the time the Registration Act was before the House of Commons, a public meeting was held at Beresford Place in this city, and a resolution was passed protesting against the Bill being applied to Ireland. One of the speakers said that the passing of the Act meant getting in the thin end of the wedge of conscription. In a leader in the Dublin "Evening Telegraph" on the following day an attempt was made to turn the object of the meeting into ridicule, on the grounds that the Bill was not to be applied to Ireland at all. We know the result, and we also know that the non-compulsory effect was carefully veiled in the literature that was distributed in connection therewith. The article in the inspired organ of Mr. Redmond was, therefore, misleading, and not for the first time. The question arises—Is Redmond in the know of the Government, or is it only playing with him as a child would with a toy? He has admitted that he was not consulted on the Coalition form of Government. At the time, the Home Rule Bill was making very slow progress, and when he had the Government in the hollow of his hand he publicly stated that he would not allow any English Bill to pass until the Home Rule Bill went through its initial stage or second reading, but, although the statement was made on at least two occasions, he broke his word. He has, therefore, broken away from the principles of Parnellism—i.e., to make the government of England impossible until Ireland would get a full measure of Home Rule.

Going back to the topic of conscription, some time ago a resolution was passed by a large majority of the Dublin Corporation against conscription, and a committee was appointed to give effect to the resolution, with the result that letters were sent out to all the public bodies throughout Ireland asking them to pass a similar resolution or to take an opinion on the subject. All who received the letters stated that they were against conscription, but only in a few cases was the matter put to the meetings in the form of a resolution, for the simple reason that the proposer of the original resolution is a Sinn Féiner, and no secret was of the fact that because Alderman Thomas Kelly did not see eye to eye with Redmondism he had no right to interfere as to whether Ireland was to be forcefully deprived of her manhood.

This shutting-out treatment of a resolution passed by the Dublin Corporation on the plea that matter was in the hands of Mr. Redmond goes to show what a responsibility is on his shoulders with regard to conscription.

USE

"Green Cross Night Lights."

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The leader of the so-called Irish Nationalist Party has buried the hatchet as regards his political opponents, but events do not show that there has been a reciprocity of action in other quarters. To make a contract binding there must be a valid consideration, and anything foreborne or done is generally acknowledged to be a good inducement, but there must also be reciprocity of interests, or—to put it in more plain language—there must be a give and take on the part of both sides. Mr. Redmond has publicly stated that he has made a deal. The question that I would like to put to him, and that with all due respect: "Is the game worth the candle?" and I ask those public bodies who seem to be led blindfolded by Mr. Redmond to weigh the situation carefully. Doubtless, there are a number of professional back-scratchers, or men who have an "axe to grind," amongst all public representatives; but the majority are free agents, and they can do a great deal of good before it is yet too late.

ROBERT J.

WHEN THE STORM IS OVER.

Some day shall the call of the war-trumpet die,
And the hills cease to ring with the cannon's mad roar,
And the dun smoke of battle be blown from the sky
And the sunlight of peace gild the valley once more.

The war-blasted field shall be green once again,
And the battle-scarred city lift up its bowed head.
But what of the hundreds of thousands of men
Who were lost in the storm and lay down with the dead?

Ah, who shall rekindle the light in the eyes
Of the men who fared forth unto danger and death,
Who moaned in the dust—staring up at the skies—
While none hovered near to receive their last breath?

Unheeded, unchecked, shall the bitter tears flow
In the home of the soldier who fought but to fall;
And the hearts of his dear ones be riven with woe
As they gaze at a picture that hangs on the wall.

EDWIN F. HENDRIX, S.J.

Dublin Unionists and Con- scription.

It appears that the Dublin section of Unionists held a meeting recently and passed a resolution to the effect that conscription should be applied to Ireland. The report did not give the names of those who were present, so that we cannot say how many were eligible for enlistment; but we have noticed that, since the beginning of the war, a number—in fact, nine out of every ten—of the civilian spouters at recruiting meetings were Unionists, and amongst them were some fine burly men who were well known in football circles, but we have looked in vain to find that they have donned the khaki.

One would think that men who profess to sleep with the Union Jack as their pillow, would be the first to jump into harness in defence of the colours. Carson's men, it is said, enlisted only for home service, but no matter whether this statement be true or false, they have not been sent to the Front until recently.

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Exchange in April last was even money that the war would be over in September of last year. The Wall Street speculators are, as a rule, well informed, and they must have had strong reasons in favour of the war being ended so soon, otherwise the chances would have been looked upon as more than even; and supposing the war had terminated by the month of September last, what part could Carson's men have taken in it? Probably they would have been like the boy who did not go to school but met the scholars, yet we have never heard a grumble from the Unionists of Ireland because Carson's men were not sent to the Front sooner. In any case, the Unionists in Ireland, and especially in Dublin, are only a mere handful, and therefore have no right as a body to dictate or to even suggest what outsiders should do. It is a well-recognised legal dictum that "He who seeks equity must come in with clean hands," and we would advise those political tricksters to first put their own house in order before offering advice to others.

Two pictures lie before us. The first was printed in the "Daily Sketch" of October 29th, 1914, and the underline reads:—"Exultant Japs showing their paces off Kiao-Chao, which the Germans have announced they will defend to the last man.—Inset: Admiral Yashiro, the Naval Minister." There are the "exultant Japs," sitting on a couple of heavy guns, on the deck of a ship, with other ships in the distance; up in the sky is the "inset" of the smiling Admiral. We turn to the "Sunday Herald" of November 21st, 1915. Under one of its pictures we read: "A fleet of Italian warships patrolling the Eastern Mediterranean. It forms one very big argument in the counsels of the King of Greece." With the exception that the Admiral has been deleted from the sky, the picture is the same, and the proprietors of the two papers are the same! And thus does the merry game of fooling the public go on. Of course, the proprietors of the "fake" picture gag are not swindlers. They are "honourable" news purveyors! Nor are our Irish papers above playing this game either, as we noticed on one or two occasions.

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:: A CURRENT CAUSERIE ::

Religion in England.

The Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool makes the following comments on the state of religion in England in a Pastoral Letter: "One of the features in the life of the people of this country which we Catholics deplore more than any other is the gradual decay in the sentiment of religion. It is asserted, with a show of reason, that the majority of the nation stand outside all Christian organisations. And even in most of the non-Catholic denominations, their own adherents are complaining that the idea of Divine worship in their services is receding further and further into the background, and the spiritual element is being gradually ousted by the social and recreative. In such a state of things it is obvious that there must be millions of our fellow-countrymen who seldom or never bend their knees in prayer. And when their lives are drawing to a close, and they are face to face with death, when, if they ever, they might be expected to make some preparation to meet their Judge, we find that generally if there is not complete callousness, there is an utter helplessness which is pitiable beyond measure. This is a matter of common observation as regards the soldiers at the Front. Non-Catholic chaplains tell us of vast multitudes who in matters of religion know nothing; or if they have some vague idea of a God whose anger at wrong-doing has to be appeased, or who can help them in their sufferings, they seem powerless to frame anything like a prayer. This state of things provides a sad commentary on the type of religious instruction given in the non-Catholic schools of the country."

* * *

The Deepest Depths.

This shows that the people of England have abandoned Christianity to a greater extent even than the people of France. The majority of the people have given up all practice of religion, and their only rule of morality is to be found in the maxim, "Keep out of the dock." Yet we have the Castle Catholics telling the people of Ireland at every opportunity that it is their duty to bury for ever the hope of making Ireland a nation, in which the Church could carry on its work unhampered by the scheming of infidel English politicians. It is almost impossible to imagine the depths of corruption and hypocrisy to which the English people have sunk; and if we were to take the advice of the Castle Catholics, and amalgamate willingly with England, and become proud of the record of murder, treachery and blackguardism by which the British Empire has been built up, we would soon become a slave-race more despicable and loathsome even than the English themselves.

* * *

Boycott Wanted.

Under the heading "A Journalistic Outrage," the "Catholic Times" rightly says: "There was a time when the 'Sunday Chronicle' frequently gave ground for protest against its ethical standard by devoting a considerable part of its space to the publication of details of Divorce Court proceedings and similar matters. Its contents since the commencement of the war afforded reason to hope that it had altogether abandoned the practice. Its clients have been supplied with good, readable articles about the war, and there has been an absence from its columns of almost everything to which objection could be taken even by the most exacting on the score of propriety. But it would seem as if the restraint of old habits produced a reaction. Its issue for

last Sunday contained in a prominent place an article by Mrs. Maud Churton Braby, entitled "The Visiting Husband. Practical Polygamy for Post-War Time: How It Would Work." The insertion of the contribution was a public outrage, and the scandal of its appearance was aggravated by the fact that the paper was being circulated and read at a time when in the Christian churches throughout the country services were being held to appeal to God for blessings on the cause of the Allies. In our opinion, it is impossible that such an article, utterly defiant of the laws of Christian morality, can have been read, as no doubt it was, by many thousands in this country, without doing a large amount of injury. Against its publication we utter a protest."

* * *

The Future of Nations.

There has been a fall of the birthrate in the non-Catholic parts of Germany. Before the outbreak of the war, the Bishops of that country issued a joint Pastoral Letter in which they deplored the decline revealed by the official figures, and warned their flocks against becoming responsible in any degree for the danger threatening the nation. Dr. Faulhaber, the Bishop of Speyer, in an article on the Christmas festival which he wrote for a German daily paper, returned to the subject. "Military preparations alone," says the Bishop, "afford no assurance of victory. In future wars that people will conquer whose women show the greatest courage in undertaking all the duties of motherhood." He goes on to recall the saying of Moltke, that by the fall of the birth-rate a battle may be lost each year in peace. The problem is one which concerns other nations as well as Germany. It seems as if non-Catholic peoples are doomed to decay. The Catholic Church is the only organisation that successfully combats the fatal tendency. Other Churches seem helpless in the matter. Some of their ministers occasionally raise their voices to advise and caution the flocks, but the flocks pay little or no heed to their words. As organisations, these bodies take no action, and the state of affairs goes steadily from bad to worse. Unless a change, which is not at all probable, takes place, the Catholic countries will leave the non-Catholic countries far behind in the struggle for progress.

* * *

Then and—Now.

English politicians and the Press of the country are continually harping upon German militarism and the necessity of destroying it for the benefit of civilisation. In the London "Times" of January 2nd, 1914, appeared an interview with Mr. Lloyd George, reprinted from the "Daily Chronicle," in which that gentleman exonerated Germany of any wanton policy of aggression, and logically explained why Germany supports her army in a fit condition. "The German army," he said, "was vital to the very life and independence of the nation itself, surrounded as Germany was by nations each of which possessed armies almost as powerful as her own. Hence, Germany was spending huge sums of money on the expansion of her military resources." According to Mr. George, then, Germany was not building up a great military machine to threaten the world, but as something "vital to the very life and independence of the nation itself." He dismissed the idea of Germany threatening England as wholly improbable, for he said: "That is why I feel convinced that, even if Germany ever had any idea of challenging our supremacy at sea, the exigencies of the military situa-

tion must necessarily put it completely out of her head." There you have the leading Statesman in the Asquith Cabinet six months before the war repudiating the thought that Germany had militant designs on any country. Verb. sap.

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IRISH EDUCATION.

Withdrawal of Grants by Department of Agriculture.

The country is at present soothing with discontent at the grossly unfair treatment of Irish educational bodies by the British Treasury. Generally speaking, the people of this country ought not to be surprised at the efforts of the British Government to keep the people of Ireland steeped in darkness and ignorance by depriving them of the means of education. It is to be wondered at, however, that they should let loose their bigoted anti-Irish prejudices at a moment when from thousands of platforms all over the country Irishmen are being appealed to by them to aid them in the fight to preserve small nationalities abroad. The Minister of Education in England, in answer to a question by Mr. Boland, M.P., has admitted that no purely educational grants have been withdrawn in England. To contrast the treatment meted out to Ireland and England is instructive and should be noted by Irishmen. The Cork County Committee of Agriculture has denounced the action of the Department in a vigorous resolution, which was proposed by the Most Rev. Dr. Brown, Bishop of Cloyne, and in the last few days the County Committees of Kilkenny, Queen's Co., Wexford, and Roscommon have endorsed the action of the other County Councils and County Committees whose resolutions of protest have already been published. The Dublin Municipal Council and a large number of public bodies and educational institutions and societies all over Ireland have also nominated representatives to attend the monster meeting of protest, which is being held under the auspices of the Gaelic League in the Mansion House on Monday, 17th inst., at 8 o'clock. The British Treasury and their willing agents in the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction can make up their minds that there is enough life and vigour left in the Irish people, who have fought to maintain their nationality for 700 years, to defeat the latest mean and underhand attempt of the English Government in Ireland to strangle that small nationality which, although close to their own doors, they seem so anxious to destroy, while at the same time seeking its help to preserve small nations abroad.

