

**Captain George Berkeley Papers
Descriptive List
Cork City and County Archives
Ref. IE CCCA/PR12**

Identity Statement Area

Reference Code: IE CCCA/PR12

Title: Captain George Berkeley

Dates: 1914-1916, 1920-1921 (1930s-40s)

Level of description: Fonds

Extent and medium: 213 items plus 5 boxes of additional material

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Context

Archival History

Collection reference PR12 consists of the papers of Captain George Fitzhardinge Berkeley (1870-1955).

Biographical History

George Fitzhardinge Berkeley was born in 1870, the only child of Major George Sackville Berkeley. He was educated at Wellington and Keble College Oxford. In 1899 he married Caroline Isabel Mason (d. 1933). Served in Great War 1914-19 as Brigade Musketry Officer, also with 3 cavalry res. regt. and on Claims Commission in France and Italy. Justice of the Peace in Oxfordshire 1906-1937. Married his second wife, Joan Weld, in 1934. Member of Vincent's (Oxford) and Kildare Street (Dublin) clubs. Resided at Hanwell Castle near Banbury, Oxfordshire, England. Died 14 November 1955.

Publications include an article in 'Home rule problems', Ed. by Basil Williams, (London, 1911). Also 'The Irish Battalion in the Papal Army of 1860' (1930).

In November 1913, the Irish Volunteer Force (I.V.F.) was founded. A national committee was formed with Eoin MacNeill as Chairman, Bulmer Hobson as Secretary and Sir Roger Casement as Treasurer. In the Spring of 1914, Volunteer Corps were formed across Ireland. In 1914, a committee met in London to consider how to provide arms for the I.V.F. The members of the committee were included Sir Alexander Lawrence, Capt. George Fitzhardinge Berkeley, Mary Spring-Rice, her cousin Conor O'Brien, Erskine Childers and Darrell Figgis. Between them they subscribed £1,524 and Figgis was sent to Hamburg in order to purchase arms.

The arms were purchased. Erskine Childers on his yacht "Asgard" (now on display in Kilmainham Jail, Dublin) and Conor O'Brien on his yacht "Kelpie" set out to bring the arms to Ireland. On July 25, 1914, Erskine Childers, Mary Spring-Rice and two Donegal fishermen landed 900 Mauser rifles and 29,000 rounds of ammunition safely at Howth. Conor O'Brien also landed 600 Mauser rifles and 20,000 rounds at Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow.

In August 1914, the First World War started. John Redmond, leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, urged the members of the I.V.F. to join the British Army and to fight in Flanders in his now famous speech in Woodenbridge, Co. Wicklow. This caused a split in the I.V.F.

Content and Structure

Scope and Content

The collection has been arranged into 2 main sections. Section A relates to Berkeley's involvement with the Irish Volunteers. Section B relates to his involvement with the Irish Dominion League.

Berkeley was appointed in July 1914 as Chief Inspecting Officer for the Irish Volunteers in Belfast and in counties Down and Antrim (PR12/56), although subsequently he resigned from duties outside Belfast (PR12/57). The collection contains some material, mainly notes and correspondence, relating to the organisation and training of the Belfast Regiment of the Irish Volunteers in 1914 (PR12/96, /117, /121, /128) and a small amount of material relating to other areas in the North of Ireland (PR12/79, /89, /91).

Some items relate to the national organisation of the Irish Volunteers PR12/69, /71, /108, /112), and include some mention of importation of munitions (PR12/35). There are also a number of items relating to tension in Belfast during 1914 (PR12/4, /8, 10, /93).

Regarding the wider political situation in Ireland in 1914, there is evidence of Berkeley's contact with John Redmond of the Home Rule Party (PR12/32 - /34), and some indication of Berkeley's views on the political situation at the time (PR12/97, /98).

The collection contains some correspondence from one of Berkeley's Unionist friends in Cork, expressing concern about the evolving political and military situation in Ireland (PR12/99 - /107).

Also found is the text of a published article by Mary Spring Rice from the Irish Press on gun importation at Howth in 1914 (PR12/128a).

Berkeley became involved in the Irish Dominion League in 1920. The League was formed as a platform for the promotion of dominion Home Rule for Ireland (PR12/208). The collection contains correspondence relating to the League such as from Henry Harrison, Honorary Secretary (PR12/133), from the London Committee of the League (PR12/151, /153), and circular letters from Sir Horace Plunkett (PR/168-/171). There is also material relating to a Bill from Lord Monteaagle in June 1920 for Dominion Home Rule for Ireland (PR12/163), and some material about the Irish Peace Conference in September 1920 (PR12/181, /182). Also included are publications by the League and related organisations, and newsclippings (PR12/208).

Arrangement

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Accruals

Several additional boxes due to be accessioned from Cork City Library in 2008.

Conditions of Access and Use

Open by appointment to those holding a current readers ticket.

Allied Materials

Military Archives, Cathal Brugha Barracks, Rathmines, Dublin 6. Witness statements by George F.H. Berkeley

University College Dublin: Ref. P81, Minute book of the Irish Volunteers, Belfast Committee.

References

Kelly's handbook to the titled, landed and official classes, 1954, p.267:

Archivists Note

Brian McGee
Archivist, Cork Archives Institute
May 2005, Aug 2010

LIST OF ITEMS AND DESCRIPTIONS

A. Irish Volunteers

I Correspondence (1913-1914)

i Relating to Belfast Irish Volunteers

1 9 September 1913

Letter, from George Taaffe, Smarmone Castle, Ardee, Co. Louth, to 'My dear Berkeley' (George F.H. Berkeley). He is unable to go to Belfast and will be helping the Down people. He fears he 'should not have the patience to deal with political factionists' and has also offered his services to the War Office.

2pp

2 23 July 1914

Letter, from P.J. O'Neill, St. Malachy's College, Belfast, to 'Dear Sir'. Relates that owing to the death of the Bishop, Most Rev. Dr. Tohill, they cannot grant permission for the use of the grounds by the Irish Volunteers.

1p

3 28 [July] 1914

Letter, from William Juinn, Broomhill, Glen Road, Belfast, to 'Dear Sir' (George Berkeley). He cannot let Berkeley have his grazing field as he is very short of grass at present.

1p

4 28 July 1914

Letter from Major Blair Child, General Sir Nevil Macready's office. Sir Nevil has no information of the nature indicated in Berkley's letter, and the matter properly concerns the Chief Commissioner of Police. (See also PR12/93)

2pp

5 29 July 1914

Letter, from D. McCullough, Chairman, Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers, to George Berkeley. He is in receipt of the rifles, 5 miniature, 1 Lee-Metford, and 1 air rifle. He undertakes that they will not be handed over to private individuals but will be retained by the authorities in Command.

1p

6 30 July 1914

Letter from T.W. McCotter, St. Joseph's Presbytery, Pilot Street, Belfast, to 'Dear Capt. Berkeley'. The Catholic body are represented by 'The Catholic Vigilance Committee' with J.J. McDonnell J.P. and Murphy as secretaries. Mentions danger zone arrangements on occasion of the 3rd Reading of the Home Rule Bill and (12th of) July celebrations. The arrangements are known and appreciated by Major General Macready and under these circumstances 'I do not think it necessary or prudent for the Irish Volunteers to intervene'.

1p

7 4 August 1914

Letter, from Herbert Pim, 6 Royal Avenue, Belfast, to 'Dear Capt. Berkeley'. Asks Berkeley to come for supper. Mentions Dr. Crone of Irish literary fame, Editor of the Irish Book Lover, and F.J. Biggar.

2pp

8 4 August 1914

Resolutions made by the General Committee of the Irish Volunteers, Belfast Regiment. Concern question of Provisional Government orders in case of 'outbreak by a riotous mob' to mount unarmed and armed piquets in the Falls district.

2pp

9 5 August 1914

Note, from Herbert Pim, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast, to 'Dear Capt. Berkeley'. Concerns a meeting.

1p

10 5 August 1914

'Confidential Memorandum'. Contains resolutions of General Committee, Irish Volunteers, Belfast, Colonel Cotter and Captain Berkeley. Concerns Provisional Government called by Unionists, preparation against attack in Falls Road district, North district, and East and South districts.

2pp

11 11 August 1914

Letter, from Lorenzo Martin, Irish Volunteers Force, South Belfast Regiment, 1st Battalion, 'C' Company, to 'Dear Captain Berkeley'. Asks Berkeley to a meeting in Alfred Street.

1p

12 16 August 1914

Letter, from William Skeffington, 24 Oranmore Street, Belfast, to 'Dear Captain Berkeley'. Requests Berkeley to receive a deputation from members of 'D' Company 2nd Battalion West, in relation to 'misunderstanding which occurred at Shann's Park'.

1p

13 17 August 1914

Letter, from John C. Fagan, The Office, Divis Street, Belfast, to Captain Berkeley. Concerns training manuals.

