

Dec. 25th - we. There is nothing very striking in the war news, which has been interrupted, such as it is, by the inclement weather. In addition to the war in Europe, Persia and part of Africa, there is a revolution in China. The Republic there has changed to a monarchy or an empire by a Napoleonic touch, but this does not appeal to all Chinese.

On Friday, Prime Minister Asquith gave figures in Parliament of British casualties since the war started. The total given is 528,227 up to 9th December. This does not include sick or naval losses and as the "Irish Independent" points out there is a discrepancy between some of Asquith's figures and figures given by Tennant previously. So we may put it down that the acknowledged casualties are well over 600,000.

The political crisis in England since yesterday, if we believe the "Daily Mail" and its apparent ally in this, is most acute at the very moment. The question is conscription or no conscription. It is probably decided at the very moment, but the English have a habit of getting out of named questions (have no strong convictions perhaps). The Cabinet met yesterday. Lord Derby's scheme was before them. This fairly generally known now that some 600,000 young unmarried Britishers have not "attested" under the scheme. Married men joined in large numbers and Asquith pledged himself and his Government that if the unmarried did not come forward as they ought, either the married men will be released from the engagement to serve they have made or the unmarried ^{unmarried} will be conscripted. A certain number are for conscription: the majority seem against. The

Dec. 28th Cabinet adjourned till this morning when it is anticipated the question must be settled one way or another. Lloyd George has threatened resignation unless compulsion is resorted to. There seems every likelihood of a split up on the question: and there is a possibility of a general election. The English love a compromise (does it, would you, to that I have mentioned - no strong convictions on principle): they may get over this difficulty on this matter: yet this now doubtful. Those who are for conscription are, perhaps, honestly convinced they cannot win the war without it. Those who are against may be divided into two - those who think they can win under the present system and those who don't care. The latter are more concerned with other interests than even the winning of the war - most of the working classes, for instance, to whom questions of wages, etc. appeal more than the result of the war appeals. The conscriptionists have undoubtedly a good case; but the working classes, if we can believe what is said, are so strongly against that the forcing of conscription may lead to a kind of civil war in Britain. As regards Ireland, I have gone into the matter already. Logically, Redmond's party ought accept conscription if the English Government decide on it, but feeling against it is so strong in Ireland that many of that party have been forced to speak out against it. If we could trust the English working class were so strong against conscription in principle as it is said they are, an Irish nationalist should welcome the enforcement of conscription - it would lead to such a smash up in England as would

Dec. 25. - we have the power for evil which that country possesses and which, if applied to Ireland, lead to a solid binding together of all Irish Nationalists as would make armed resistance to it completely successful - so conscription indeed, I believe and hope, that Irish independence could be won. Before being tried here, however, there must be, we will be, an attempt at disarmament and martial law. So, not a conscription itself, I judge, but on those other instruments would have to be fought in Ireland.

In some ways things seem so quiet, so normal, as hushdown, one is often left wondering as to whether there really are such things as war and excitement over a great part of the world. There have to live anyhow, so there must always be a strong tendency to get back to normal conditions even when excitement is highest.

The present war and the conditions that obtain, certainly illuminating as to history of former times, and Napoleon's cynical summing up of history as "the lie agreed upon" seems to bear the impress of truth. For instance, the Turks are supposed to have been the terror of Europe for centuries, and such tales of atrocities as we read of! In view of how "war news" is manufactured at the present day, of how the "Turks" are painted as "devils out of hell," it makes a person sceptical as to whether those tales of the Turks may not also have been manufactured.

Mon. 10.11.15 an 29th Dec. - The Guinness, Spire 1915. 2.30 p.m. Have just got the "Daily Mail". The principle of conscription for the single man was carried at yesterday's meeting of the English Cabinet. There will be some resignations of ministers. At the earliest opportunity a Bill will be introduced into the British Parliament to give effect to the Cabinet's decision. Parliament re-assembles on Tuesday next. The "Daily Mail" is naturally jubilant at the result of its seven months' campaign for conscription. I am cross over what it calls "the hide-the-truth press". Hide the truth indeed - not that the "Mail" gives the truth either. We have an example of hide the truth in the "Cork Examiner". Not a hint has escaped it that there was any such thing as an English Government crisis or that conscription was coming to a crucial point, with very grave effects perhaps in Ireland. It has a fine scene of course this morning - owing to very stormy weather the news systems is gets from England has broken down. The "Irishman's Journal" is also blind and deaf and dumb. The "Independent" to-day gives yesterday's "Daily Mail" news. So, conscription is the question of questions at least. "Will it apply to Ireland? Will it apply to Ireland?" - that's the burning question now asked on all sides. We shall know very soon now. There are two ^{or three} good reasons against - 1. The Oglaigh. 2. International considerations. 3. The limited number of men that could anyhow be obtained in this country, even were the country willing to bear conscription. On the other

Dec. 29:- hard those who have forced the conscription question have never had any consideration for Irish national feeling on any question, even for policy's sake. Redmond and his party have given away the case for any special consideration for Ireland by acceptance of a share in the "United Kingdom", declaration of loyalty to England, of Ireland's willingness to share the war burden and so on (even though some of them have been forced to declare against conscription); the refusal of the I. P. P. to accept conscription for Ireland if it be applied in England will not certainly damage their pet, Home Rule. If Ireland is an integral part of the "United Kingdom"—and this is the position the Irish Nationalists and Redmond's new Garrison party take up, that it is—conscription should apply, logically, to every part of the Kingdom. But while the new Garrison have take up that ~~at~~ ^{national} Irish feeling is so strong in expression that Ireland is a distinct entity, that Redmond's men have to give way to it at times and take up the "illogism" position—illogical for them. A writer in yesterday's "Daily Mail" sees the logic of Redmond's position clearly. His argument is this— if Ireland is so enthusiastic about the war as Mr. R. says it is, if it wishes the Allies to win; if it is now one with England (and the writer believes it is, as Mr. R. has said) then of course it will welcome conscription if the Government decide that conscription is necessary to win the war. If it resist conscription Home Rule will be damaged. All quite right and logical, if Redmond and his party have been truly

Dec. 29:- representing Ireland. The real test is now come—if Ireland be really, truly, whole heartedly, enthusiastically with England as Mr. R. and his men have assured the world, then Ireland will and must accept conscription when the British Government has decided on it. But, as one of the Irish to-hutless well knows, Ireland will not accept conscription; as we know it will mean a fight; and as we know the fight will not be because the Irish people are in principle against conscription or otherwise but because they are not with England in anything like an overwhelming majority. Knowing these things too, many, if not all, of the I. P. P. will argue ⁱⁿ ^{side} issue against conscription. They ^{will} particularly use the argument of the English working man, for whom they so often profess to speak.

Well, we are in for developments anyhow.

Mr. no Nozag on 30th December, Spáid b'fúda. 12 noon. The "Cork Examiner" just gave us this morning in a sleepy way to give a slight hint, taken from English papers, that there is some little talk of conscription. "But the general feeling in London is that Ireland will be exempt." So that's who end of the matter. We are safe, thanks to the matchless leadership of Mr. Redmond, Mr. Dillon and Mr. Pearse!

The "Cork Weekly Free Press" wakes a little. Mrs. Wm. O'Brien writes an attack on Redmond and Dillon. Now, what does he mean by his "Ireland stands to win nothing out of this war except conching taxation and ripped markets." A victory to England "will mean vast additional territories and new markets of immense worth." And

Dec. 30:- yet William was almost the first of the Irish "national" M.P.s to advise Irishmen to join hands with England in the war! You're a bit too late in waking up Mr. O'Brien. Last August twelve months you should have thought of the smoking turrets and crippled markets as Ireland's share of England's victory over Germany.