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AACHEN IN GERMANY.

The quaint and beautiful city of Aachen (also known as Aix-la-Chapelle) lies on the western boundary of Germany, a few miles from the Dutch and Belgian frontiers. A large stone marks the spot where these three countries come together. It is a favourite pastime for travellers who pass that way, to so disport themselves that they may claim to be in all three countries at once. In spite of its position in the extreme part of the Empire, it is easily reached from all parts of Germany, its railway service being most excellent. Aachen is also in direct communication with many of Europe's most important cities, being eight hours from Paris and eleven from London.

The town is pleasantly situated in a valley surrounded on all sides by wooded heights. The climate is described as salubrious, extremes of temperature being very rare. The winter is milder than in any other German town and the summer heat is moderate.

Aachen owes its early importance to the

FICTION AND FACT.

fact that Charlemagne chose it for his favourite residence, having enriched it with an imperial palace and an imposing church. Here he gathered many precious relics, most important of which are the "Four Great Relics," presented, we are told, by some Eastern rulers. These sacred objects have drawn countless swarms of Christians throughout the ages. Since the fourteenth century, it has been the custom to exhibit them from the Cathedral tower, once in seven years. The last Pilgrimage took place in August, 1909.

Aachen was also the coronation place of thirty-seven German Emperors, between the years 813 and 1531. The turmoils of the Reformation, combined with the result of a disastrous fire and the moving of the coronation site to Frankfort, brought on the decay of Aachen, from which however it recovered in time.

The Cathedral is, without doubt, the most interesting attraction. Begun by Charlemagne in the ninth century and continued through different ages, it shows a display of many different styles of architecture. In the centre of the building rises the Octagon, built in 783, being the only original part of the structure which still remains. To the east is the magnificent choir, which dates from the middle of the fourteenth century. To the west of the Octagon and connected with it by a wonderful bridge-like arch is the tower built in 1884. This triple building forms the center around which are grouped a number of smaller chapels. The Cathedral treasury is one of the most famous in the world. Besides the Four Great Relics there is a richly jeweled shrine, which is said to contain the bones of Charlemagne.

In the interior of the Cathedral the following deserves special attention:—

The marble coronation throne where the Emperors were crowned and bestowed honours on their nobles.

Thirteen stained glass windows each 100 feet high.

Fourteen statues representing the Blessed Mother, Charlemagne, and the twelve apostles.

The costly throne canopy of the fifteenth century.

Large sums of money have been spent in recent years embellishing the interior of the Cathedral. The new decorations in mosaics and marble after drawings by Professor Schaper, are well worth seeing for their own sake, although many authorities consider them out of place in their present surroundings.

The population of Aachen is over 90 per cent. Catholic. The people are distinguished for their industry and enterprise. Hundreds of them are engaged in working about the different mineral springs, which have such wonderful curative properties that their fame is universal. The old town has excelled in the manufacture of needles and cloth since the middle ages.

As is the custom in most Catholic countries, outdoor religious processions take place frequently. It is no uncommon sight to see numerous church and civic societies marching through the principal streets of the town, singing sacred hymns. Hours before the starting time the streets are filled with people who fall on their knees at the approach of the Blessed Sacrament. The houses along the line of march are tastefully decorated, while blessed candles and sacred images are seen in nearly every window. The procession generally closes with Benediction, which is given in public squares or large field. While the march is on the church bells throughout the city ring continuously.

JAMES A. LAMB.

At the present time the situation of the Allies in all the theatres of war is decidedly unfavourable. To keep up the courage of the English people, attention is once more being directed to the "one bright spot." Cardinal Bourne, Father Bernard Vaughan, John Redmond, John Dillon, and the lesser luminaries in the Imperial firmament, are busy describing the whole-hearted devotion of the Irish people to the cause of "justice, freedom and religion," as understood in England, and trying to shroud Ireland in a gas-fog, so that nobody will know what is going on there.

The utterances of all those men are characterised by an utter disregard of facts. To examine all their statements in detail would be a sad waste of time, but it will be of interest to take up one incident as a sample and see how the Imperialist report agrees with the facts of the case.

It has been stated that John Redmond got an enthusiastic reception on his last visit to Ireland to attend a recruiting conference at Waterford.

The truth is as follows: John Redmond left his home at Wynnstay Gardens, London, and travelled to Waterford by a circuitous route through North Wales. He arrived in Waterford late at night, and drove through the deserted streets to a hotel, about a hundred yards distant from the hall where the conference was to be held.

A few of his supporters came to make their report as to the state of affairs in the city, and they were obliged to inform him that the week before the "Pro-Germans" had held an open-air meeting, attended by several thousand people, and Redmond's policy had been denounced amidst great enthusiasm.

The next day Lord Wimborne, as Director of Recruiting, gave a luncheon in the hotel to Redmond and about fifty other people. The cost of the luncheon per head would have kept an ordinary man in food and drink for a fortnight. This seems a large sum in those days of retrenchment, but, under the circumstances, the expenditure was absolutely necessary.

It would be an act of villainous cruelty to ask anyone to listen to Redmond's ravings, unless the critical faculties had been somewhat dulled by a moderate quantity of alcoholic refreshment.

After the luncheon, John Redmond crossed the street to get to the hall. The onlookers noticed that there was a force of over thirty armed police outside the hall, so that it can be said that John Redmond crossed the street under the protection of British guns. A large number of men, of semi-military appearance and clad in mufti, were to be seen in the street.

Redmond got an enthusiastic reception—from a group of army officers and landlords. In their hearts, no doubt, these men despised Redmond. They have a code of honour, not an ideal one, but still a code of honour—that teaches them to despise a renegade.

Redmond's speech was of the usual kind. It was heavily censored even by his own friends. The outstanding feature of it was that this shameless liar, who attended a Protestant religious service a few days before in London, called on the religious-minded people of Ireland to go and fight the Germans who (according to him) were committing outrages on the priests and nuns in Belgium and demolishing the fanes of religion.

So that Redmond can, when in London, use the Protestant religion to increase his popularity; and, when his is in Ireland, he seeks to exploit the love of the people for the Catholic religion.