1p

14 17 August 1914

Letter from H.F. McNally, 61 Raglan Street, Belfast, to 'Sir'. The corps for the training of young officers has been in existence for the past three weeks. Mentions examination and that 'we have as yet received no training whatever in Musketry'.

1p

15 21 August 1914

Letter, from J.J. Holland, Captain, Irish Volunteers, City of Limerick Regiment, 1 Lower Hartonge Street, Limerick, to Captain Berkeley. Concerns Berkeley's

enquiry about 'D. Meagher' who was an instructor in 'H' Company, who left under 'an insubordinate fashion'.

2pp

16 23 August 1914

Letter, from Charles Smyth, 30 Elmhill Street, Belfast, to 'Sir'. Concerns an incident while the South Belfast Regiment was on parade. Mentions the 'kindest regards' felt about Berkeley.

4pp

17 26 August 1914

Letter, from John Maginn, Secretary, Irish Volunteers 'E' Company, 1st West Battalion, 59 Ross Street, Belfast, to 'Dear Sir' (Captain Berkeley). Thanks Berkeley for his letter explaining his absence from their social event.

3pp

18 28 August 1914

Letter, from W. Dowds, Section Cycles, 47 Derby Street, Falls Road, Belfast, to Captain Berkeley, Officer Commanding, Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers. Begs to be excused for not being present at musketry practice.

2pp

19 28 August 1914

Letter, from 'E' Company, 1st West Battalion, Irish Volunteers, Belfast, to Captain Berkeley. Concerns changing of parade day to Sunday.

[1p]

20 1 September 1914

Letter from William Downey, Hon. Sec., Irish Volunteers, 116 Divis Street, Belfast to Captain George Berkeley. Forwards a list of articles for the ambulance section.

2pp

21 2 September 1914

- Letter from Timothy Scannell, Chairman; Stephen Keenan, Treasurer; John Maginn, Secretary, 'E' Company 1st West Battalion, St. Peter's District, Irish Volunteers, to Captain George Berkeley. Apologises for the breach of discipline in making a letter of protest.
- 2pp
- 22 3 September 1914
- Letter, from Patrick McElroy, 61 Milford Street, Falls Road, Belfast to Captain George Berkeley, Irish Volunteers, Belfast Regiment. Requests interview in reference to his army experience.
- 2pp
- 23 4 September 1914
- Letter, from Joseph Devlin, United Irish League, 39 Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin, to 'My dear Captain Berkeley', Grand Central Hotel, Belfast. Concerns letter from Berkeley. He will 'look up Mr. McGowan and thank him'.
- 1p
- 24 4 September [1914]
- Letter from Alice S. Green, 5 Sandford Terrace, [Dublin], to 'My dear Captain Berkeley'. She was 'greatly distressed' not to see him in Belfast. Asks Berkeley to send word as to how things have been settled, and on his successor. 'I hear you have done splendid work in Belfast. But at what sacrifice to yourself!'
- 2pp
- 25 5 September 1914
- Letter, from Laurence J. Kettle, Hon. Sec. , to Captain George Berkeley, Belfast. The Standing Committee of the Irish Volunteers has directed that a copy of a letter to the Belfast Provisional Committee be sent to Berkeley. (See also PR12/69)
- 1p
- 26 6 September 1914
- Letter, from J. Cusack, Lieutenant, Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers, 30 Divis Street, to Captain George Berkeley. Concerns appointment of a Mr. Boland as an officer.

[1p]

27 6 September 1914

Letter from Patrick Lavery, Solicitor, 21 Chichester Street, Belfast, to Captain George Berkeley, C.O. Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers. Reports an incident where two volunteers were drunk and challenged each other to a fight. Their behaviour 'reflected very badly on our Volunteers and had a most injurious effect on the morale of the men...'

2pp

28 6 October 1914

Letter, from M.W. Byrne, 'Tievemore', Glenburn Park, Belfast, to Captain George Berkeley. Concerns his son, Leo F. Byrnes' attempts to get a commission in the British Army. Quotes telegram from Suffield re. qualifications for meeting with Lord Robert.

3pp

29 13 October 1914

Letter, from Mathew Byrnes, Glenburn Park, Belfast, to Captain George Berkeley. He has received a copy of Berkeley's letter from Mr. Suffield of London. 'Can you do anything further in the matter for us? Leo is very anxious to do something for our common country at this time of stress...the fact that he has to wear glasses...bars him from enlisting...but does not debar him from holding a commission...'

2pp

30 19 October 1914

Letter from M.W. Byrnes, Glenburn Park, Belfast to Captain George Berkeley. Thanks Berkeley for his letter. He would be very glad for him to write to Colonel Moore in reference to his son Leo. Moore, Mr. Redmond and Mr. Devlin are expected in Belfast for an inspection of the Volunteers. Outlines the situation 'generally', that Redmond expected the Irish Volunteers would have the same privileges as the Ulster Volunteers 'viz: Join Kitchiners army en bloc, be under their own officers' forming battalions of some existing Irish Regiment such as 'Connaught Rangers, Dublins or Munsters...This I am afraid will not materialise'. Notes that if 'we were of the same way of thinking as Sir Edward Carson' the present government would grant anything asked for. In this family 'both father and son are anxious to do their little bit in this war'. Leo is debarred due to his

sight and he is an officer in the Royal Naval Reserve but the Admiralty told him to 'carry on' with his work. Considering the urgent call there is for men, Byrnes concludes that 'the ways of the War Office and Admiralty are of a weird and novel kind'.

4pp

31 19 October 1914

Letter, from Seashan Ua Neill, Óglaigh Na hÉireann, Belfast Regiment, 46 Roe Street, Clifton Park, Belfast, to 'Sir'. Encloses postal order for 11 shillings. 'Things have not got on as well as they might have since you left'. Some people have very strong opinions as to Ireland remaining neutral, others that she should come forward in thousands. He disagrees with the first, and regarding the second thinks an Irish Brigade should be formed 'as a complete unit...or allow no man to join'. There are many men 'including myself who would be anxious to join such a brigade'. Writes concerning the split in the ranks of the Volunteers and McCullough's following 'nigh 500 strong'. Hopes 'that both parties will vie with one another as to which of them will be the most fit to defend our common country Ireland when she needs them'.

2pp

ii House of Commons

32 9 June 1914

Letter, from A. Donelan, House of Commons, to 'Dear Mr. Berkeley'. 'Mr. John Redmond will be very pleased to have a talk with you...'

1p

33 [10] June 1914

Note from A. Donelan, House of Commons, to 'Dear Mr. Berkeley', requesting him to send in a card when he arrives to meet Mr. Redmond.

1p

34 19 June 1914

Letter, from T.J. Hanna, House of Commons, to 'Dear Sir'. Thanks Berkeley on behalf of Mr. Redmond for his letter.

1p

35 25 July [1914]

Letter, from Eustace [Fiernes], House of Commons, to 'My Dear Mr. Berkeley'. Thanks Berkeley for his letter. 'You are certainly having a most exciting time...'. The 'general feeling' is better and more hopeful and the war is 'taking peoples attention off Ireland for the moment'. It is a 'very favourable opportunity now of raising guns' as the gun boats have been removed. He has heard from several members (Members of Parilament) that things are moving in this direction'. Notes the 'abominable' Dublin business, (possible reference to incidents surrounding the arrival of guns at Howth Co.Dublin) 'Birrell & Aberdeen ought to go, they have made a shocking mess of things'. He hopes to come over soon to see more of the 'Nationalist Forces' and to 'assist the movement in some way...'.

[2pp]

36 31 July [1914]

Letter, from Eustace [Fiernes], House of Commons, to 'My dear Berkeley'. He has been 'urging all day our Irish friends in the House' to get the Irish Volunteers to volunteer and is convinced that this would have 'enormous value' for the cause of Home Rule, completely cutting 'the ground from under the feet of the Unionists & orangemen'. He would come over tomorrow and take command of such a Regiment. 'Not a moment should be lost...an offer from Belfast Nationalists...would astonish everyone and...leave Castlereagh McCahnout Craig and their Regiments...stone cold'. This must take place at once. He notes that many of the Nationalist members 'think very well of the idea' but don't know how to move and are too slow.

4pp

iii Offers of Help

37 10 June 1914

Letter, from Edward Boyle, 1 Kings Bench Walk, Temple, E.C. (London) to 'Dear Mr. Berkeley'. He is writing to W.M. Crook, P.S. Kershaw and Sir Arthur Lever who 'may feel in a position to help you'.

2pp

38 11 June 1914

Letter from Philip Kershaw, Shobley, Ringwood, Hants., England, to 'Dear Sir' (George Berkeley). His knowledge of military affairs is nil but he can fly an aeroplane and will contribute to funds.