"With inimitable statesmanship he (i.e. Redmond) overlooks entirely Ireland's claim to separate treatment in this matter" (i.e. conscription).

"He ties the all too few young men of this country on to the coat tails of the swearing unmarried men in England who have refused to fight for a victory which to them at all events will mean vast prosperity".

There, and more in the same strain, Mr. O'Brien on Mr. Redmond. Too late, William. Everybody knows you, too, wanted to tie Ireland, all Ireland, on to the coat tails of England, all England. Is that not your idea yet? Do you think you'll hoodwink young men (or old men) by that kind of talk now in attacking your fellow pro-British Redmond? Too late, William, too late.

Thurs 11 Nov/15 on 31st Dec. 1915. On 11-12-15. 5-20 p.m. 1915 is dying and dying hard, with fierce storms and driving rain. Monday was unusually stormy; Wednesday was very stormy; last night was terrifying, with wind and rain; and it comes in fine, wild gusts to-day. I felt somewhat nervous last night - having to remain indoors so much probably the cause. Went to confession a little while ago and am strong again; braced up in spirit, soul, and

Dec. 31:- mind, fit to face 1916 bravely I hope, whatever may befall.

After all, what matter anything that may or can possibly happen if one is at peace with God. I do not know how others feel, but I know that my strength of mind and soul depends upon spiritual feelings within me, which are quickened by the performance of certain spiritual exercises, like Confession and the reception of the Holy Eucharist. Yes, nothing matters but the great spiritual things: the salvation of one's soul, and all that that carries with it. However one fails in other things,

success in this is the real success. How small indeed all the troubles of the world become when viewed from the standard of saving one's soul. The hypocrisies, the petty jealousies, the mean, spiteful comments, the lies, the misunderstandings, the calumnies and all the others - what are they all; why should they so disturb me. Many of those things disturb me too; have disturbed me during the year that is dying. I see hypocrisy and cant glorified; I see vice exalted as virtue; I see falsehood rampant and deception triumphant over truth. I have, even in my own person, got a ~~useless~~ taste of the world's queer ways from the actions of others with whom I have been connected. Why should any or all of those things: personal or general: disturb me? I certainly can say I bear no malice, but why should even the tiniest little sting of remembrance be in my memory to disturb me? Away, away, away with even the slightest remembrance.

We begin a new year. Courage, my soul! Physical, mental and moral courage will be needed for those

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Dec. 31:- who love Ireland. And not courage alone but fortitude, wisdom, forbearance, charity. Everything points to stirring, exciting times: days beyond ordinary. According to one set of reports the decision of the English Government to enforce conscription has been received with satisfaction in England. According to another set there is likelihood of opposition; only parliamentary opposition is hinted at. It is stated pretty freely that Ireland will be excluded from the measure; but in other quarters it is stated that at least the south of Ireland, the fabled "Milesia" will be included. It is difficult to say exactly what will happen. There are no particular signs of very determined opposition in England, though there are many labour conferences. But, apart from conscription, what are we to do in Ireland? Is all our work as Volunteers just to gaze and gaze on; never to take decisive action to clear English rule from our land? Are we to be there just as a defence, as long as it suits English policy not to attack us openly with coercion? Or, are we to make a bid for Irish liberty at any available opportunity? I know not. Boon may still still connect politics. Connolly, in the "Workers Republic," repeats Fintona Lawlor's article in the "Felon" (1890) warning those who would for some purpose the day of striking the blow. Let us say really be the true wisdom; it bears the marks of wisdom; but, if there is no serious intention of somehow, sometime, somewhere making a bid for Irish independence then we are wasting our time in the "Volunteers," as

Dec. 31:- should have never begun. Personally, I believe I hate bloodshed, revolution, disturbance as much as any ^{average} man; I dislike the idea of people suffering; but I see no way whatever by which the true freedom of Ireland can be achieved except by war and the freedom of Ireland is worth a fight, even if it entail suffering to fight. We hear much of the horrors of war - and it is horrible - but many who talk of its horrors forget the horrors of certain forms of peace. War would have been horrible in Ireland in '48; it could never have been as horrible as the peace that made the famine possible. War would be horrible to day but the crushing of the minds and souls of Irishmen; the starvation of the bodies of Irish men and women; the utter slavishness; the closing up of every avenue of noble action; the burden of taxation; the prostitution of a nation; are quite as horrible as any war. Tyranny is as strong in Ireland to-day as it ever was under Cromwell, though it is covered with a shameful cloak of law, and resistance to tyranny, particularly alien tyranny, is not alone desirable, but is a duty. Why then should Irish men who see the tyranny, its horrible nakedness, who look with open eyes on the horrors of the present make believe peace, not strike? Why wait for any farther excuse? As I believe in God, I believe we have a righteous and just cause NOW - we need no further cause. And I believe there is a fair chance of success, if action is taken in a certain way. Fifty or sixty thousand Irishmen, at least, have perished in a

Dr. 31st was during the past twelve months for a cause that was not theirs and that, to my conscience, is quite unjust. There are widows and fatherless children in Ireland to-night because of a war in which Ireland has no concern and which will not lead to its liberty, its happiness or its prosperity. Why then should any sane Irishman deplore that number dead for Ireland, if in an effort to bring Ireland liberty, happiness, prosperity, peace, if he deplore them not when they died for England? I deplore them dead for England: but should I not glory had they died for Ireland? If Belgium and Serbia were justified in fighting for their independence how much more is Ireland justified? Belgium and Serbia never suffered at German hands one thousandth part of what Ireland has suffered at England's hands. Why should we wait? Well, both grant it be for the best. I pray that He may give it to me to see Ireland free.

German submarines are around our south coast again. A French ship has been sunk off Clonahilly or Kinsale. Can they have found means for overcoming the English mine nets laid to entrap them? They know well by now I should think that such nets are there.

The pro-English papers in Ireland are now awake to the fact that the English Cabinet has decided on conscription. But of course they have no views on the matter except English ones. For Ireland, 'all is safe in the hands of the Irish Party.'

Slon 0302 a Deana Blathen.

Lá coille .i. an éad lá de mhí Bealtaine nó Eanáir, 1916.

Dia Sáirde. Spáio bpríde. 2 p.m.

It is still so stormy that it is dangerous to walk the streets for fear of falling slates. The rain has ceased a little; and the sun is now struggling to appear. During the day, with the exception of the falling slates danger, I rather enjoy battling with the gale. But, I do not like it at night. The blue sky is to be seen now.

Conscription still looms large. It is somewhat surprising, considering the strenuous efforts of the New Garrison and the Old Garrison to identify Ireland and England as one land and the same, that English newspapers still recognise the absolute ^{national} distinctness of the two countries on such a question as conscription. They recognise it, you see, because of the feared trouble in Ireland; though they never hint ^{at} what the trouble may be or why it should be. It is assumed that the I. P. P. will oppose conscription for Ireland at least. But why they should do so is not explained. I extract the following from the "Irish Independent" of to-day - "The 'Daily Chronicle' says of the compulsory proposal that 'its consequences for national unity depend very much upon how questions like that of Ireland are handled.' (Ireland is a 'question' now I say). 'The national thing,' it says, 'is to leave Ireland out, as she did not come under the Warley scheme, and throughout her recruiting arrangements the fact has had to be

Jan. I: - recognised that her economic, as well as her political conditions are quite special. He will be a very bad patriot who for the sake of bad blood or political capital tries to make Ireland a subject of controversy." First, Ireland was a question: then it became a question that would indicate a separate nation or distinct country, you could hardly refer to Hampshire, for instance, as she! - but later it became again a subject. Why are Ireland's political and economic conditions "quite special"? Is it not like Devonshire, Cornwall or the Scottish Highlands in its agricultural parts? Is it not like Newcastle-Tyne in its Belfast part? In what are Dublin, Cork, or Limerick "quite special" from Norwich, Plymouth, or Milford? Our "Daily Chronicle" are we really not all one? Why you doubt? Is not this a United Kingdom? Are we not all determined to beat the "Huns"?