The attendance at the conference was disappointing. Several of those who received invitations did not attend. The

representative of Waterford City was a newspaper man, whose paper is scarcely ever heard of in the city, but which now seems to be a financial success.

When the conference concluded, Redmond made his way to a motor-car at the door, which was all the time guarded by armed police. There was a small crowd of onlookers outside, a hundred or so. A few of them saluted Lord Wimborne, but nobody took the least notice of Redmond.

Redmond is a vain man, a man who delights in the plaudits of the multitude, and it must have been with a bitter heart that he saw himself starting in his motor-car to go at a high speed out of the city, like a fugitive flying from the wrath of the people.

He got no cheer, no encouragement from the people that would have died for him two years ago. They regarded him instead with the deepest contempt and loathing.

For years he dressed in sheep's clothing; but now anyone who has eyes can see the fangs of the wolf, that batters on dead human flesh, and gorges itself with human blood.

Was ever the like seen in the history of the world? "This illustrious leader" (as he is called by Cardinal Bourne), moving among the people he is supposed to lead under the protection of an armed force, paid by a foreign Government out of the plunder of the unfortunate country he disgraces.

When Waterford people are asked what kind of a reception did Redmond get, they have the following story to tell:—"A strange thing happened. You remember Redmond boasting about the Waterford man that was killed when he was at the front. The poor fellow's name was Morrissey, and he lived in Butcher's Lane. When Redmond was crossing the road Mrs. Morrissey, the man's mother, went up to him, and told him in plain language what she thought of him. The police dragged her away, but John took care that she was not prosecuted. He didn't want the case to get into the papers."

"This illustrious leader" with the curse of the widow on his guilty head.

But he has some admirers, drunken soldier's wives and the rag-tag and bobtail that cling on to the "army of liberty." Sometimes the bacchanalian chorus is to be heard in the back lanes.

"Are we down-hearted? No; not a bit of it.

Not while Britannia rules the waves, I don't think.

When we have Tommy on the land, Jack upon the sea,

We don't fret.

It's a long, long way to Tipperary,

But we're not downhearted yet."

Not yet. Ireland has not yet come to her own. God grant that we may live to see the day.

A Protestant clergyman named Hannay, better known as George Birmingham, is the very latest apologist for the Catholic Bishop of Limerick. In an effusion to an English newspaper this gentleman describes Bishop Dwyer's letter in which he protested against Irishmen being driven into England's war with Germany as "silly." This Protestant gentleman would, if he dare do so openly, describe the Catholic religion also as being "silly."

John Boyle O'Reilly Division (98), Dundalk.—The election of officers and committee of management was held in the Hall, 30 Clanbrassil Street, on Jan. 2nd. Bro. O. Grant was re-elected President; Bro. F. Sheridan, V.P.; Management Committee—Bros. P. Baxter, P. Bloomer, P. McGee, H. McEvoy, J. Kane, O. McEvoy, J. Finegan, and J. Boyle.

The Passing of the Armies.

How the North and South Blended.

II.

"The messenger draws near, dismounts; with graceful salutation and hardly suppressed emotion delivers his message: 'Sir, I am from General Gordon. General Lee desires a cessation of hostilities until he can hear from General Grant as to the proposed surrender.'"

There follow orders to cease firing, and a period of truce extending till an hour after noon for the purposes of the great consultation. But our author continues:

"One o'clock comes; no answer from Lee. Nothing for us but to shake hands and take arms to resume hostilities. As I turned to go, General Griffin said to me in a low voice, 'Prepare to make, or receive, an attack in ten minutes!' It was a sudden change of tone in our relations, and brought a queer sensation. Where my troops had halted the opposing lines were in close proximity. The men had stacked arms and were resting in place. It did not seem like war we were to recommence, but wilful murder.

"But the order was only to 'prepare,' and that we did. Our troops were in good position, my advanced line across the road, and we stood fast intensely waiting. I had mounted and sat looking at the scene before me, thinking of all that was impending and depending, when I felt coming in upon me a strange sense of some presence invisible but powerful—like those unearthly visitants told of in ancient story, charged with supernatural message.

"Disquieted, I turned about, and there behind me, riding in between my two lines, appeared a commanding form, superbly mounted, richly accoutred, of imposing bearing, noble countenance, with expression of deep sadness overmastered by deeper strength. It is no other than Robert E. Lee! And seen by me for the first time within my own lines. I sat immovable, with a certain awe and admiration. He was coming, with a single staff officer, for the great appointed meeting which was to determine momentous issues.

"Not long after, by another inleading road, appeared another form, plain, unassuming, simple and familiar to our eyes, but to the thought as much inspiring awe as Lee in his splendour and his sadness. It is Grant! He, too, comes with a single aide, a staff officer of Sheridan's, who had come out to meet him.

"Slouched hat without cord; common soldier's blouse, unbuttoned, on which, however, the four stars; high boots, mud-splashed to the top; trousers tucked inside; no sword, but the sword-hand deep in his pocket; sitting his saddle with the ease of a born master, taking no notice of anything, all his faculties gathered into intense thought and mighty calm. He seemed greater than I had ever seen him, a look as of another world about him. No wonder I forgot altogether to salute him. Anything like that would have been too little."

The first phase of the Surrender over, there remained the formal arrangement of terms, the writing of paroles. The preparations for the departure of troops. Meanwhile the soldiers of both armies mingled as one body, swapping stories, souvenirs and supplies.

"At noon of the 11th the troops of the Army of the James took up the march to Lynchburg, to make sure of that yet doubtful point of advantage. Lee and Grant had both left; Lee for Richmond, to see his dying wife; Grant for Washington, only that once more to see again Lincoln living. The business transactions had been settled, the parole papers made out; all was ready for the last turn—the dissolving view of the Army of Northern Virginia."

Concerning that final event:

"Our earnest eyes scan the busy groups

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on the opposite slopes, breaking camp for the last time, taking down their little shelter tents and folding them carefully as precious things, then slowly forming ranks as for unwelcome duty. And now they move. The dusky swarms forge forward into grey columns of march. On they come, with the old swinging route step and swaying battleflags.

"In the van, the proud Confederate ensign—the great field of white with canton of star-strewn cross of blue on a field of red, the regimental battleflags with the same escutcheon following on, crowded so thick, by thinning out of men, that the whole column seemed crowned with red. At the right of our line our little group mounted beneath our flags, the red Maltese cross on a field of white, erewhile so bravely borne through many a field more crimson than itself, its mystic meaning now ruling all.