2pp

39 12 August 1914

Letter, from Joseph J. Burns, 'G' Company, Royal Engineers, St. Mary's Barracks, Chatham, England, to 'Dear Captain'. Marked 'Confidential'. He has settled down and mobilization is taking a good time, and is pleased Lord Kitchner is at the helm, '...there is one important thing he has done and that is the Irish business. Has anything been done in the matter yet...'. He offers his services 'providing it was in conjunction with army movements'.

2pp

40 18 August 1914

Letter, from M. Burns, 104 Bridge End, Belfast, to Captain Berkeley. Asks if her husband Joseph Burns can get an appointment closer to home.

3pp

41 28 August 1914

Letter, from Lieutenant Colonel O.H. Fisher, Bradenham Hall, Bognor, East Sussex, England, to 'Dear Sir' (Captain George Berkeley). Thanks him for his letter. Requests to know whether there is remuneration available to officers in the Irish Volunteers, as he is not in a position to work gratuitously, although he is 'in hearty sympathy with the movement'.

4pp

42 11 September 1914

Letter, from Lieutenant Colonel O.H. Fisher, East Sussex, England. He has been called up for service in the army and on his release will contact Colonel Moore.

2pp

43 13 September [1914]

Letter from Hervey de Montmorency, (b1868 – d1942), [former Inspector or Commander, Wicklow Brigade, Irish Volunteers Shanganagh Cottage, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin, to 'My dear Berkeley'. He is coming to Belfast and is

‘sick of this playing at soldiers in this awful crisis...why don’t the Volunteers...enlist in K’s (Kitchner’s) army...’.

2pp

44(a) 14 September 1914

Letter, from Hervey de Montmorency (b1868 – d1942) [former Inspector or Commander, Wicklow Brigade, Irish Volunteers], Ballybrack, Co. Dublin. He is sorry he cannot take over the Belfast Volunteers, ‘it is quite out of the question’. He is joining the Dublin Fusiliers as a Captain and hopes to be sent to the front. He is ‘utterly sick’ of the Volunteers, who have no officers and submit to a ‘contemptible crew of leaders’. Money is spent paying the expenses of ‘crazy creatures’ who make ‘bloodthirsty speeches’. The Volunteers missed the ‘greatest opportunity’ when they failed to back up John Redmond’s speech. He shudders to think what Home Rule means under the leadership of McNeill and O’Rahilly. Concludes, ‘it is better to be a captain in the British army than a Field Marshal in the Irish Volunteers’.

4pp

44(b) 14 June 1916

Note, from Thomas A. Motion, 1st Warwickshire Yeomanry, Wrotham, Kent, to George Berkeley, Oxfordshire. He has received his letter and is writing to Colonel Beech.

1p

44(c) 18 October 1916

Letter, from Alice S. Green, 36 Grosvenor Road, Westminster, London, to ‘My dear Captain Berkeley’. Concerns ‘the publications’. She notes that 2 of the ‘very best workers in Irish Mr. Flower and Mr. O’Rahilly...could...organise anything’. Mentions Mr. O’Rahilly applying for the Irish Chair at Cork.

1p

iv From Alec and Anne Lawrence

45 4 July 1914

- Letter, from Alec Lawrence, to 'My dear Berkeley'. 'Here is my copy of the little Browning...'.
1p
- 46 19 July 1914
Letter from Anne Lawrence, near Bath, England, to 'My dear Mr. Berkeley'. Concerns possible meeting between Alec Lawrence and Berkeley. Mentions a friend, Miss Mabel Dickinson, who is prepared to help the Volunteers, 'she could command a battalion admirably but Alec thinks there is so much prejudice against militant women that even Joan of Arc herself would be sent back to her family!'.
2pp
- 47 28 July 1914
Letter, from Anne E. Lawrence, Brockham End, near Bath, England, to 'Dear Mr. Berkeley'. She sending on Berkeley's letter to Alec, who is going to Belfast 'purely as a patriotic Irishman...to help & not to hinder'. Mentions 'that Dublin incident...a wretched affair'. Asks whether the 'grave shadow of war in Europe will steady the Carsonites'.
3pp
- 48 29 July 1914
Letter, from Alec Lawrence, 3 King's Bench Walk, Temple, London E.C., to 'My dear Berkeley'. He will be arriving in Belfast and will come to the Grand Central Hotel.
2pp
- 49 29 July 1914
Letter, from Alec Lawrence, 3 King's Bench Walk, Temple, London E.C., to 'My dear Berkeley'. He has got a telephone message from his wife at Battalion. She will come with him to Belfast. He is also bringing a young American friend Julian Biddle.
2pp
- 50 [August] 1914
Letter, from Anne E. Lawrence, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast, to 'My dear Mr. Berkeley'. 'Alick and I are off by the last train to Dublin...'. Thanks Berkeley for

his hospitality. She will write to Mrs. Berkeley, and wishes some of his friends would 'take some of the burden of details from you...'

3pp

51 5 August 1914

Letter from Anne E. Lawrence, to 'Dear Mr. Berkeley'. Mentions Robert Stopford who 'would have loved to see you in Belfast'. They arrived safely in London, the train 'greatly delayed by troops on the line'. Notes that she spoke to Diarmuid Coffey on the telephone.

2pp

v Irish Volunteers, Dublin

52 [July] 1914

Letter from Edmond Cotter, MacMahon's Field, Londonderry, to 'Dear Berkeley'. Concerns his arrival his with Colonel Moore. 'Tell Devlin but let there be no demonstration at the Terminus...'

1p

53 [July] 1914

Letter, from Edmond Cotter to 'Dear Berkeley'. Concerns Berkeley's work in Ulster.

1p

54 11 July 1914

Telegram from Col. Maurice Moore, Irish Volunteers, Dublin, to George Berkeley, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast. 'Recognising importance Belfast have put off Mayo will stay...'

1 item

55 13 July 1914

Copy letter from Maurice Moore (Colonel, Irish Volunteers), Buswell's Hotel, Molesworth Street, Dublin, to 'Dear Captain Berkeley'. He is 'extremely sorry'

he cannot talk with Mr. Burns and Sergeant Major Cusack as he is going to London for a fortnight. He is 'most anxious to know all about Belfast organisation...the most important place and...most dangerous place in Ireland'.

1p

56 14 July 1914

Order by Colonel Maurice Moore, Inspector General, Irish Volunteers, appointing Captain George Berkeley as Chief Inspecting Officer for the City of Belfast and counties Down and Antrim.

1p

57 22 July 1914

Letter, from Colonel Edmond Cotter, Military Inspection Staff, Irish Volunteers, 44 Dawson Street, Dublin, to Captain Berkeley, Chief Inspecting Officer, Belfast. Relates to Berkeley's resignation as Inspecting Officer for Down and Antrim and his activities in Belfast.

2pp

58 27 July 1914

Letter, from Colonel Edmond Cotter, Military Inspection Staff, Irish Volunteers, 44 Dawson Street, Dublin, to Captain Berkeley, Chief Inspecting Officer, Belfast. He says Berkeley's Report is 'in the highest degree creditable...especially as "Belfast" is so useful that Co Down must await your greater leisure'. He is going to Ulster and there will be a meeting of 'about 100 responsible & sober-minded residents...to decide the momentous question of defence...', which he wishes Berkeley to attend. Berkeley was 'quite right to convey the information...to the Regular military authorities'. Notes the 'whole administration of Ireland is practically in the hands of our enemies'. (See also PR12/93)

2pp

59 30 July 1914

Letter, from Edmond Cotter, Military Inspection Staff, Irish Volunteers, MacMahon's Hotel, to Captain Berkeley. Mentions his 'kind invitation'. He is sorry to have left Dublin. He thinks Berkeley should remain as senior officer in Belfast and that he would remain until a scheme of defence was drawn up.

4pp

60 4 August 1914

Appointments to Staff of Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers, ratified by Headquarters Authority (Dublin). 1. A/Lieutenant D. McCullough to be Lieutenant and acting Adjutant 2. J.Cusack to be Garrison Sergeant Major and Quartermaster. Signed Edmond Cotter, Colonel.

2pp

61 8 August 1914

Letter from Colonel Edmond Cotter, Buswell's Hotel, Dublin, to 'Dear Berkeley'. He heard that Berkeley was leaving Ireland due to his wife's health and 'can't help feeling that Ireland is losing one of the most valuable of her sons'. Mentions order re. McCullough and Cusack, and Confidential Memorandum.

2pp

62 11 August 1914

Letter from Colonel Edmond Cotter, Buswell's Hotel, Dublin, to 'Dear Berkeley'. He has given a Staff Book to 'your cyclist scout instructor'.

1p

63 21 August 1914

Letter, from Maurice Moore, Inspector General's Office, Irish Volunteers, Dublin, to 'My dear Berkeley'. Regrets neglecting Berkeley. He thought Berkeley would have left Belfast 'as the call of domestic affairs was so urgent'.