That touch of the "bad patriot" is fine! in view of the following - "The following resolution has been adopted by the Executive Committee of the Irish Unionist Alliance - 'That this Committee, representing the Unionist opinion of the three southern provinces, (where or south are they?) desires to place on record its opinion that in the event of a scheme of national service being introduced by the Government, it would be a national disgrace if Ireland were excluded, or any differentiation were made in regard to this country.'"

* The 'Nation' says - 'It (i.e. the political crisis) has been precipitated and led up to with much art. It seems to be little

Jan. I: - short of a betrayal of Home Rule to force Mr. Redmond to insist on the exclusion of Ireland from conscription under penalty of exposing him to the retort that in doing so he reveals his essential dis-unity from the Empire." But that is a real paragraph now? You see, Mr. Redmond, where you are landed? If you don't accept Conscription for Ireland you will expose Ireland's "essential dis-unity from the Empire"? Of course, sir, 'tis a "betrayal" to force you to so clearly declare yourself - for Ireland or for the Empire - but the naughty Government have done it and you see, we, your friends - couldn't not shout - are angry, but, but, but, sir - "dis-unity", sir - we hint, sir: you know, that is unthinkable.

* The Dublin correspondent of the London 'Times' says 'that the majority of Irish Nationalists are anxious to win the war, but all their plans and opinions are coloured by the prepossession of Home Rule. . . . If Ireland is excluded from conscription, and the rest of the Kingdom accepts it, the enemies of Home Rule will be furnished with a powerful argument against that policy.' Ah! quite so. And wouldn't you think 'twas a friend of Home Rule was writing to another friend of 'the Cause'? But they see the point anyhow. If R. does not accept Conscription the argument will be strong against him that in a dark hour of the Empire's peril he failed to make a supreme sacrifice. But, the "friends" forget that Redmond has said Home Rule is safe: 'tis in the Statute Book of England and so

Jan. I:- power on earth can remove it from place. True, of course, he has also said there are dangers ahead and there has been an attempt at unseating the United Irish League. What a game it all seems; a gamble in men's lives and liberties.

The London correspondent of the "Independent" says it is pretty well known that old Dequith means to cling on to the Premiership through thick and thin. Hence his assenting to Conscription. He will leave Ireland out of that's the easier policy. He is apparently an ordinary English politician in power, with no fixed principles or strong convictions on public affairs, determined to cling to office as long as he can. But, he is not alone. There are yet no cabinet resignations ^(except that is no) announced publicly and this is a cabinet which was supposed to contain a majority against Conscription in any shape or form! Truly English indeed.

An English warship has blown up in harbor "from an internal explosion." (Yes, indeed, I suppose, by a little force getting into it from outside). Some 300 lives are lost, it is supposed. Outbreaks of fires are still extraordinarily common in England. In war cases we are not told the causes.

The New Year's "Annals List" is published to-day. Our "friend", friend, is put on the Irish Privy Council. This will link up the civil and military administration of Ireland. Our local Lord Mayor gets a Knighthood in company with some new

Jan. I:- who have helped recruiting who also have been knighted.

The "Daily Mail" has a war map to-day to show the principal events of the Great War during 1915. There is a pitiful attempt to show the allies' victimhood, an attempt that the map reveals as a ghastly failure. Here's an example - Nov. 22 British victory at Occuphon.

Nov. 29. British retreat to Kut-el-Amara. A rather new idea in warfare that - when you win a victory to retreat. In a note appended it is stated "the silent and victorious influence

exercised by the British Navy against an enemy which never knew what its force cannot, of course, be indicated." Come typist! But the map indicates

1. 19 Zeppelin raids (on England) Jan. to Oct. 2. "Austrian", "Bosnia", "Serbia" torpedoed and mined between Irish and French coasts. 3. "Ancona" torpedoed off Bordeaux. 4. "Eg" lost in Dardanelles. So that, even in the mention of

only three or four incidents out of thousands it is indicated that all around Europe, in every sea, the "victorious" British Navy has lost or been unable to make its "silent" influence sufficiently felt. That the British Navy, with Russian, French, Italian, Japanese assistance, is able to hold the seas is a fact. That it has been uniformly victorious is not a fact.

German submarines have done in 1915 what no ordinary person believed before they did it could have been done - sunk thousands of miles and sink some of the largest ships in the world, despite the watchfulness of the English Navy. If Germany is beaten we shall probably never know all their submarines and airships have done but this we already know, they have caused "imagination to hasten behind reality" in what they have already accomplished.

I 3ionbuip an 3apala. Da Domnaiz. 12.40 p.m. Spaco bnyedo.

The chief was news given us late last night or in the Sunday papers - The German, Austrian, Turkish and Bulgarian Consuls have been arrested by the English-French at Salonika, which is nominally neutral territory. Greece, a small nationality, be it always remembered, has entered a protest against this further invasion of its sovereign rights.

An English liner has been torpedoed somewhere in the Mediterranean, "Pavia" its name. It was a mail and passenger steamer of the P. & O. line. Most of the passengers and crew lost. The British steamer "Abelia" has also been sunk - when and where we are not told, nor what kind of vessel it was.

A Greek island off the coast of Asia Minor has been occupied by a French force. Thus do "we" safeguard the rights of small nations! The Kaiser has addressed a New Year's message to his army and navy. It begins with the word "Comrades". That sounds unusual in a Royal or Imperial address. He naturally refers to the victories of Germany during 1915, but our blind, deaf, and dumb newspapers are indeed coming on to heading "Glorious Victories". To Germany there certainly have been glorious victories during the period of the war that has been gone through. As regards territory - Germany controls practically all Belgium, part of France, all Poland, part of Russia, all Serbia. With its allies, Austria, Bulgaria, Turkey, it threatens Montenegro, the Byzantine, Egypt. The Central powers hold their own against England, France, Italy, Russia,

Jan. 21 - Japan, what is left of the armies of Belgium, Serbia, Montenegro, against black and yellow. They are wearing down the English on the sea; they have forced Japan to send its merchant ships by the Cape of Good Hope, they have won in diplomacy in the Balkans, they threaten England in India and Egypt. The Kaiser can indeed with truth speak of glorious victories. Whether the victories will continue or not remains to be seen.

Whether Germany will come triumphant out of the Great War or whether the Quadruple Entente will smother it is decisively to be seen. They will no man knows.

The cost of the war in men and money mounts so high for all the nations that the conflict ought end this year. But 'tis impossible to tell.

So far, the Central Powers have won and are winning. That much is certain.

But there are so many factors that count in this stupendous conflict that we cannot say how victory will ultimately go. If the war continues for very long, it seems to me that all of the big European nations will be weakened. Were this to occur the little nations may then indeed come into their own.

3ionbuip an 3apala. Dialuam. Deannquize. 4 p.m.