"The momentous meaning of this occasion impresses me deeply. I resolved to mark it by some token of recognition, which could be no other than a salute of arms. Well aware of the responsibility assumed, and of the criticisms that would follow, as the sequel proved, nothing of that kind could move me in the least.

"Before us in proud humiliation stood the embodiment of manhood: men whom neither toils and sufferings, nor the fact of death, nor disaster, nor hopelessness, could bend from their resolve; standing before us now, thin, worn, and famished, but erect, and with eyes looking level into ours, waking memories that bound us together as no other bond—was not such manhood to be welcomed back into a union so tested and assured?

"Instructions had been given; and when the head of each division column comes opposite our group, our bugle sounds the signal, and instantly our whole line from right to left, regiment by regiment in succession, gives the soldier's salutation, from the 'order arms' to the old 'carry'—the marching salute.

"Gordon at the head of the column, riding with heavy spirit and downcast face, catches the sound of shifting arms, looks up, and, taking the meaning, wheels superbly, making with himself and his horse one uplifted figure, with profound salutation as he drops the point of the sword to the boot toe; then, facing to his own command, gives word for his successive brigades to pass us with the same position of the manual—honour answering honour.

"On our part not a sound of trumpet more, nor roll of drum; not a cheer, nor word, nor whisper of vain-glorying, nor motion of man standing again at the order, but an awed stillness rather, and breath-

holding, as if it were the passing of the dead!

"As each successive division masks our own, it halts, the men face inward toward us across the road, twelve feet away; then carefully 'dress' their line, each captain taking pains for the good appearance of his company, worn and half-starved as they were. The field and staff take their positions in the intervals of regiments; general's in rear of their commands.

"They fix bayonets, stack arms; then, hesitatingly, remove cartridge boxes and lay them down. Lastly—reluctantly, with agony of expression—they tenderly fold their flags, battle-worn and torn, blood-stained, heart-holding colours, and lay them down; some frenziedly rushing from the ranks, kneeling over them, clinging to them, pressing them to their lips with burning tears. And only the Flag of the Union greets the sky!"

(To be concluded).

Satan Rebuking Sin

England is like the boa constrictor. She covers with her own slime whatever she prepares to devour. She is ever ready to weep over the sufferings of any vassal of her enemies, and equally ready to drop the oppressed whenever the enemy is brought to terms. For seventy years England was the strenuous defender of Turkey, fighting one war and then threatening others avowedly for Turkey's protection. She resisted the liberation of the Christian provinces in Europe, and succeeded in temporarily preventing it for some. Yet, now when Bulgaria, the most powerful of the Christian States of old Turkey, is fighting as the ally of her former suzerain, England has suddenly awoke to the sufferings of the Christians. Her heart is rent because the government of Armenia is not given over to the "Armenians," a peculiar Christian sect who do not constitute over 15 per cent. of the population of that portion of the old kingdom of Armenia now included in Turkey. She has nothing to say for the liberty of the "Armenians" in the Russian portion of the old kingdom, nor even for those in the Persian portion, for these latter, too, she has abandoned to the tender mercies of "the bear that walks like a man."

England can always discover atrocities in the treatment of a subject race by an enemy power. She has only to remember her own past and transfer her own doings. But counting on our ignorance, she sometimes does the trick in a raw manner. For instance, her latest witness as to the atrocities committed upon the Armenians is an Anato-

lian Greek, who claims to have arrived recently from Marsivan. According to this voracious gentleman, 15,000 Christians, Armenian in race, were killed or driven from Marsivan before he left. And passing through Angora practically under guard, he managed to discover that 12,000 Catholics had been similarly treated in that city. Now the great English authority, the "Encyclopedia Britannica," gives the population of Marsivan as "about 20,000, two-thirds of Mussulmans." It sets the total Christian population of Marsivan at 9,400. Moreover, the Catholics who do not act as agents of Russia, have never suffered heretofore in Turkey's political broils, and besides, the Catholics of Ankora are Turkish speaking, and thus possess an additional bond with the majority of the people of the country, which the Gregorian Armenians lack.—The "Irish World," New York.

We read some amazing things in the London "Times." We wonder what would be the fate of the editor of "The Hibernian" had he written the following:—"It would be the correct stroke (for the Germans), now that we have scattered our armies widely all over the world, to hit us at home. . . It might well be considered that the damage done by 100,000 men landed in England might be worth the certainty of their eventual destruction." This, however, is the suggestion which a great daily makes as a present to the Germans.

The Rome correspondent of the "Irish Catholic" says:—All Madrid was stirred when the well-known Republican Deputy for the capital, Don Luis Talavera, Mason and Freethinker, published in a letter to the Bishop of Madrid the solemn retraction of his past errors and misdoings, and announced his return to the bosom of the Church and his resolution to devote the remainder of his life and energies to repairing the damage he has done both by his example, his writings, and his speeches. The document, in beautiful and moving language, ascribes his anti-religious past to imperfect knowledge, shallowness of learning, and unconfessed pride. As well as a Freethinker, he had been a Freemason, and of this he sincerely repents, for "although Masonry is not now in Spain what it was in other epochs, the atmosphere of irreligion which is breathed therein, the philosophic rationalism and sceptical indifference of which it boasts, fully justify the excommunication which weighs upon it." He still continues Republican, as he sees no incompatibility between this form of government and the Catholic religion, but should such incompatibility exist or come to pass at any time, he would abandon his life-long cherished political convictions. Senor Talavera also published his profession of Faith in all the city papers, and announced that if his Republican constituents thought he could not logically and honourably continue to represent them through his return to the Catholic Church, he would place in their hands his seat in Parliament.

Naturally, curiosity was excited to see how the Republicans would correspond to this offer. But anyone knowing Spanish Republicanism need not have doubted for a moment. Spanish Republicanism is merely Masonry, free thought, violent sectarian hatred of the Catholic Church, in a political setting. Hence the immediate outpouring of the vials of their wrath on the Catholic Republican Deputy by such papers as "El Pais" and "El Liberal." The latter bluntly told the convert his election was the work of Masons and Freethinkers, and, therefore, his declaration deprived him of all right to continue in the Parliamentary representation of a Republicanism he didn't represent. So now matters are quite clear. According to the party of religious tolerance and liberty of conscience and worship, a Deputy, in proclaiming himself Catholic, must cease to belong to organised Republicanism!