1p

64 22 August 1914

Letter, from Robert Barton, for Col. M. Moore, Inspector General's Office, Irish Volunteers, 16 South Frederick Street, Dublin, to 'Dear Sir', Captain G.Fitzharding Berkeley, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast. Asks Berkeley to consult with Mr. McCullough.

1p

65 25 August 1914

Letter, from Maurice Moore, Inspector General's Office, Irish Volunteers, Dublin, to 'My dear Berkeley'. 'I hope you understand that I only agree to your

- going away if you find it necessary because I can not hope to get so efficient a substitute...'. Refers to the 'great danger' and 'expensive business' of a 'long range'.
- 1p
- 66 26 August 1914
- Telegram from 'Cotter' (Edmond Cotter) to Captain Berkeley, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast. 'Please send today your proposed reorganisation'.
- 1 item
- 67 3 September 1914
- Letter from J. Crean, Inspector General's Office, Irish Volunteers, 16 South Fredrick Street Dublin, to 'Dear Capt. Berkeley', Belfast. Concerns difficulties on giving instruction to the Volunteers on the rifle and air gun.
- 1p
- 68 4 September 1914
- Letter, from Maurice Moore, Inspector General's Office, Irish Volunteers, Dublin, to Captain Berkeley. Asks Berkeley to inform the Belfast Committee that no addresses can be made on political questions on any parade of the Volunteers. Such questions are contrary to the Constitution and approved principles of the Irish Volunteers.
- 2pp
- 69 5 September 1914
- Letter, from Standing Committee, Irish Volunteers, 41 Kildare Street, Dublin, to Mr. M. Carolan, Honorary Secretary, Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers, 30 Divis Street, Belfast. Directs attention 'to the order forbidding questions of policy being dealt with by local parts of the organisation'. Refers to copies of resolutions passed by the Belfast Committee.
- 1p
- 70 10 September 1914
- Letter from Diarmuid Coffey, Inspector General's Office, Irish Volunteers, 16 South Fredrick Street Dublin, to Captain Berkeley, Belfast. Requests a marked map of your county and 'as complete a brigade state as you can'.

1p

71 1914

Memorandum from Col. Edmond Cotter, Military Inspection Staff, Irish Volunteers. Contains outlines of organisation based on that prepared for Carlow County by Captain Corballis.

2pp

72 1914

Letter from Edmond Cotter to 'Dear Berkeley'. Marked 'non-official'. Outlines procedures regarding correspondence. He wishes a proposal for a state of provisional organisation to be drawn up. Mentions Lt. Col. Esmonde in Waterford. Outlines the organisation as he foresees.

4pp

73(a) 1914

Letter, from Colonel Edmond Cotter, Military Inspection Staff, Irish Volunteers, 206 Brunswick Street, Dublin, to Captain Berkeley, Belfast. Marked 'Confidential'. Concerns an order to be promulgated in whole or in part.

1p

73(b) 3 June 1916

News clipping marked 'Col. Maurice Moore's Statement'. (Moore was Inspector General of the Irish Volunteers) Statement made a Royal Commission into the Irish Rebellion, giving a history of the Irish Volunteers. (From *The Weekly Freeman* 3 June 1916)

1 item

vi Relating to other Irish Volunteers North of Ireland Districts

74 17 July 1914

Letter, from John H. King, Secretary, No. 1 Regimental District, and William F. Smyth, Secretary, No.2 District, Downpatrick, Co. Down, to 'Dear Sir' (Captain

Berkeley, Belfast. Announces meeting of Down County Committee at Hibernian Hall, Castlewellan. Requests Berkeley's attendance.

1p

75 18 July 1914

Telegram to Captain Berkeley, Grand Central Hotel. Concerns attendance at meeting to establish County Board Castlewellan.

1 item

76 19 July 1914

Letter, from Frances J. O'Hare, The Presbytery, Hill Street, Newry, to 'Dear Sir' (George Berkeley). Asks Berkeley to come to the County meeting at Castlewellan. He received Berkeley's address from Mr. Bulmer Hobson.

2pp

77 22 July 1914

Letter from J.R. White, Royal Arms, Omagh, Co. Tyrone, to 'My dear Berkeley'. He cannot attend on the 26th and is getting 'Tyrone into shape – there are some very good men in the County'.

2pp

78 24 July 1914

Telegram to Denis McCullough, Howard Street, Belfast, from 'Letts', Cushendall, Co. Antrim. Regards communication with Captain Berkeley.

1 item

79 30 July 1914

Letter, from Joseph Burns, Commercial Hotel, Downpatrick, to 'Dear Sir' (Captain Berkeley). Concerns activities of Volunteers in Co. Down. Mentions rumours in the Royal Irish Constabulary that nationalist gun running was expected at Ardglass.

4pp

80 1 August 1914

Letter, from G.M. Russell, County Club, Downpatrick, to Captain Berkeley.
Concerns meeting of County Committee at Cushendall. Gives times of trains.

4pp

81 August 1914

Letter from Nancy Letts, Glens of Antrim Hotel, Cushendall, to Captain Berkeley.
Asks Berkeley to come to Cushendall to view the Volunteers there.

4pp

82 August 1914

Letter from Nancy Letts, Cushendall, to Captain Berkeley. She did not go to
Belfast and the letter he posted would not have left Cushendall until Thursday.
Mentions badges 'which I designed to be worn by women', selling well.

4pp

83 10 August 1914

Letter from J.R. White, Royal Arms, Omagh, to Captain Berkeley. Tells of
mobilisation of about 5000 men. He is 'off to Dublin to find out relations between
East & I.V (Irish Volunteers) '. Thinks it important that the Government deal with
Irish Volunteers as a body and enlisted as a district regiment 'the nucleus of a
permanent defence force under the Irish Parliament at end of war'.

2pp

84 13 August 1914

Letter from Alec Wilson, Belvoir Park, Newtownbreda, Co. Down to 'Dear Mr.
Niblock'. He has arranged with Count Gleichen to place the park at the disposal
of His Majesty's forces for drill. When the regulars are not on the ground it is
open for either body of Volunteers to use. He will send word when the Irish
Volunteers intend to parade.

1p

85 13 August 1914

Letter from Alec Wilson, Belvoir Park, Newtownbreda, Co. Down to 'My dear
Berkeley'. Encloses a letter, mentions use of 'the car' for Irish Volunteers
purposes.

1p

86 14 August 1914

Letter from C.M. Pursell, Downpatrick, to Captain Berkeley. Mentions letter shown to the County Committee and that the Committee '...meant no reflection on you...we were very much indebted to you and were sorry you could not manage to work the County yourself...'.
[The following text is illegible due to blurring]

4pp

87 17 August 1914

Letter, from J.R. White, Captain, Irish Volunteers, Omagh. Concerns the training and selection of officers for the Irish Volunteers. 'The...only guarantee we have that the Irish Volunteers become efficient and remain distinctly Irish and a genuine National force, is that they should be trained and officered by Irishmen...'.
[The following text is illegible due to blurring]

1p

88 17 August 1914

Letter, from Alec Wilson, Belvoir Park, Newtownbreda, Co. Down, to 'Dear Berkeley'. He admits that 'my neighbours are hopeless. The only thing is that I fancy Redmond & the I.V. have gone far to "cook the goose" in England of late...Carson & Co are...within measurable distance of high treason next week...Use me for the welfare of the I.V. henceforth in whatever way you can'.
[The following text is illegible due to blurring]

1p

89 31 August 1914

Letter, from M. Russell County Club, Downpatrick, to 'Dear Captain Berkeley'. Encloses a map with information on East Down Regiment. Concerns organisation of the Regiment.
[The following text is illegible due to blurring]

7pp

90 6 September 1914

Letter from George Taaffe, Smarmone Castle, Ardee (County Louth) to 'Dear Berkeley'. Concerns meeting at Newcastle Co. Down. He is very sorry Berkeley is thinking of giving up Belfast.
[The following text is illegible due to blurring]

1p]

91 [September] 1914

Letter from H. Letts, Glens of Antrim Hotel, Cushendall, to Captain Berkeley. He has received Berkeley's letter and showed it to Dr. O'Kane who 'practically knows every man of the Glens Volunteers by name'. The men 'can all shoot', but are feeling neglected as the largest body of Nationalists in Antrim, and enthusiasm is dying out. O'Kane has written to the Executive Committee in Dublin for arms and an officer to take command. A Unionist officer, Major Stone, is coming for the month of August. He is sorry for the victims in Dublin but 'nothing could have been better for our cause than the whole affair and the way things turned out'.