The British lion is howling pitiously over the loss of the "Pavia". He is answering to the American eagle to come to his aid against the "Huns". An American Consul was lost on the ship. The recurrence of submarine warfare on a large scale is - in small paragraphs - said to be due to the fact that the Germans allege the English have not kept some terms or other regarding their supposed blockade of

Jan. 3:- Germany.

It was never generally commented on that there were any terms or agreements about the "Blockades" - I have only always been surmising there were, but I think my surmises were correct. My surmise was and is that the English piracy policy on the high seas and the German submarine policy of torpedoing without warning were as serious a danger to American, Swedish and other neutral shipping that the neutrals prevailed upon the German and English authorities to modify their policies and come to some agreements.

The "Daily Mail" in England has been attacking the English Government on the point that England is helping to feed the Germans through neutral countries.

It has been giving statistics of food stuffs exported to Holland, Denmark, etc. It was probably only reflecting opinion in high government circles and perhaps those opinions have prevailed so far that action has been taken. The German reply, naturally, is submarine warfare again against trading vessels. I heard in Cork before I left from a lady who was contemplating returning to England that there is a rumour that German submarines have got through the wire nets laid for them and are again threatening cross channel clearances from Dublin to Holyhead. We know now of course they are again off the south coast.

It is interesting to ask what means they have discovered of coping with the wire nets, but we are not likely

Jan. 5:- to learn the reply to that question. That they must have discovered some means is certain.

"Extraordinary censorship. Convents and Bishops exempt." Thus a heading in to-day's "Independents". Bishop Mangan, speaking at mass in Killarney Cathedral stated his own letters and letters addressed to him had been opened by the Censor. "Every day brought him letters sacred to the writers and to him, and if those were liable to be read by every irresponsible Government official the religious relations existing between a Bishop and his people would be at an end. While safe conduct was offered for their letters to Rome, this letter in Ireland was ruthlessly opened by irresponsible officials. They never heard that the Germans opened the letters of German Catholic Bishops. Were the British War office officials to add another to their many grave blunders?" That's "pro-Germanism," my Lord. The censorship of the Bishop's letters is probably the one in force in Cork city. So far as we know it is only there the policy of opening all letters is in vogue.

Mr. John Dillon, denouncing "factionism," says "the danger of conscription being applied to Ireland is now past, owing to the stand made by the Irish Party." But the English Press Association, in a message published to-day says the Conscription Bill "to be introduced into the House of Commons on Wednesday" will apply to the United Kingdom generally, and that there will be no exception in the case of Ireland."

Faspaintio co Droppa 8 30 OCT Dia Cendaoim.

Jan. 3: 9.50 p.m. The political crisis in England is not altogether over. Though there is only one cabinet resignation announced, it is stated that there is a "plot" on foot to force the Ministry to name a limit for the army to be raised. The "Conscriptionists" do not appear to want this: they want no limit to be named. But the "anti's" appear to have a good argument - England cannot raise men indefinitely for army purposes and yet go on as a business nation, making munitions and money and leading to others in interest. It cannot go on indefinitely raising money - in fact the problem of money is becoming increasingly difficult for it; the rate of interest on its war loans has been going up and its American loan was not a great success, if a success at all. It cannot chew both ends of the stick at one and the same time - at least by an obligation to learn an epigram to improve its taste. Now, that is good argument but it shows very clearly how much England lives on prestige, as John Mitchell pointed out long ago. The frog is inflated to his utmost capacity by now I should think. All the world should know by now he is only a windbag. Well, the British Cabinet was to meet to-day ^{or is to meet to-morrow} and settle the final details of the conscription Bill. They are very critical days indeed in my opinion; critical for poor Ireland because she is said to have friends and what she does in these days may affect her very much.

Jan. 4. Damage. 11.20 a.m. Mornings war news - news on the fighting fronts. Another liner sunk in the Mediterranean; only

Jan. 4: a few lines later. "Cork Examiner" publishes Press Association message of yesterday saying conscription is to apply to Ireland. Also publishes Central Press notes in which it is stated the opposition in parliament to conscription will be numerically weak: Asquith's influence with the J. P. P. will be sufficient to induce that party not to officially oppose the Bill: and Henderson, a labour man in the cabinet, will be able to carry the bulk of the labour party and the Trades Unions with him. Parliament will come to an end on the 31st Jan. unless the Lords carry the Bill prolonging its life and the Lords won't carry it, as it is understood, unless the conscription measure is passed. I see now that there's the driving force. Asquith has publicly declared he will stick on to his office and his salary - so he comes in to the Lords now, as he has come in so often before, and still keep office and salary.

The "Examiner" publishes more fully the protest of Bishop Hangan against the opening of his letters. His Lordship asks questions which may be said to sum up once more the whole question of Irish "loyalty" to England. "Naturally, according to ^{the} my measure of my lights, the present government had my sympathy and support in this dreadful war. Is this the return they give to me and my Catholic people?" Why, certainly my Lord, that is the return - natural, inevitable. They would do worse with you, if they dared. "Many of our brave soldiers, such as the Munsters, have been gloriously and almost recklessly sacrificing their lives

Jan. 4. "in the present war, and, I may add, very little recognition they have received for their valour. Let me ask is this the return their co-religionists at home are to expect from the British Government?" Why, my lord, we must expect for worse than the opening of our letters. That's a trifle. Later on, my lord, you shall see big "returns": that may astonish you. These "returns" are the inevitable reward of such "loyalty" as yours to the British Government. "Many of our brave soldiers" fell at Waterloo. That did not influence the British Government one whit in its dealings with Ireland. "Many of our brave soldiers" fell in the Crimea. The "return" was the same as ever. "Many of our brave soldiers" fell in India, Albania, Egypt, South Africa. What "return" did Ireland get? None, of course, my lord. The Irishman who expects any fair dealing or generosity from the English in the treatment of Ireland is very foolish indeed. Does any Irishman expect, for instance, that England will return the three hundred odd millions pounds robbed from this country in over-taxation - though the robbery was admitted by the English themselves - or the return of the one millionth part of that sum, because Irish soldiers die for England? Does any Irishman expect the lowering of taxation now? Does any Irishman expect to be relieved from the burden of paying for England's present war? Does any Irishman expect that, in a fine fit of generosity, as a "return"

Jan. 4. - for the ^{blood} sacrifice of "many of our brave soldiers" the English Government will give Ireland a good measure of Home Rule, with, say, complete financial control? Does any Irishman expect that the English Government will promote Irish industries? Does any Irishman expect it will save the Irish language for us? Does any Irishman expect it will give us control of Irish education? Does any Irishman expect anything from the British Government except what it is compelled to give in order to avoid greater evils to its rule in Ireland?

Drinoleague. 10 p.m. The "Independent" has news of friendly ships sunk in the Mediterranean - English and Japanese. Its London correspondent also states definitely that the Conscription Bill will not apply to Ireland and that the Press Association was not correct in stating it would.

The stars in countless numbers are shining very brightly to night. There is no moon. The air is slightly soft. There is a fairly strong west wind blowing: a gentle breeze compared with last week's gales; but it blows with that sighing sound that fills the dreariness of a winter's night. I am not in a mood for melancholy, or that wind would make me sad.