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CSO/SD/2/184 (26)

Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington on America,
(Continued from Page 1).

pathised, for the most part, with the Allies. The Wilson administration was strongly pro-British. This was to be explained largely by the fact that the momentary interests of America were closely linked with the momentary interests of England. America was a country ruled by money, England was the same; whilst in Germany the influence of money was not so great.

Mr. Redmond had completely lost his hold on the Irish in America. He was about to start a newspaper, which would not be read in America, but was intended to be sent to Ireland to delude the Irish people.

An appreciative account was given of the efforts of the Ford mission to obtain a fair peace, and the sympathy of the meeting was unanimously voted to the Ford mission.

Mr. Sheehy Skeffington also dealt with the question of woman suffrage and the advanced labour movement. He concluded by expressing the hope that Ireland would before long become a co-operative commonwealth, in which the best elements of American and German civilisation would be blended, the citizens free to develop their own individuality, and still being thoroughly devoted to the interests of the community.

The audience were delighted with Mr. Sheehy Skeffington's handling of the subject, though he did not seem to remember the union years before the war of the Germans and Irish in opposition to the proposed Anglo-American alliance, in the bringing about of which union Mr. Matthew Cummings took a prominent part. The audience might have been composed of Irish-Americans their sentiments were so anti-British; at one point a voice cried out, "Gott Strafe England," and the sentiment was loudly applauded. Madame Markievicz's statement that, though she wished well to the Ford mission, she did not want peace until Ireland had gained her liberty, was received with loud cheers.

OUR LIMERICK COMPETITION.

The above Competition proved a huge success. The number of Entries was a large one, and involved much careful scrutiny. The Editor has awarded the prize to

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Owing to the huge numbers of Coupons that have reached this Office, the Editor finds it impossible to get through all in time to announce the winner in this week's issue. Consequently, entrants will have to possess their souls in patience till next week, when the result will be definitely announced.

In this issue will be found a new Limerick, the last line of which our readers are asked to supply. Don't delay, but send in your efforts early.

WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO—For this Competition, write a line to complete the following Unfinished Limerick:—

At the beginning of this New Year
Some things are not very clear—
Though he would be a fool
Who'd aver we'd Home Rule

1.....

At the beginning of this New Year
Some things are not very clear—
Though he would be a fool
Who'd aver we'd Home Rule

2.....

I enter LIMERICKS Competition in accordance with the rules announced, and agree to accept the Editor's decision as final and legally binding.

Name.....

Address.....

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Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the Postal Order. Friends may send as many coupons as they please in one envelope, provided sufficient postage is attached. Envelopes must be marked "Limerick" in the top left-hand corner and addressed THE HIBERNIAN, 28 N. Frederick Street, Dublin. All entries to be in the Editor's hands not later than THURSDAY- 13th JAN., 1916.

Don't wait, but send in your Coupons now.

The Editor undertakes that all Limericks received shall have careful consideration, and the prize awarded according to his opinion of their merit, but his decision as to the prize-winner must be accepted by all competitors as final and legally binding in all respects, and entries are accepted on this understanding.

The Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid. The published decision may be amended by the Editor as the result of successful scrutinies. In the event of two or more competitors sending in the same winning Limerick, the prize will be divided.

Employees of THE HIBERNIAN are not allowed to compete.

No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition. The result of this competition will be announced in THE HIBERNIAN dated January 22nd, 1916.

Cumann na mBan
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An Outspoken Scrap of Paper.

Edited by GILBERT GALBRAITH.

Vol: I. No. 14.

DUBLIN, SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1916

ONE HALFPENNY

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LEGALISED IMMORALITY.

Since war was declared in 1914 we, in Ireland have been appealed to by placard, and by the impassioned oratory of hired recruiting agents to lend our (apparently) valuable aid in the task of whacking the Hun. Curiously enough these insistent and persistent appeals have almost entirely been based upon moral grounds, and upon the moral rectitude of England's cause. The vandalism, the inhumanity, the irreligion, and the general frightfulness of the Huns, have been dilated upon at great length and we were left to infer that the moral duty automatically devolved upon us of setting out to crush this pestiferous growth, and to stamp it out effectually by joining the Army of Christian England. It is worthy of note that exceptional stress was laid upon the barbarous and brutish offences which the Germans committed against the female population in those parts of the country which they entered as invaders, and whole pages of the report of the Bryce Commission upon the German Atrocities in Belgium are devoted to this topic. Upon the people of Ireland, where freedom from and abhorrence of this type of crime constitute the special virtues of the nation, this appeal was pressed home with exceptional zeal, and many simple-minded folk were sufficiently impressed by the

noise made to believe that England, which supplies us with her suggestive Sunday papers, and France, which added the indecent postcard to the stock of agencies for our demoralisation, were really the protectors of womanly virtue.

Now it is a notorious fact that the French people have practically no regard for the sanctity of marriage, or for the sacramental nature of its institution. In an atheism-ridden country, this condition of affairs is inevitable, and the State of France has given its sanction and recognition to immorality by legally recognising illegitimacy. It is equally certain that England has progressed quite as far as France along the same road, with the difference, however, that before the war England did not accord any legal recognition to illegitimacy, or co-habitation between unmarried people of different sex. We may guess, then, to what extent the evil has permeated the English social system, when we find that it became necessary, on the outbreak of war, to take cognisance of this form of depravity and legalise immorality by special clauses in the Army Separation Allowance Regulations. These regulations now provide that separation allowances may be granted to an unmarried woman who has been entirely maintained by a soldier and for any children whom the soldier has maintained in her charge. "The full allotment must be paid as for a wife and children (5s. 10d. in the case of a sergeant, and 3s. 6d. in the case of a private or corporal)."

The regulations then go on to deal with the very worst and most disreputable phase of this evil. Should the soldier tire of supporting the unmarried woman or the children, and wish to rid himself of the burden, the Separation Allowance regulations are quite ready and willing to back him up in casting off his responsibilities. The clause dealing with the matter

HONESTY.

reads:—"It must be clearly understood in all cases that if the soldier stops his allotment the Government's allowance will also cease, and if he reduces his contributions the Government may reduce theirs."