4pp

92 [September] 1914

Letter from J.H. King, Honorary Secretary, Down Company Committee Irish National Volunteers, Maryville, Newcastle, Co. Down to 'Dear Sir' (Captain George Berkeley). Concerns appointment of Mr. Burns as military inspector for the area.

1p

vii Letters from George Berkeley

93 24 July 1914

Draft letter, from Captain George Berkeley, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast, to General Macready, Belfast. Apologises for entering into communication 'in a somewhat informal manner'. He notes that the town (Belfast) '...is in a state of some tension' with 'reports of a proposed attack on the Catholic district'. He does not give credence to reports but sees it as 'self evident that there is some important demonstration in progress on the Unionist side'. Notes the town is 'filled with English Conservative journalists apparently awaiting some special event...' and that a body of Ulster Volunteers marched through the Catholic district at 2 a.m. Berkeley notes that he called yesterday upon the Police and Count Gleichen to offer assistance to preserve order. He formally offers Macready the assistance of the Irish Volunteers Belfast Regiment in preserving order if necessary. (See also PR12/4 and PR12/58)

94 24 July 1914

Draft of PR12/93

3pp

95 28 July 1914

Letter, from Captain George Berkeley, Officer Commanding (pro tem) Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast, to 'Dear Sir'. Berkeley refers to the conversation in the offices of the Irish Volunteers. It is impossible to recognise private arms or ammunition amongst members owing to the danger in the hands of untrained men. Arms must be served out by and returned to the Central Authority.

2pp

96 30 July 1914

Orders from Captain Berkeley, concerning training and other activities of Irish Volunteers Belfast Regiment. Instructions such as, musketry instructions at St. Mary's Hall at 8pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday; Regimental office hours for men wishing to join the Irish Volunteers, Gaelic sports.

1p

97 2 September 1914

Letter from Captain George Berkeley, Grand Central Hotel, Belfast, to 'Dear Colonel Moore' (Inspector General's Office, Irish Volunteers, Dublin). Concerns an 'annoying' resolution passed at a meeting of the General Committee, so '...injudicious that I told them I would resign and start for home...'. He is as annoyed as anyone at the 'loss of our men' and thinks that McCullough is at the bottom of it though 'it was proposed by a conceited young ass named Conolly...'. Copy of resolution given, concerning instructions to prevent Irish Volunteers enlisting for 'the furtherance of any war in which we are not as a nation concerned'.

3pp

98 4 September 1914

Draft letter from Captain George Berkeley, Belfast, to 'Dear Sir', John Simon. Concerns 'anxious' situation and discontent due to strain of waiting so many months for Home Rule. Berkeley believes that if the Bill is not signed soon 'there will be an uprising of the Sinn Fein & other extremeists...'. This will take the form of an anti-enlistment campaign. The local organisers of the Irish Volunteers

have seen their best companies 'depleted by enlistment...to the credit of England not Ireland...'. He does not want to appear 'an alarmist', but has been 'fighting an anti-enlistment attempt in this town...part of a general scheme all over Ireland...'

4pp

viii From R.E. Longfield, Cork

99 19 August 1914

Letter from R.E. Longfield, Longueville, Mallow, Co. Cork, to 'Dear George' (George Berkeley). Longfield has read in a newspaper that Berkeley was commanding Belfast nationalist volunteers. He requests to know their 'raison d'etre' and hears that some of the Northern corps are very good but in the South many are merely 'nominus numbra'. Asks what Mr. Redmond's offer meant. Longfield believes that the Germans have some intention of landing in the South and West of Ireland, Cork Harbour being a 'very valuable base' and they may think Ireland would be divided by civil war. Since war was declared he briefly hoped all Volunteers North and South might help in defence of the country.

3pp

100 25 August 1914

Letter, from R.E. Longfield, Mallow, to 'Dear George'. He has been told that the Irish Volunteers were started by the physical force party in America.. Notes the religious bigotry and intolerance in the North is most deplorable, '...the ignorant orange man is for more bigoted than the Catholic of the same class down here...'. He has 'always got on well' with his Catholic neighbours, but he is 'very much afraid of the Roman Catholic church "ne temere" decree and clericalism'. Remarks that the Irish Volunteers have no intention of undertaking the arduous preparation necessary to prove an effective fighting force. As irregulars they would 'bring only death' to the locality they attempted to defend, unless officered by competent soldiers under the authority of the Crown. The Ulster Volunteers are 'an effective fighting force'. The safety of the country should come before Home Rule. He has heard that the Germans sold rifles to the National Volunteers.

6pp

101 2 September 1914

Letter from R.E. Longfield, Cashel, Connemara, to 'Dear George'. Concerns meeting with Colonel Moore in Dublin, who was 'very complimentary about you, very civil to me'. Mentions offer made to government, the need to put the Irish Volunteers under the War Office and the danger of German invasion.

2pp

102 3 September 1914

Letter from R.E. Longfield, Cashel, Connemara, to George Berkeley. Mentions discussion with Colonel Moore. 'H.R (Home Rule) has become a v. small matter...'

1p

103 6 September 1914

Letter from Alberta Longfield, Longueville, Mallow, Co. Cork, to 'My dear George. 'As one who has known you since you were a small boy I...must tell you how shocked I am to think you have thrown your lot in with Redmond's Volunteers'. Mentions young Lord Carbery flying in Cork with a green flag, but who will not settle in Cork and has never shown any real interest in his home or people. Notes that Ireland has always been divided and England is needed to ensure peace and prosperity.

8pp

104 8 September 1914

Letter, from R.E. Longfield, Mallow, to George Berkeley. The Home Rule question is of 'v. little importance in face of peril of German invasion'. He doubts that Redmond has much authority over the Irish Volunteers and that their spirit is 'very Anti English'. He has been told that Home Rule would not conciliate the extreme men, numerous in the Irish Volunteers. 'In deciding to organise them I fear you & others are forging a weapon that will be turned against you...'

3pp

105 9 September 1914

Letter from R.E. Longfield, Mallow, to George Berkeley. 'I did not find one line in your letter of conviction that Home Rule would be Ireland's salvation...'. The war raging would make 'every thinking man realise what a miserable thing it would be for Ireland at this moment if she were a 'nation once again'. Ireland 'is not important to the Nations unless attached to England. We may suffer individually as residents here...'

4pp

106 10 September 1914

Letter, from R.E. Longfield, Mallow, to George Berkeley. He finds interesting '...your sound reasons for thinking that Ireland would prosper more...if she be granted Home Rule...', but he thinks the 'great divisions' amongst the nationalists and the home rulers will result in turmoil without 'England's restraining influence'. Notes the 'movement you have mixed yourself up in is very dangerous', but it is well 'for Redmond's followers to have some gentlemen leading them'. Mentions Redmond's offer which should be swallowed with a grain of salt, and the need to follow Carson's lead.

4pp

107 7 October 1914

Letter from R.E. Longfield, Mallow, to George Berkeley. Longfield notes that 'a number of nationalists have enlisted but not many of the [Irish] Volunteers I fear...'. He writes of a 'strong anti-English feeling due to the 'stupidity & dishonesty' of papers like the *Irish Volunteer* and *Irish Freedom*. The country's 'very existence depends on the English fleet, but they ignore this and pretend to think Ireland [should] be a free & independent country'. Home Rule has 'encouraged the disaffected & has in no way conciliated them... they will "ask for more" & they are not fit to have it...'. Longfield tells of a very offensive anonymous letter he received after he had some recruiting posters put up in Mallow. He thinks that Berkeley will get sick of Home Rulers and '...this rabble of A.O.H Sinn Feiners...'. Tells of his nephew's great escape from death in the trenches.

4pp

II Other Material Relating to Belfast Irish Volunteers (1914)

108 November 1913 / June 1914

Printed 'Manifesto of the Irish Volunteers'.

1p

109 8 June 1914

Newspaper pages from the Irish Times. Item underlined, "STICK TO THE GUNS", with note 'My own advice at Dungannon and yours at Fintona'.

1 item

110 24 June 1914

Receipt for Ten Pounds received from George Fitz Harding Berkeley. Signed Abicia L . Broderick.

1 item

111 4 July 1914

‘The Irish Volunteer’, newspaper. Volume 1, no. 22.

16pp

112 [July 1914]

‘County Organisation of Irish Volunteers’, handbill, relating to organisation by Provisional Committee. Also with notes by Berkeley on organisation in Belfast. (See also PR12/120)

2 items

113 [July 1914]

Irish Volunteers, Co. Carlow organisational structure. Shows 2 brigades and 8 battalions. Marked confidential. Also with added notes, such as ‘This is merely a suggested organisation. It has not been approved...’.

1 item

114 25 July 1914

Receipts for monies.

[]

115 7 August 1914

Application Form for Óglaigh Na hÉireann or Irish Volunteers. ‘I, the undersigned, desire to be enrolled in the Irish Volunteers, formed to secure and maintain the rights and liberties common to all the people of Ireland without distinction of creed, class or politics’. On reverse ‘Received from Captain Berkeley 6000 Rounds of S.A. Ammunition’, signed Campbell Corbett.