During the holidays I wrote a play "The Test", the title of which is from Mr. Redmond's statement last year "It is a time to test men's souls." I believe 'tis a good play, with dramatic situations. I have had less trouble with it than with any

Jan. 4. - I undertook before. Everything seemed to fall out so naturally. The central idea is the son of an old Fenian joining the English Army. I have met such an old Fenian as I try to portray: I have met such a one as his son. But, I believe the play is so utterly "seditions" that its production would be an "offense" under the Theatricals Act. That it is true to life in most particulars only aggravates the "offense" I suppose. The ending is the universal part. Ireland is at war with England. A Volunteer officer rushes in with news of a victory. This is only a very slight incident however but has good dramatic effect. Well if the O'Leary or Curran is now are willing to undertake production they can have "The Last" with pleasure.

Booninip an 5.0.16. The Constitution. 11.45 a.m. The Press Association states definitely this morning that conscription will not apply to Ireland. Ireland was included in the draft of the Bill originally but was subsequently struck out. Why? The Irish Party of course say owing to themselves. But the aims of the Volunteers and the general sentiment of the Irish people are the true reasons I believe. One English paper has indeed stated it would never do to have bloodshed in Ireland at present. It is right, from the English point of view in England's relation to international affairs. The Orange group of members have not and passed a resolution of protest against Ireland's

Jan. 5. - "proposed conclusion." They profess to regard it as a disgrace that Ireland should not have conscription. The Protestant Bishop of Armagh has a long letter in the papers to the same effect. Now, these people should know that conscription in Ireland would really lead to bloodshed. Do they, in their hearts, wish to see it so? Or, is their attitude just a political manoeuvre: a semblance of extreme "loyalty", when they know full well there is to be no conscription here? A quite obvious argument against this is if they are so extreme in "loyalty" why they do not enlist under the "Voluntary" system? Why must conscription then for the mythical South and West - that is for Catholics and Nationalists. Like the English Tories most of the Orange leaders belong to the middle class and naturally want coercion for the working classes. The Socialist element in England judge, with good reason as doubt, that the suppression of democracy is the real motive of conscription. There seems good reason in this, for England has a really big army as numbers go. A Socialist paper in Glasgow - "Forward" - has been suppressed. It gave a report of a visit of Lloyd George to Glasgow where it seems he was very badly received by the workers. There is much hubbub in Parliament over the suppression, and cries of "free speech" of which Lloyd George once posed as an advocate. There was no talk of "free speech" when five or six Irish papers were suppressed. The "Irish" members were too busy proving their loyalty: and these papers were "suppressed".

Jan. 5: - says "regis" anyhow; "tranquitos", owned and edited by Irish Catholic reactionaries, whereas "Forward" is probably owned and edited by atheistic socialists.

It is reported that the Kaiser is seriously ill.

An official report of the British Government is issued - answering the "Daily Mail" clamour showing how England has crippled German commerce. If true, it is a very effective crippling. It shows the absolute ruthlessness of English sea power. At that England is not justified in such ruthlessness. To the world works, it is. The detestable thing is the matter about the English is their hypocrisy - while carrying out a ruthless policy they pretend they are quite Christian, quite civilized. If they dropped the hypocrisy and clearly stated they are fighting in self defence, for their own interests, then their actions would be understood. But that does not suit them. While acting as "Huns", they flaunt banners of religion and civilization.

The German government laid a definite charge of murder against the crew of an English auxiliary cruiser who murdered a submarine crew off the south Irish coast last August, apparently the submarine that sunk the "Arabic". The charge and Sir Edward Grey's reply are in to day's papers. The reply is not a defence but simply a counter charge, or a series of them against German submarine crews. To any an Irishman it is a very natural reply. But I thought the English so guided themselves on the just carrying out of law, were so "civilized" and so

Jan. 5: - "humanes" that, no matter what the German "Huns" would do, they would never be guilty of doing such things as murdering a crew in cold blood. The thought that came to my mind reading Grey's reply was circumstances in Ireland during the land league days.

According to English ideas when an evicted Irish farmer shot a landlord it was murder, assassination; but when the landlord shot a family on the roadside, saw to perish of hunger or exposure, that was law - and the law had to be upheld no matter how an Irishman suffered. Yet, Grey's whole reply is a seeming justification for murder by English sailors on the ground that the German sailors - and soldiers - have also committed murders! Applying that to Ireland, the Phoenix Park affair was quite justifiable and, in fact, Ignara, the invincible, takes up that very line in his book on the "Invincibles". All of which seems to show that the motives, not the act, is the real deciding cause of discrimination in any crime. If the commandment "Thou shalt not kill" applies to nations of men, to nations and groups, then all war is a crime, whatever the object to be attained. But that all war is a crime is not the teaching of the Catholic Church. Then it must be the motives that makes the crime in ~~murder~~ killing.

Sionbhuirín on Baile Lá. Droichead. Lá Noblaig Beag. Spórbairde - 12.20 p.m.

So Ireland is out of it! No conscription for us. As a German paper - "Kölnische Zeitung" - is reported to have put it, Prime Minister

Jan. 6:- acquith "dare not" enforce conscription in Ireland. There were cries of "why" in "the House" when acquith said his Bill would apply only to Britain. Why indeed, asked Henry Asquith? "Because the Dearly scheme did not apply to Ireland". In substance that was acquith's answer. That is no answer. Why was the Dearly scheme not applied here? ^{Ans:} Now: the Irish people would not have it as it was the first step, we knew, to conscription. There are young men in Ireland with arms in their hands who would oppose. Because "Ireland has done more than her share" says Mr. John Dillon. "There's no need for conscription to make Irishmen fight" for England, a good political twist that. "Ireland will gain nothing but an overload of taxation ~~by England's victory~~ in the war" says Mr. Wm. O'Brien in "to-day's" "Cork Free Press." "Mister" will be disappointed at not being included" says Mr. Londsdale. Dillon certainly answered him effectively enough. "We lost vast bloodshed in Ireland" says one English paper, "Manchester Guardian", I believe. "If Ireland does not accept conscription you will never get Home Rule" says other English papers, like the "Morning Post" and "Times"; in effect. But, the central fact is Ireland's out of the conscription Bill. Policy: international policy: Fear: fear of an Irish rising - in those two words I would sum up the reasons why Ireland is omitted. They really go together as one thing. To provoke a rising in Ireland would

Jan. 6:- not exit English policy at present as the map's best champion of small nations - though these are many high in authority in England who would favour the provocation. So, Ireland is not and we are saved turmoil for yet a little while. The I.P.P. did not whoop is the House that they had saved Ireland from conscription. But they are to vote against conscription anyhow - even for England. Redmond and Dillon took entirely different lines, though both sought to prove Ireland's loyalty to England. Redmond showed himself "more English than the English"; Dillon spoke as a Parliamentary Irishman.

There is apparent trouble ahead, however, for many England. Linow, Home Secretary, resigned and led opposition to the Bill on grounds of principle he declared. It is nearly certain now that the most determined of the labour element will oppose, even perhaps to the point of striking. Asquith's speech was, I think, strikingly unconvincing and showed him up as a complete opportunist. He made a pledge thinking it would never be necessary to redeem it and so only because there was a slump in recruiting. How it shows England up! He says he is against general compulsion: and there are so many exceptions in the Bill that it looks to us useless as it stands to obtain a very large number of men. Kitchener, in the Lords, though lauding the "voluntary" system and pretending to be a voluntarist him, declared England cannot win the war without conscription.

Jan. 6: Dillon attacked the English officials who led at Lons and Sule as "a set of incompetents." All - and what more there is and 'his voluminous' - of which shows that Shân Brú is indeed in a very bad way, puzzled, muddled, fuddled. In the words of one of his own darling music hall songs "He don't know where he are", neither. There must be joy in Berlin. There's reason in contemplating the pitiable spectacle of John Brú.