It is a subject into which we do not care to probe very deeply or to discuss at any considerable length, while we are holding the attention of an Irish audience. We have thus publicly analysed it because we think it well to clear the Irish mind of the fallacies concerning the moral issues of the present war which interested people have disseminated from poster and platform. We do not know whether the Germans are as bad as they are painted, nor do we very much care, as the reckoning lies purely between themselves and their Omnipotent Creator. But we have no doubts as to the morality of the English, now that their own official documents have been thrown into the scale of evidence against them. Hence we are not likely to pay much attention to any protestations of regard for morality from that quarter of the world until a clean bill of health can be shewn for the native inhabitant.

RUSSIA'S "SCRAP OF PAPER."

HOW FINLAND STANDS.

It is passing strange that England, whose sympathetic regard for Small Nationalities in the gross has been extolled at considerable length, has apparently no voice wherewith to champion the cause of that much-oppressed people, the Finns. Finland takes the rank of a Grand Duchy of the Russian Empire, having been conquered by Alexander I. in 1809 after a heroic defence. Previously, Finland had enjoyed a Constitution which embodied all the free political institutions of the Swedes, who united under one Government the scattered clans of the Finns in 1323. Alexander, however, deemed it politic to abrogate none of the liberties of the Finns existing previous to the conquest of the country, and he summoned a representative Parliament, which is known to Finnish history as the Diet of Borga. The Emperor then signed the following Declaration to the representatives of the Finnish nation, which they have since regarded as the charter of their liberties:

"Providence having placed us in possession of the Grand Duchy of Finland, We have desired by the present act to conform and ratify the Religion and fundamental Laws of the Land, as well as the privileges and rights which each class in the said Grand Duchy, in particular, and all the inhabitants in general, be their position high or low, have hitherto enjoyed according to

the Constitution. We promise to maintain all these laws firm and unshaken in their full force."

On the basis of this declaration and the Parliamentary Constitution granted to them, the Finnish people, through their representatives, pledged their fealty to the new Grand Duke. The Constitution made Finland virtually independent of Russia, and even Russians emigrating to Finland had to go through the same process of naturalisation as other foreigners. Finland was also provided with a national army, and complete control of judicial matters, Finance, Public Worship, Education, Agriculture, Communications, and Industries. Moreover, it was a fundamental principle of the Finnish Constitution that the country should be governed by and with the assistance of native authorities only.

The immediate successors of Alexander I. continued to deal with Finland in a liberal manner, and some valuable extensions of the liberties of the country were granted, including the right to initiate legislation. For a brief interval in the reign of Nicholas I., a drastic edict of that monarch was in operation forbidding the publication of books in the national language (1850), but this had soon to be repealed, and in 1856 the Finnish tongue was admitted to Government offices and Courts of Justices. (Inter alia it may be remarked that there is still a question in Finland whether Swedish or Finnish should be the national tongue).

All the successors of Alexander I., on ascending the throne, renewed the declaration to the Finnish people set forth above. In 1898, however, under Nicholas II., a new phase in Finnish history was entered upon—when the Czar, though a signatory to the declaration, made a raid upon the liberties of the Finns, by ordering a demobilisation of the Finnish army, by appointing alien officials, by making the Russian language compulsory in public departments, and by transferring the administrative powers of the Finnish Parliament to the Governor-General of Finland, General Bobrikoff. This was in pursuance of what was known as the "Russification" policy, and it compares quite closely with the Anglicisation policy which has been pursued here in Ireland. Finland, it need scarcely be said, did not take this lying down, and vigorous opposition was offered. In 1899, however, the Czar, by manifesto, limited the competence of the Finnish Parliament to minor local matters, and thus overthrew the Constitution he had pledged himself to maintain. A state of chaos prevailed in the land, as the Finlanders resolutely declined to recognise the new condition of affairs, and the Czar and his minions added further tyrannies to the list of their achievements.

In 1904, however, Finland achieved a much-

HONESTY.

needed national unity, and the days of Russian tyranny were numbered. Russia's "difficulty" arose in the Russo-Jap war, and Finland seized her "opportunity." On one day a general strike of the nation was declared, and all the public services closed down. The effect was excellent, and the more important of the previous unconstitutional measures were repealed. Finnish women had played a noble part in the events which led up to Finland's triumph, and it was not surprising to find that the first subsequent Finnish Diet that assembled decreed the eligibility of women to become Members of Parliament.

Since then, however, fresh attempts have been made by the present Russian Government to abrogate the liberties of Finland. In 1908, the Russian Council of Ministers was invested with far-reaching powers to interfere in the business of Finland. In 1910 the Czar sanctioned a proposal which withdrew many questions from the competence of the Finnish Parliament. In 1912 the Russian Government went a step further and declared that Russians could be appointed to Finnish official positions over the heads of the Finnish Parliament. The process has gone on, and the liberties of Finland are being slowly filched from her despite her protestations. But for Russia another era of "difficulty" has now loomed on the horizon. All genuine lovers of liberty will hope that it will involve another day of "opportunity" for poor oppressed Finland.

We wonder is there any parallel in modern history to this tangled and thorny skein of relations between Finland and Russia. What would Ireland do if any country oppressed her as Russia has oppressed Finland? Would she declare a general strike and paralyse the national life of her oppressors?

We wonder also if we will succeed in interesting our West British friends in the woes of this "Small Nationality," and in the Sanctity of that Treaty (the "scrap of paper") by which its liberties were guaranteed.

BRITISH "FRIGHTFULNESS."

Seven citizens of the United States have made on oath a circumstantial statement concerning the sinking and destruction, under horrible circumstances, of a German submarine and its crew. The incident occurred off the coast of Ireland on August 17th last year, and the affidavits of these Americans have now received a belated publication by the British Government—and, extraordinary as it may appear, when one considers the grave nature of the charges involved, they are allowed to pass almost without comment.

Six of these American citizens shipped upon the British steamer Nicosian as muleteers and superintendents. According to their statements:

The Nicosian carried about 350 mules for war purposes, thus being laden with contraband. On August 19th, the steamer was stopped by a German submarine and fired on, after the whole crew, including the witnesses, had first left the ship in the lifeboats.