2pp

116 27 August 1914

‘Irish National Volunteers Belfast Requisition for Signalling equipment’.

1p

117 29 August 1914

‘Regimental Orders of the Belfast Regiment for Week ending 29-8-1914’.
Includes appointments, promotions, smoking, bands, police, rolls, examinations,
musketry.

2pp

118 [August 1914]

Organisation of Battalions numbered 1 to 3, East Down Regiment, Irish
Volunteers. Shows numbers of men.

1p

119 [August 1914]

List of names for Sections 1 and 2, ‘C’ Company, Belfast Regiment, Irish
Volunteers listing performance at shooting practice.

1p

120 [August 1914]

‘County Organisation of Irish Volunteers Official Scheme’, typescript. Mistakes
in previous version are being corrected, From Eoin Mac Neill and Laurence J.
Kettle Hon. Secs., Irish Volunteers. Contains 9 points of organisation. (See also
PR12/112).

2pp

121 [1914]

List of staff of Irish Volunteers, Headquarters, Belfast and Counties Down and
Antrim. Gives names of secretaries and address.

2pp

122 [1914]

- Speech by Berkeley on occasion of marriage of Sergeant Major Duffy.
- 1p
- 123 [1914]
- Draft speech or orders to Irish Volunteers Belfast Regiment concerning activities of Irish Volunteers and the need to maintain good discipline.
- 3pp
- 124 [1914]
- Draft order by Captain George Berkeley, concerning ban on the use of private weapons and ammunition by Irish Volunteers.
- 1 item
- 125 [1914]
- Draft speech or order to Irish Volunteers, Belfast Regiment concerning the behaviour of Volunteers.
- 2pp
- 126 [1914]
- Draft speech or orders. 'Irish Volunteers...I...remind you that anything in the nature of a disturbance however unfair the circumstances may appear to you will be used against the cause of our country...'
- 3pp
- 127 [1914]
- Telegram sheet, unsigned. 'The Irish Volunteers will defend the soil of Ireland against foreign invaders but the Him Rule Bill should be signed now'.
- 1 item
- 128 1914
- Notes by Berkeley relating to the training and organisation of the Belfast Regiment, Irish Volunteers.

III Guns on the Asgard (1951)

128a February – April 1951 (1914)

‘Guns on the Asgard’, by Mary Spring Rice, edited by Mrs. Erskine Childers. From *The Sunday Press* newspaper, in 5 instalments. Recounts experience of collecting and transporting guns for the Irish Volunteers on the vessel Asgard in July-August 1914. Also ‘What the Asgard meant to Ireland, A Footnote by David O’Neill’, from The Irish Press.

B Irish Dominion League (I.D.L)

I Correspondence (1920-1921)

i Irish Statesman

129 23 April 1920

Memorandum from 'The Irish Statesman', 13 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. Requests signed communication of no more than 500 words summarising Mr. Berkeley's views on the financial enactments of the Government of Ireland Bill, with particular reference to 5 points of information.

2pp

130 5 June 1920

Letter from R. Pope Hennessy, War Office, Park Buildings, St. James's Park, London S.W.1, to 'Dear Berkeley'. He has consulted with Lords Monteaule and French and agrees that it is a waste to support the Irish Statesman any longer and it is better to support the propaganda efforts of the London office (of the I.D.L).

[1p]

131 12 June 1920

Letter from R.A. Anderson, Hon. Sec. The Irish Statesman, Stephen's Green, Dublin, to 'Dear Sir', George Berkeley esquire, Hanwell Castle, Near Banbury, Oxfordshire. Concerns the ceasing of publication of the Irish Statesman due to lack of funds, as capital from the United States was not forthcoming.

1p

ii Henry Harrison, Secretary I.D.L

132 26 April 1920

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, Irish Dominion League, Dublin, to George Berkeley, Oxfordshire, England. Regards a proposed contribution to the Irish Statesman.

1p

133 28 April 1920

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L, to 'Dear Mr. Berkeley'. He is glad Berkeley is in general agreement with the literature sent. Mentions London Branch of the I.D.L. and need to obtain support for the league and the Irish Statesmen.

1p

134 3 May 1920

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L., Dublin, to George Berkeley. Thanks him for his application for membership, cheque for £20 and his contribution to the Financial Supplement. Refers to Berkeley's 'English friends' and the Government's intentions.

2pp

135 5 May 1920

Letter, from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L, Dublin, to Berkeley. Replies to telegram concerning meeting at Lord Monteagle's house.

1p

136 14 May 1920

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L., Dublin, to Berkeley. Mentions idea of a public protest putting the Protestant Nationalists in evidence 'but to make it a success we should have large numbers. Harrison doubts whether a petition to the King would invite all signatories, and fears little assistance from the Press.

1p

137 31 May 1920

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L, Dublin, to Berkeley. Relates to draft Bill to be introduced by Lord Monteagle. Mentions powers of a Constituent Assembly.

2pp

138 7 August 1920

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L, Dublin to Berkeley, Oxfordshire. He is obliged for the trouble in distributing Sir Horace Plunkett's appeals. Mentions meeting with Prime Minister and a Cork conference of moderates.

2pp

139 18 January 1921

Letter from Henry Harrison, Dublin, enclosing uncorrected draft memorandum. Relates to the Irish Peace Conference and 'Cork deputation' of business men of 'substantially Unionist or non-political complexion'. Harrison notes the cause of genuine peace was betrayed, as the Irish Peace Conference received no hearing on London.

10pp

140 9 August 1921

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L., Dublin, to George Berkeley. Encloses a letter by Sir Horace Plunkett to those who supported the League. He argues that the moderates must continue the political work as negotiations are in progress. (See also PR12/171)

1p

141 13 September 1921

Letter from Henry Harrison, Secretary, I.D.L, Dublin, to George Berkeley. He is glad that Berkeley is going , and hopes '...all the health & happiness which you both...deserve may result from your new surroundings...The London Branch of the I.D.L. is dead...N.P. killed it almost with his eyes open...'. He doubts if there is any place for N.P. in the new Ireland.

2pp

iii **George Berkeley**

142 [May] 1920

Notes by Berkeley on future 'Constituent Assembly' for Ireland. Mentions 3 separate bodies who are needed, the Orangemen, Sinn Fein, and the British public. Outlines the inducements and guarantees for each group.

1p

PR12/

143 June 1920

Notes by Berkeley on Dominion Home Rule.

5pp

144 June 1920

'Letter for Sunday Times', by Berkeley, concerning Irish finance. 'England receives far more money from Ireland in annual taxation than she spends on the government of that country'.

2pp

145 June 1920

Draft of PR12/144

3pp

146 19 August 1920

Draft letter by Berkeley to Edmond J. Frewen, concerning draft manifesto for the I.D.L. Berkeley mentions Lloyd George's position and is opposed to setting up the I.D.L. as a rival to Sinn Fein and 'would rather see Sinn Fein triumphant...than add a third party...as long as Nationalist Ireland is united, it is not entirely a negligible quantity over here...Dominion Home Rule...is the highest bid to which [Lloyd] George will agree and...the lowest that Sinn Fein will take'. Also contains remarks arising out of Berkeley's comments on the suggested Manifesto by Edmond Frewen.

10pp

147 [August] 1920

Draft 'letter to The Times, London, written after the Peace Conference in 1920' by Berkeley. Concerns solution to the 'Irish question'. He argues for a conference between a few selected envoys from the government and Sinn Fein, '...six level-headed men sitting around a table could come to agreement...'. Mentions Lloyd George's 'hesitation', and cites previous agreements with Boers and 'the armed Protestants of Ulster'. Notes that 'The condition of Ireland is profoundly sad. Good Men are going to their death every day'.

4pp

148 December 1920

Letter from Berkeley to newspaper. Concerns the 'seriousness of the Irish situation', the position of 'moderate men', the division of Ireland, the financial situation regarding the six counties, the creation of minorities North and South and gerrymandering in the North.

4pp

149 1920

Note by Berkeley concerning membership of I.D.L. Mentions network of Women's societies, non-conformists, 200 names on books of I.D.L. and useful solicitors.

2pp

150 June 1920

Notes in relation to proposed Bill for dominion status for Ireland, mainly concerning Irish finances.

2pp

iv E.S. Agnew, Secretary, London Committee, I.D.L.

151 Letter from E.S. Agnew, Honorary Secretary, I.D.L London Committee, to 'Dear Sir' (George Berkeley, Oxfordshire). Gives notice that Berkeley has been co-opted as a member of the London Committee.