Jim at a meeting in Mullingar recently, suggested that an Irish Provisional Government ought to be set up. Glad to think others now think and have long thought. But, I doubt the wisdom of coming out openly with that idea and letting the enemy know what you intend to do.

"Irish pre-war and post-war tax" - an obscure paragraph in the "Irish Independent" today - reply of Chancellor of the Exchequer to Mr. Guinness - "1913-14 - aggregate total £9,627,000; 1914-15, ditto, £17,457,000." Heavens! was my exclamation in seeing those figures. Is it possible for an Irish nationalist to look calmly at these figures which the pro-English "Independent" flings away as of no particular importance. The whole basis of Home Rule finance; the whole Unionist argument against Home Rule; the whole Parl. argument for Home Rule is now matted - was that Ireland could not support itself without aid from the British Treasury and that the very utmost limit of Irish

Jan. 6: - taxation had been reached in 1913-14. Can any Irishman be patient with hunting when he sees these figures? Can any Irishman really stand the self-complacent phrase of Mr. John Dillon when he says the "Irish Party" have saved Ireland from crushing taxation?

4 p.m. One thing which the leaving out of Ireland from the Conscription Bill emphasises for all the world is the national individuality of Ireland. The Unionists see this. "All the world" interested in the Great War are naturally desirous of seeing what England is doing to raise an army. They will see then that Ireland is not as Britain; that Ireland and Britain are not one. And many will probably understand the circumstances: the Irish in America will understand; the Germans, Austrians, Turks, Bulgarians will understand; and the French and Italians may understand too. Nothing that can be said will count in comparison with the eloquence of the solid fact that at a time when a Coalition English government considers it necessary for the safety of the British Empire to force the young men of England to join the colours it does not force Irishmen to do the same. If any foreigner now is so ignorant as to think of Ireland as a new shire of England he must be very ignorant indeed. That acknowledgment of national distinctness is something gained.

Jan. 6:- Figures of Irishmen in the English army given by Mr. John Dillon in the English Parliament yesterday are as follows:

In the regular army before the war broke out -

Catholics 14,000 Protestants 6,000 - Total 20,000

Special recruits 6,000 do. 3,000 - 9,000

Up to Dec. 15th last 91,555 recruits "have joined Lord Kitchener's army" - 50,196 "Roman Catholics" and 41,353 are Protestants. (That does not make 91,555 but I am giving "Cork Examiner" report).

"The number of recruits who joined the colours in Ireland was 12,000 Catholics against 5,000 Protestants". "The total number going from Ireland and serving in the army at the present moment, without allowing for casualties, was 142,000." (Now he got that I don't know: let me add above - 20,000 + 9,000 + 12,000 + 5,000 + 91,555 that makes 137,555 not 142,000).

Finished at 3.40 P.M. On Saturday. Spent byzide 12 noon.

The first reading of the Conscription Bill was carried in the English Commons on Thursday by a big majority. The bulk of the I. L. P. voted against it. The Unionists and some military M.P.s. threaten they will not forget it for them when Home Rule comes up again. 'Tis carried in Parliament, but will it go through all the stages? A special Trades Union Congress met also on Thursday. 1,993,000 votes were

Jan. 8:- recorded against Conscription: 783,000 for. The "Red Flag" was swung as the "Daily Mail" complains, "by way of the national anthem." "The words England or Britain were never once uttered during the long days' talk." These were "fiery" speeches. Some of the labour leaders - like our own "leaders" - have played labour false. However, the labour men in the Coalition Cabinet have resigned so the Coalition is now simply a government of the autocrats, representing the moneyed interests of England. The Lords have carried the Bill prolonging the life of the present English Parliament to second reading, I believe. That followed, I suppose, when Conscription was passed in the Commons and shows that, notwithstanding all fire talk of recent years, the "upper classes" still wield the power in the government of England. No party wants a general election apparently but there is talk of a Referendum - a vote taken on the one class issue of Conscription. What will the Socialists and Syndicalists do? That is the real pertinent question, though reading the newspapers one would never think it. The Irish daily papers either for or against are absolutely hopeless. One would imagine from them that things are going on quite smoothly everywhere - except of course in Germany. But, what will the democrats in England do? Will they really stick to their avowed principles? Will they go to the extreme of a revolution?

Jan. 8:- There never was such a chance, in my humble judgment, either in Ireland or England, for overthrowing long-established tyrannies. The English army - which is the real power to quell a revolution of the democracy there - must contain a very large number of working-class people who would not act against their own class - of course there are large numbers of those too who would shoot their fellow workers if ordered to do so. But are the Socialists in England sincere enough, determined enough, to force the issue to a fight? That is what I do not know. If they do not now, it is becoming pretty clear to my mind that one of the results of the recent war for England will be the strengthening of the power of the autocrats - a reaction to high Imperialism, with the moneyed and military classes triumphant. The war has so absorbed attention that the varying movements of social thought have been overlooked or forgotten. The constant repetition of lies, platitudes, etc. by our daily press has got us to look at things in quite a wrong light. All we have been seeing regarding England for instance is that it is one, united whole warring with Germany for world power. We have ceased to realize that there may be masses of men in England prepared to fight for class interests: really fight I mean, not merely talk one down; that these really

Jan. 8:- are other issues there besides the outcome of the war. I know I looked at strikes and other things as things afar off, things that possessed somewhat of an academic interest, things that ultimately would not matter. But this issue of conscription forces a new view on me. Perhaps the democratic element in England are really true to their principles and prepared to fight for them. Some of that element have often declared against the Empire: empire is nothing to them. They must know that as things are trending at present, the military caste will be all-powerful ^{in England} if England win the war and that the working classes will be kept within safe bounds. Knowing that, are they prepared now for a revolution that would give themselves power and government? I don't know. Time will tell. But in Ireland? I am convinced absolutely that the chance of Irish freedom is greater to-day than at any period of Irish history. The "Workers' Republic" is emphasizing this week by week. It is so straight spoken this very week that, in ordinary times it would be suppressed. Why doesn't the Government suppress it now? There's only one conclusion - it is not ^{to do so:} ~~possibly~~ or it is not ready. Then that should be the very reason why those who desire Irish independence should be up and doing. And they are not. So far as I learn they have no plans whatever that way.

Jan. 8. - There are no definite ideas, so far as I know, among those who lead the Pionapail to take positive action in any opportunity for the achievement of Irish independence. That may think as I think I am sure of. But Headquarters attitude is to continue drilling and training the Volunteers, to go on "strengthening" the force, to be there, well-organised and well-trained, should any necessity arise for action - the English Government to be watched meanwhile, but no initiative to be taken against it. There is much, very much to be said for this attitude. It looks like wisdom and prudence. It looks like a gathering or muniting up of strength in silence. It appeals to my temperament strongly, yet, I have very grave misgivings, based on knowledge of the past and present and on thoughts of what Irish freedom means, as I have read the past, most movements in Ireland went on thus to a certain point, went on till the English Government struck and that Government naturally struck when it suited its policy not when it suited the Irish organisation's policy. Graham's volunteers organised, trained, drilled, armed: they could have achieved complete freedom; they were content with less, hence disbanded and the subsequent terrible history of our country. The United Irishmen waited, waited, waited, seemingly of course increasing in military efficiency as time went on. The Government let them go up to a certain point, then a full-stop