When the witnesses were in the lifeboats outside the line of fire from the submarine a steamer, which had been already noticed by the witnesses, Garrett, Hightower, Clark and Curran, when still on board the Nicosian, approached the spot. This, as afterwards transpired, was the British auxiliary cruiser Baralong. As this steamer approached, all the witnesses noticed clearly that she was flying the American flag at the stern, and that she carried on her sides large shields with the American flag painted on them. As the steamer carried the distinguishing marks of a neutral ship and had shown signals, which, according to the seafaring members of the crew of the Nicosian, meant that she was willing to assist if desired, and as there was nothing in her outward appearance to indicate her warlike character, the crew in the lifeboats presumed that she was merely concerned with their rescue.

While the submarine was firing at close range on the port side of the Nicosian, the unknown steamer came up behind the latter and steamed past on her starboard side. When she was a short distance ahead of the Nicosian's bow she opened fire on the submarine at first, as all the witnesses, with the exception of Garrett, affirm, with small arms, and immediately afterwards with cannon, which had been hidden up to that time with screens, and were only visible when the latter were removed. The witness Curran also deposed that the American flag flying at the stern of the unknown ship was only lowered after the rifle fire. He repeated this statement in the affidavit made before the public notary, Robert Schwarz, at New York, on October 21, 1915. (Annex No. 4).

As the submarine, after being struck several times, began to sink, the commander and a number of seamen sprang overboard, the seamen having first removed their clothes. Some of them (the number is given by the witnesses Garret and Curran as five) succeeded in getting on board the Nicosian, while the remainder seized the ropes left hanging in the water when the Nicosian's lifeboats were lowered. The men clinging to the ropes were killed partly by gunfire from the Baralong and partly by rifle fire from the crew, while the witnesses were boarding the Baralong from the lifeboats or were already on her deck. With regard to this, the witness Curran also further testifies that the commander of the unknown ship ordered his men to line up against the rail and to shoot at the helpless German seamen in the water.

Next, the commander of the Baralong steamed alongside the Nicosian, made fast to the latter, and then ordered some of his men to board the Nicosian and search for the German sailors who had taken refuge there. The witnesses, Palen and Curran testify regarding this incident that the commander gave the definite order "to take no prisoners." Four German sailors were found on the

Green, White, and Orange Celluloid Badges—One Penny each.—WHELAN & SON, 17 Upr. Omond Quay, Dublin.

Nicosian in the engine-room and screw tunnel, and were killed.

The commander of the submarine, as the witnesses unanimously testify, succeeded in escaping to the bows of the Nicosian. He sprang into the water and swam round to the bow of the ship towards the Baralong. The English seamen on board the Nicosian immediately fired on him, although, in a manner visible to all, he raised his hands as a sign that he wished to surrender, and continued to fire after a shot had apparently struck him in the mouth. Eventually he was killed by a shot in the neck.

The sworn testimony set forth above is corroborated by the seventh American citizen, who was enlisted in Liverpool, and was assigned to the war-vessel H.M.S. Baralong, on which he served as stoker at the time of the incident. He deposed that:

"The crew on the submarine, after the second shot, began to jump into the water. There were about fifteen of them, and they began to swim to the Nicosian. While they were in the water and swimming towards the Nicosian our gunman shelled them by orders from our commanding officer with 15lb. shells, and also fired rifles at them. From the best I could see, several of the crew on the German submarine were killed by our shell and rifle firing while in the water. Others were killed while attempting to climb up the ropes which had been thrown to them from the Nicosian. I should judge that three or four or five were killed while on these ropes."

The German Government, through the American Ambassador in London, asked for an investigation into this affair and the punishment of the offenders. The representations of the German Government (which included a threat of reprisals) was despatched from Berlin on November 28th and on December 14th the Foreign Office replied making counter-allegations against the Germans, which were quite irrelevant to the case under discussion, and apparently dismissing the whole charges in connection with the Baralong by saying that "even were the allegations accepted as they stand (and His Majesty's Government do not so accept them) the charge against the commander and crew of the Baralong is NEGLIGIBLE compared with the crimes which seem to have been deliberately committed by German officers, both on land and sea, against combatants and non-combatants." In conclusion, five months after the incident, they now publish the details of the affair.

Now it does not make the case any better for England to declare that she is the lesser of two criminals. We cannot accord our sympathy to a man who has committed a murder, under peculiarly inhuman circumstances, because he refers us to the case of a man who has committed two such murders. It is an appalling commentary upon the inhuman spirit in which war is waged on sea, (since the details stand uncontradicted) and it is a serious set-back to the admission of England's claim to be regarded as fighting the battle of civilization.

WHEN "WE" FOUGHT FRANCE

A Recruiting Poster of 100 Years Ago

Times are changed. Some hundred years ago "we" were at war with France, who, in England's current litany of devilry, enacted the role of The Hun. Recruiting posters were the vogue then, as now, and the following is a staple type of the appeals issued:—

TO THE WARRIORS OF ENGLAND.

In these times of common danger, when the *ruthless Plunderer of Nations* would convert English Liberty into French Oppression, there is no alternative between resistance or slavery; we must all be Soldiers; our services will be thankfully received either in England or abroad. You, therefore, who feel a pleasure in seeing Foreign Countries, have now an opportunity of visiting Gibraltar, where Soldiers are looked upon as Kings, and are so much respected, that Spaniards come into the Garrison, and returning to their friends, cry "*Who would be a Spanish Prince that had the power to be an English Soldier?*"

Here you will be envied by the men. You will be courted and adored by the women. Would you make your fortune with the Sex? Here are Ladies of all Countries to chuse out of—Love speaks for itself; and they know that Britons excel in its attributes. *Warriors of England*, clothe yourselves in red—convince these ladies you are Englishmen

Here also is an Asylum for those noble-hearted Young Men, who have had spirit enough to get into debt by drinking the Health of their Sovereign, and have not got the means of paying those who have been so *patriotic* as to trust them: In addition to these two advantages, Gibraltar affords many peculiar comforts; a fine healthy climate, subject to no excess of heat or cold, plenty of provisions, such as beef, mutton, potatoes, &c., abundantly cheap. In short the luxury is so self-evident, that when one sees a fat Soldier in this Country, it is a common proverb to say, "*Such a one has been living at Gibraltar.*"

Can any wise man, then, be so blind to his own interest, as to relinquish the certainty of so many lasting advantages, for the momentary gratification of a few guineas additional bounty? No—Gibraltar is the place for a Soldier—Seven Pounds Ten Shillings is the Bounty allowed by his Majesty, and is more than sufficient to make you comfortable on your passage. The only consideration for you is, what Regiment will be the most desirable for you to enter?