1p

152 27 May 1920

Letter from E.S. Agnew, Hon. Sec. , London Branch, I.D.L, to Berkeley. Concerns future of I.D.L London Office. Encloses a memorandum on 'the present, past and future' work of the I.D.L. Gives a detailed account of origin and activities of the London Branch, set up in July 1919.

4pp

153 25-27 May 1920

Circular letter from E.S. Agnew, I.D.L, London Committee enclosing confidential letter and Resolutions at request of Lord Monteagle. Confidential letter (26 May 1920) from Lord Monteagle, Mount Trenchard, Foynes, Co. Limerick to London Committee enclosing resolutions for next meeting of the Executive Committee in Dublin. Requests comments by members. Resolutions (25 May 1920) concern question of relations between Ireland and Great Britain, financial autonomy and the constitution.

3pp

154 16 June 1920

Letter from E.S. Agnew, Old Hatch Farm, Abinger Hammer, near Dorking, England, to 'Dear Mr. Berkeley'. Mentions a very successful meeting at Brighton, Berkeley's 'extraordinarily generous offer', the winding up of The Irish Statesman, and money for the London office.

7pp

155 30 July 1920

Letter from Ewan S. Agnew, Hon. Sec. London Branch, I.D.L, to Berkeley. Quotes recent statements of Prime Minister about the situation in Ireland, '...an ultimatum prelude war...'. The war will be a war of extermination. Remarks concerning likelihood of negotiations with Sinn Fein. The 'one remaining chance' is for a Bill giving full Dominion Home Rule to the South of Ireland. Encourages members to mould public opinion. 'It is a platitude to speak of "Ireland at the eleventh hour". The twelfth hour is nearly upon us. Are we to be too late?'

2pp

156 4 August 1920

Letter from E.S. Agnew, Hon. Sec. I.D.L, London Branch, 42 Terminus Chambers, 6 Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C. 1, to Berkeley. Thanks him for 'another handsome contribution'. The funds will be preserved until October. Refers to Sir Horace Plunkett's appeal to Irish business men. Agnew is afraid they will 'refrain from putting their money into anything that depends...upon the good faith of Westminster'. Refers to Harrison's work helping the move towards Dominionism, 'If only we can raise the money now we may still be able to push it home...otherwise the outlook is black despair'. Refers to new Coercion Bill which is 'grotesquely futile'.

2pp

157 18 August 1920

Letter, from E.S. Agnew, I.D.L. London Branch, to Berkeley. Thanks Berkeley for his letter on Mr. Frewen's proposed Manifesto. Disagrees with Frewen's criticism of the Peace Conference being organised by Harrison. Encloses notes by Frewen and a cutting from the Freeman's Journal.

1p

158 20 August 1920

Letter from E.S. Agnew, I.D.L, London, to Berkeley. Concerns tickets for the Irish Peace Conference.

1p

159 22 [August] 1920

Notice from E. Agnew of Meeting of London Committee, I.D.L.

1p

v Lord Monteagle

160 31 May 1920

Letter from Lord Monteagle, Kildare Street Club, Dublin, to Berkeley. Relates to draft Bill on Dominion Status for Ireland and Captain Harrison's views.

3pp

161 May 1920

Draft of suggested Bill by Lord Monteagle and Heads of the Bill.

8pp

162 5 June 1920

Memorandum on Draft Bill from Lord Monteagle. Marked confidential. Concerns discussions by Executive Committee of Bill and proposals on defence and Ulster by Captain Harrison.

1p

163 June 1920

‘Dominion of Ireland. A Bill to constitute the Dominion of Ireland’. From Lord Monteagle, 49 Romney Street, Westminster, London, ‘introduced in House of Lords, Tuesday June 22, 1920’.

10pp

164 5 June 1920

Letter from Lord Monteagle, London, to Berkeley. Encloses a memorandum and correspondence to explain situation on the Draft Bill. He hopes the London Committee won’t think he has taken too much on in introducing the Bill on his own.

1p

165 15 June 1920

Letter from Lord Monteagle, London to Berkeley. Concerns financial position of London Office of the I.D.L. Mentions that the Bill is in the hands of the draftsmen.

2pp

166 17 June 1920

Letter from Lord Monteagle, London, to Berkeley. Mentions Berkeley’s ‘handsome subscription’, the Government’s new clauses ‘deliberately torpedoing their own Bill’.

2pp

vi K.Walter

167 8 July 1920

Letter from K. Walter, I.D.L., London, to Berkeley. Concerns future of the I.D.L. Mentions that Sir Horace Plunkett ‘feels that he has done more than his fair share of financing the League...’. Gives proposed resolution by London Committee for co-operation with Dublin Committee and for the raising of £1,000 campaign funds, and the appointment of a travelling organiser.

2pp

vii Sir Horace Plunkett

168 28 July 1920

Letter (Printed) from Sir Horace Plunkett, President, I.D.L, Dublin. Requests 'moderate men in Ireland to intervene between the two extremes before it is too late...', those who accept self – government but oppose separation from the Crown. Mentions origins and aims of the I.D.L movement, the views of 'the business men', the refusal of Sinn Fein to parley, the 'failure of classes most immediately concerned in Ireland'.

3pp

169 4 April 1921

Letter (printed) from Sir Horace Plunkett, President, I.D.L, Dublin, to 'Dear Sir (or Madam)'. Requests attendance at meeting of I.D.L in Dublin. Purpose of meeting is 'to consider whether Dominionism is not the only basis on which it is possible to negotiate an enduring peace'. Believes the 'overwhelming majority of the Irish people would...support our policy if...the Government [would] offer it. Mentions forthcoming elections and the need for a practical moderate alternative.

1p

170 May 1921

Letter from Sir Horace Plunkett, President, I.D.L., Dublin, to members of the London Committee. Concerns current situation in Ireland, and outlines activities of the League since its foundation. Also mentions content of the 12 May Memorial, and the need to appeal to the two extreme parties in Ireland and the British Government.

4pp

171 9 August 1921

Letter from Sir Horace Plunkett, President, I.D.L., Dublin, to 'Dear Sir'. Marked 'confidential'. Requests further support of the I.D.L., 'The time has come for the members to decide whether any further expenditure shall be incurred or the League dissolved'. He is convinced it is 'in your best interests and in those of our country that it should go on...'. The I.D.L. gives an opportunity for those most prominent in commerce and industry to get involved in political affairs. Once peace is restored, a constitution will need to be proposed 'on Dominion lines, because thus alone can the relations between Ireland and Britain, and...the Northern Corner and Southern Ireland be satisfactorily adjusted'. Notes effect on business interests. (See also PR12/140)

2pp

172 [August] 1921

‘Heads of Bill suggested by Sir Horace Plunkett’ with observations by Captain Harrison on same.

4pp

viii Winifrid Chapple

173 9-11 August 1920

Letter, from Winifrid Chapple, I.D.L, London Branch, to members of the Committee. Encloses a copy of letter from Edmond J. Frewen (9 August 1920) proposing a signed manifesto calling for subscriptions for Dominion Solution, Suggests 15 terms for preliminary discussion, such as the need for Ireland to remain part of the British Empire, and the large Irish population of London.

1p

II Minutes, Memoranda and Resolutions (1920-1921)

174 11 May 1920

Further resolutions relating to Lord Monteaagle’s Bill.

2pp

175 28 June 1920

Resolution adopted by the I.D.L. Executive Committee, Dublin, welcoming Bill introduced by Lord Monteaagle, ‘a most valuable and constructive contribution... to settle the Irish question upon constitutional lines...’.

1p

176 August 1920

Circular, ‘All Ireland Uniting’, from the I.D.L. London Office. Regards upcoming peace conference in Dublin. Mentions meeting between Cork deputation and Prime Minister Lloyd George.

1p

177 1920

Minutes of 12th Meeting of the I.D.L., London Committee. Present include Lords Monteaule and French and George Berkeley.

1p

178 1920

Minutes of 16th Meeting, London Committee, I.D.L. Resolutions concern Prime Minister's 'Carnavon speech', the decision not to accompany deputation to the Prime Minister and pamphlets submitted by Mrs. Spring -Rice.

1p

179 1920

'Proposed Committee on Irish Affairs'. Argues for a permanent committee of Members of Parliament on Irish government. 'If you would join the Committee, would you let me know. Basil Williams, Carlyle Square, Chelsea'.

1p

180 26 [July] 1920

Minutes of meeting of London Committee, I.D.L. Resolutions relate to Captain Harrison, and the line of action on amendments to Government of Ireland Bill.

1p

181 August 1920

'The Irish Peace Conference'. Contains a resolution (by I.D.L.) viewing with grief and horror the present reign of force in Ireland...'. Proposed by Major Deane, seconded by Sir J. McArdle. Amendment by M.J. Sweetmen on need for truce.