Jan. 8. The leaders were taken and, though a gallant fight was made the chances were less than they would have been, say in 1792. McDonnell was let go on in his hopeful movement till the Clontarf meeting: the government struck, that was the end. The young Irishmen too had the question "Now or later?" before them. The latter on element won. I don't blame; I only now state facts. To wait till later on seemed wisdom, prudence, patience and these things are virtues. But '48 failed: the time chosen was too late. And so on. That is the lesson borne in on me from the fact: that an Irish movement aiming at independence (Do the Pionapail aim at independence?) should strike at a time when it knows the enemy is not prepared to strike; should suit itself not the enemy ^{should have} and that the enemy will ultimately strike however long it may go on itself. That's my reading of the present - that the British Government has struck at the Volunteers as far as it considers prudent for itself, by proclamations, prosecutions, prohibitions. It will strike harder and more effectively; it will break up the Volunteers and disarm them; prevent them doing any very great positive action just as soon as it suits its policy to do so. Of course, training, discipline, etc. will enable the Volunteers to make a good defence, but the hope of taking the offensive will be almost gone. Further, if the Great War finish quickly and England is no more gutted than now, we may as well give up on

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arms: we can give them hope to meet the military power of England. I admit if the war goes still worse against England; if in other words England goes more and more, our chances mount higher and higher. But we cannot see the future and it may be there will be a turn of fortune for that country. If that comes, we must leave or rush in the fire if we have not smothered them in time. If things get worse for England in the war: or if there were a bid for a social revolution there, many who are passive as action in Ireland would undoubtedly be inclined to think of the chance for Irish independence. But, if these things do not happen and nothing is done in the meantime, where are we anyhow? We are already scorched with war taxation. The larder will be stronger and eat deeper if England wins. I think I have said before that I am no red revolutionary; I am not a revolutionist at all in fact in the sense in which that word is ordinarily understood. I hate the idea of bloodshed; if it can be avoided. But, from my view that I can conceive right, I believe Ireland ought to be a free and independent nation: absolutely independent of English rule in any shape or form and I am convinced that freedom is worth fighting for. Its attainment will leave us with many grave national problems to solve; but it will mean at least great opportunities for the noblest ideals of the Irish nation

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to be realized. Failure to obtain that freedom will mean a scourging for the Irish Nation at the hands of the English: a loss scourging if England be not triumphant in the Great War, yet if she come safe out of it: but a Cromwellian policy of ruthlessness if she come triumphant. And the more "loyal" we protest we are the worse will be our state. Not knowing the future hence am I driven to the opinion that those who believe in Irish freedom ought to be taking steps now to achieve that freedom. But alas! so far as I have no steps are being taken. And I am just in the position of a new theorist; a looker-on, thinking my thoughts and rehearsing them to myself in a diary. And I am sure some things would be different. The whole Irish Nation would have been banded together. But, the chief English rulers are gliding in this respect. They are too clever to give Ireland that opportunity. So we must again wait and see and think and dream and pray and watch.

Now Irish people are being slowly convinced that "loyalty" does not pay. The raid on Irish educational grants is opening eyes that were blind. The elimination of the fact is "the House" that as reduction of educational grants is ^{in Great Britain} being made a new contemplated "house" was necessary may be said, has probably opened other blind eyes. Everyone can see that not all the "loyalty" of all the Irish Party or the New Garrison will prevent Ireland being chastised financially by England. However slowly it may do so, yet the lesson must ultimately get into the brains of the blindest.

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Sionbúir an qadlá. Da Domnaís. spaidíní. 1 p.m.

There has been disorder at an anti-conscription meeting in Dublin. Some workmen in Glasgow have been fined for striking on Christmas Eve. They were prosecuted by Lloyd George's department and were engaged on government work. It has been made an offence to go on strike while engaged in such work. 28 or 29 of them have been fined £5 each. The thing began very simply, but it shows the temper of some of the working men there and looks like serious trouble now. It is fairly certain that the fines will have the effect of rousing the men in a pretty large body. The facts appear that the workmen wanted to be paid at 4 o'clock and wanted to attend the meeting to be addressed by Lloyd George. They were not paid till after 5. One man was insolent or insubordinate or something and was dismissed. The other "struck-in" on account of that, demanding his reinstatement. "Struck-in" means they came into work but did nothing. They were prosecuted and now have been fined. The firm such simple things big things come and if the temper of the men is as here displayed I would not be at all surprised to hear of big trouble in Glasgow on account of those men who were fined.

Sionbúir an qadlá. Da luain. Olanospaig. 6.30 p.m.

The English-Turkish have abandoned Gallipoli completely! The English despatch is that they "retired" with the loss of one man wounded: the Turkish despatch is that the allies were driven from the Peninsula. Read it either way the fact

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Jan. 10: remains - after the loss of so many lives on land and sea; after terrible suffering; destruction of ships; waste of munitions, materials, etc. the allies have abandoned Gallipoli and thereby given up at that point anyhow the effort to get to Constantinople and to open a way to the Black Sea. Still the truth is they may have a defeat of great serious import and was disastrous in its course. It cannot but have big effects. The Turks cannot but be jubilant. What effect on the fight for Salonika, the Suez and Egypt, or in Persia it may have remains to be seen. It must liberate pretty large Turkish forces that will be used elsewhere.

Another big English ship of war is gone - sunk by mine - the "Hing Edward VII". This is the biggest war vessel the English acknowledge losing. No lives were lost it is stated, as I incline to think the ship was mined in the North Sea. Fifteen large ships of war are not acknowledged to have been lost: the total of smaller vessels I do not know. It is fairly certain there were other large ones of which no intimation has been given to the public. The above two items form the chief war news of to-day.

There is a rumour in the papers that Mr. John B. Redmond may shortly resign the Chairmanship of the I.R.P. So far, that rumour was not in the papers. The fact is not at all unlikely, however. There are signs that John Dillon is keeping close to the present situation in Ireland: so it looks as if it was for the leadership.

Jan. 10:- To show how recruiting meetings in Ireland "go" just now, I record one in Cork city yesterday. It is typical of what is happening. There was a big crowd at the meeting. Sir Stanley Harrington, a local employer, commissioner of "National" Education, etc. spoke. He was telling what the "Huns" would do in Ireland, if they came here. "They could not treat us worse than you treated the workmen a few years ago" shouted a "voice" in the crowd. That finished Sir Stanley. A Mr. Patrick Gamble, "National" Teacher, J. P., spoke. (His against the Education Board's rules of course for a teacher to speak at any such meeting, but what matter who's "for the Empire"). He was heckled and howled. A Professor Moore of University College spoke. He came to the word "remember" and then paused. "Remember '98" - quick as lightning the voice. Then the crowd began singing "Who fears to speak of '98", "God save Ireland" and other songs. The speakers were rendered silent. They sent out the military band to play "God save Ireland" itself! Diplomatic eh! But the crowd marched off; down the street singing; to the National Monument on the Grand Parade and from there dispersed. That meeting is typical of the trend of opinion now. And yet Mr. Redmond tells John Bull that all Ireland is "loyal" to him, enthusiastically so in fact!

The English papers have begun to get "nasty" over Ireland and

Jan. 10:- the I. P. P. itself. There are threats and snarling and some showing of teeth. They have of course what is happening in Ireland but it is not diplomatic to mention it too plainly at present. But the I. P. P. voting against conscription on first reading has made them come out. They anticipate, with what truth I have not, that the Party will not press its opposition further "as the measure is a purely English one". But, many of them are asking "Why is Ireland omitted?"