1p

182 24 August 1920

Resolutions of the Irish Peace Conference held in Dublin, 'free from all entanglement with any political party, association, league or group with a view to securing a firm offer of National Self Government to the People of Ireland'. Resolutions, such as, 1. to release the Lord Mayor of Cork (Terence Mac Swiney)

2. that Government Policy will lead to civil war 3. full National Self Government and repugnance for any form of partition 4. a truce be called in Ireland.

1p

183 14 March 1921

Minutes of the 26th Meeting of I.D.L. London Committee. Sir Horace Plunkett in the Chair.

2pp

184 (1921) 17 November 1914

'Report of the Honorary Treasurer', R.A. Anderson, I.D.L. Shows statement of accounts and balance sheets.

2pp

III Publications (1886-1924)

185 13 April 1886

Government of Ireland Bill, 1886

22pp

186 1918-1920

News clippings.

- /1. Manifesto by the Coalition...Home Rule and partition for Ireland.
- /2. Ireland's Partition: Independent Liberals' Contempt for Home Rule Bill.
- /3. Irish Revenue Returns.
- /4. Irish Parallels, Mr. Lloyd George and Poland.
- /5. The Jackboot in Ireland, Mr. Macpherson's demands put to the Test.
- /6. Irish Unionism and Home Rule Bill.
- /7. Home Rule all Round.
- /8. Another Crisis at Mountjoy.
- /9. Military Rule in Ireland VI Propaganda by Erskine Childers.

9 items

187 29 October 1919

- Speech of Sir Horace Plunkett, on Irish Misgovernment and the essentials of a settlement, delivered to the members of the National Liberal Club. Supplement to The Irish Statesman.
- 4pp
- 188 1920
- Government of Ireland Act, 1920. Summary of main provisions.
- 8pp
- 189 1920
- 'The Irish Dominion. A Method of Approach to Settlement', by Colonel R. Pope-Hennessy, D.S.O, 52nd Light Infantry.
- 32pp
- 190 1920
- 'The Irish Case Considered' by Henry Harrison, O.B.E., M.C. with preface by Right Honourable Sir Horace Plunkett. Published by the I.D.L. London.
- 18pp
- 191 1920
- The Government of Ireland Act, 1920.
- 80pp
- 192 1920
- News clipping relating to a Tipperary Outrage, from Cork Weekly.
- 1 item
- 193 1920-1924
- News clippings.
- /1. The New Home Rule
 - /2. War of Independence incidents, Cork Examiner, 23 October 1920.
 - /3. Irish Boundary Question
 - /4. Boundaries in Ireland
 - /5. Compensation Claims at Cork Session

- /6. Funeral of Michael Fitzgerald at Cork
/7. Fitzgerald's funeral, 1920
- 7 items
- 194 March 1920
- 'The Irish Situation in America, at Westminster and in Ireland', by Sir Horace Plunkett. Speech delivered 4 March 1920. Also report from Irish Statesman. Published by I.D.L., Dublin.
- 40pp
- 195 17 April 1920
- 'The Nation', American Literary Supplement, Vol. XXVII, No. 3. Includes article on 'The Working of Dominion Home Rule' by Henry Harrison, pp70-71.
- 96pp
- 196 10 May 1920
- Parliamentary Debates, House of Commons, Vol. 129, No.58. Includes Government of Ireland Bill.
- 211p
- 197 12 May 1920
- 'Memorial of Certain Irishmen to the Right Honourable David Lloyd George, M.P, Prime Minister'. Contains a plan for an all-Ireland conference, national self government, and a procedure to overcome the 'formidable difficulties'.
- 3pp
- 198 2 June 1920
- 'Irish Chaos, The British Cause and the Irish Cure', by Right Hon, Sir Horace Plunkett. Letter also published by The Times on 2 June 1920. Published by I.D.L.
- 8pp
- 199 1 July 1920
- Parliamentary Debates, House of Lords, Vol. 40, No. 54. Including Dominion of Ireland Bill.

- 56pp
- 200 23 October 1920
‘Éire Óg, Young Ireland’, Vol. 5, No.39
1 item
- 201 29 October 1920
Government of Ireland Bill (as amended in Committee).
73pp
- 202 November 1920
‘The Liberal Monthly’, Vol. XI, No. 1. Includes ‘Liberal Plans for Ireland’, pp5-9.
1 item
- 203 January 1921
‘The Irish Peace Conference 1920 and its Betrayal. Does the Government want a Genuine Peace ?’, by Captain Henry Harrison M.C. Published by I.D.L., Dublin.
11p
- 204 1921
‘The World of To-Day Dominion Home Rule in Practice’, by A. Berriedale Keith, University of Edinburgh. Published by Oxford University Press.
64pp
- 205 1921
‘The Irish Dominion League. A Reasoned Criticism of the Governments Irish Scheme’. Statement by the Provisional Committee of the I.D.L.
4pp
- 206 July-August 1921

‘Correspondence relating to the Proposals of His Majesty’s Government for an Irish Settlement’, printed by H.M. Stationery Office. Contains British Government and Eamon De Valera proposals.

6pp

207 October 1921

Dail Eireann, ‘Official Correspondence relating to the Peace Negotiations, July – September 1921’.

23pp

208 November 1921

‘Official Report of the Irish Dominion League setting forth a Summary of Results Achieved and the Proceedings on Dissolution’. Contains minutes of final general meeting (3 November 1921), final report by Henry Harrison, Secretary. Appendix contains originating Manifesto, list of principle publications, resolutions of Executive Committee, circular issued September 1920 on the Irish Peace Conference, copy of ‘Memorial of Certain Irishmen’ to Lloyd George. Note, attached mentioning publication of Anglo-Irish Treaty, 1921, ‘its provisions...the most conspicuous vindication of the Irish Dominion League and Irish Peace Conference of 1920’.

24pp

209 [1924]

‘Some facts about the Ulster Boundary’, printed in Omagh.

15pp

210 September 1924

‘The Boundary Problem – How it Originated’, pamphlet issued by the North Eastern Boundary Bureau.

12pp

211 1924

‘North East Ulster, Numerical Strength of the Nationalists’, leaflet No.9, issued by the North Eastern Boundary Bureau. ‘There are 430,000 Nationalists in “Northern Ireland” constituting 34 per cent of the whole population...’. With map showing majorities in each district.

1 item

212 1924

'The Wishes of the Inhabitants Why Article 12 of the Treaty must be enforced'. Lists 20 points such as '3. Because a predominantly Nationalist population in the areas adjoining the Free State was arbitrarily included in Northern Ireland', and such as '14. Because she lost her two greatest leaders and many of her bravest sons in safeguarding the Treaty.

2pp

213 1924

'The Treaty of Peace'. Concerns the Irish Boundary question. 'It is the turn of the Imperial Government to carry out its obligations under clause 12 of the Treaty'.

1p

C: ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Accessioned from Cork City Library 2008
Summary Box List

Box 2

'Parcel #1'

Various letters etc. Irish Reform Association, to George FH Berkeley, Hanwell Castle.
Parcel addressed to Denis Gwynne 4 Lower Montenotte, Cork

Box 3

'Parcel #2'

Envelope addressed to GFH Berkely, Imperial Hotel, Cork incl. ' Pictures for Irish Schools' incl. photos of pictures in Christian Brothers and a group of pupils (Our Lady's Mount, Cork) also- photos of Miss Dermot O'Brien's statuette for Taylor Competition
Various items incl. letters from Mabel O'Brien 1920s-30s
Letters from The Hon. Albina Broderick
Letters from Francis Joseph Bigger
Home Rule Council
Irish Institute in London
Irish Protest Committee
Irish Protestant Home Rule Committee
Copy of 'Irish Volunteer', 6 June ?1944?
George Taaffe
JW Hackett
Seaghan T. O'Ceallaigh (Sean T O'Kelly?)
Article on present system of Govt in Ireland
Newsclippings, Imeprial Home Rule Association, 1910

Box 4

'Parcel #3'

Various filled envelopes
Belfast Industrial Conference Aug 1909, newsclips etc
Letters, John Boland
Various letters 'Post Treaty'
Captain Shawe Taylor 1909 – 1912
Irish Industries 1906 – 1914
A list of the small industries of Italy
Irish Industries Notes on Gherse and some notes on Galway Exhibition 1908
Industries (general) Bolands lecture on a merchant navy

Box 5

PR12/

'Parcel #4'

Various envelopes containing letters etc.

L'Irlande- translation

Max Green

Stephen Gwynn

Mrs Alice Stopford Green

The Hon. Eustace Finnes

McCarthy Filgate

Lord Dunraven

Lindsay Crawford

Bollin Walker 1922

Basil Williams

Col. Hutcheson Poe

Irish Direct Supply

Box 6

'Parcel #5'

Envelope ' For Professor Gwynn mainly re. Irish Politics'

Articles in Ulster Guardian

Artistic Industries

George FH Berkeley, Articles, letters