The "Daily Mail" has a leading article to-day denouncing Government extravagance in England. Its facts are well known. Place them alongside of the "raid" on Irish educational finances, whereby a few thousands of pounds yearly may be saved the British Treasury and we find the old, old position of affairs: Ireland humbugged. The article "Independent" notes the two sets of facts all right.

Mr. R. and the I. P. P. are being thanked for saving Ireland from conscription. That was inevitable, but I notice that the thanks are not very voluminous as yet.

Sionbüpp an 12.0.16. Th. C. Deodoom. Sp. Büp. 12. Nov. So it has come as the English Tory papers said it would - the "Irish" Party do not intend, as a body, to offer further opposition to conscription. The threats of the Tories have had their effect. Mr. Redmond has discovered that the Bill is a purely "British Bill". He hopes it will pass quickly. And only last week some of his press supporters were denouncing Mr. Wm. O'Brien for taking up that attitude on the first reading! "Yes a

Jan. 12th - curious world, my friends. It is expected, however, that Mr. John Dillon will still oppose. The breach between Redmond and Dillon grows wider. In some of yesterday's papers it was quite definitely stated that Redmond was about to resign and retire from Parliament! Mr. Dillon wanted "to force him into an attitude inconsistent with his declaration at the outbreak of the war." And the terrible "Liam Finnis" are going strong. Thus the statements in effect. Mr. Redmond's followers must once again have new votes of confidence in him: last week's ones are now out of date.

More figures: Birrell replying to Sir John Blandford - "Number of men between 19 and 41 in each of the provinces in Ireland on August 15 last, approximately - Leinster, 174,594; Ulster, 169,489; Munster 136,637; Connaught, 81,392. (Total 562,115). Up to Dec. 15th those had enlisted in the army and navy. . . . approximately - Lein. 37,458; Uls. 49,760; Mun. 14,190; Con. 3,589" (Total 104,997). All approximate, and no intimation whether it included reserve men or men previously in regular army or not.

Above are from yesterday's papers. Still more figures from to-day's: Mr. Birrell in the House of Commons "There are now 400,000 unattached single men of military age in Ireland; 250,000 are engaged in agriculture and are not to be spared, 25,000 in munitions and shipyards

Jan. 12th - and 10,000 on railways and in seafaring work". Then taking away the unfit estimates for England at 40 per cent. "the final reservoir" of Irish recruits is about 80,000 men.

In the House of Lords Lord Newton intimated that it was against the public interests to give the exact figures with regard to recruiting in Great Britain, but with regard to Ireland he could state that since the beginning of the war down to December 15 the recruits for the army and navy numbered approximately, 95,000, distributed as follows: Leinster 27,458; Ulster 49,760; Munster 14,190 and Connaught 3,589" (That's 10,000 less than Birrell's figures of yesterday. Comment is unnecessary). "The number of single men between the ages of 19 and 41 in Ireland on 15th August last was estimated at 416,409, of whom about 10,500 had since enlisted." Birrell's 562,115 probably included married men as well as single.

Things connected with recruiting and other matters in Ireland are looming large in discussions in the English Parliament House, and in the newspapers at present. All but the real facts, the real spirit of Ireland: those are carefully avoided or only touched on the surface.

Sir Ed. Carson appeals to Mr. Redmond to go "the one step further" - to accept conscription for Ireland. The Irish recruits

Jan. 12th - we to press amendments while the Bill is in Committee to have Ireland included. Bissell tries to explain why Ireland was not included. Ireland was included in the original draft. The cabinet discussed the draft. "There was no communication with any Nationalist member during the progress of those Cabinet discussions." There was no pressure on the Cabinet to leave Ireland out and no bargaining. There was no machinery in Ireland to carry out the terms of the Bill. (The machinery means the Dearly scheme of local councils helping recruiting). It would be impossible to fashion corresponding tribunals for Ireland. "Patriotism in Ireland was much too local an affair, and the wisest course for statesmen was to extend that local patriotism, to introduce into it a real Empire patriotism" [Oh! Mr. B. from the days of Caesar and Montjoy that has been the aim. Oliver Cromwell tried the hardest and, Mr. B. he failed. Why don't you go preach to the Belgians. If there's a Bissell in Germany I can well imagine him saying 'Patriotism in Belgium is much too local an affair. The wisest course is to extend it to a real (German) Imperial patriotism']. "They had to consider in a country like Ireland how they could help, and not hinder, the slow, but gradual, progressive that was noticeable

Jan. 12th - there, whereby its somewhat narrow patriotism was gradually extending. It was the most potent mixture the world had ever seen, but it was a mixture! It was the oddest compound! It was made up of prejudice, of passions, of memories, of little scraps of history imperfectly taught for the most part, but partly remembered and frequently completely misunderstood (loud laughter) "... Patriotism "widened and widened, beginning at home, until it contained within its glorious ambit for distant lands and populations long since emigrated from their own shores but still retaining much of the old feeling." Isn't that fine rant's lecturing for Ireland? Then he spoke of sympathetic treatment - General Friend's treatment I suppose. Then "they had had difficulties in the way of recruiting in Ireland; obstacles there were, jaunting notes had undoubtedly been struck; but who, remembering Irish history, could be surprised at that? Who, remembering Irish history, but must rejoice at the success they had obtained? (cheers). They were not far to face with failure in Ireland. They were still getting a thousand recruits a week. The flow stopped for a time, but it had now recommenced, and was going on - he would not say extraordinarily well, but most encouragingly well." Ah! clever, clever Bissell. Fine talk, man, fine talk. We have heard the like before. No use, sir. You want flies in your

Jan. 12. - week, n'est ce pas? "Come into my pretty parlour" says the Spider to the Fly.

Mr. Birrell replying to Guinness stated Kevin J. Keating did not get two cheques of £3000 and £7000 "to secure the co-operation of the Press" in Ireland in the recruiting campaign. No, but what was the purpose? There was no denial of the fact and I am just a little, not very much surprised at Kevin J. Keating, who is an advertising agent. He got them for advertising I suppose and the ads. bought the Irish papers. Evidently that's what Guinness wanted to bring out.

Stonewall, an Irish L.D. O'Connell. I spoke at a banquet 11.45 a.m. There was a public meeting under the auspices of the piano firm in Cork in the City Hall there last night to protest against "economic conscription", that is, rationing, overtaxation and the reduction of the educational grants. Fr. M. O'Hanrahan of Higo (or Harrowman) was the principal speaker. I have no doubt there a big success for even the "Cork Examiner" has a bit of a report up in this morning. Rev. Fr. King, O.F.C., also spoke. Letters of apology were read from two other priests: one of them Fr. Seamus J. Flynn. (So Fr. O'Flaherty is turning a "lime" time?). I also sent a letter, which was read apparently. The whole point of mine was that while the English Government rules in Ireland we shall have "grievances" and therefore the only thing to get rid of the "grievances" is to end English Government in Ireland.

1916.

Jan. 13. - The same reading of the Conscription Bill passed the English Commons yesterday by 431 to 29 votes. Only two Irish members, Guinness and Byrne voted with the minority. John Dillon spoke at length but did not vote. The "Daily Mail" yesterday gave what it called the true facts of why the I.P.P. voted against the first reading: They were informed that at least 100 Liberals would vote against the Bill. "On this showing the Nationalists thought it would be a good thing to parade their sympathies with English democracy." Then finding, as Dillon explained, that they were in such a minority, they changed their mind and withheld their opposition. They may consider it good tactics but 'tis a corrupt principle or want of principle. It is now certain I suppose that the Bill will pass Parliament. The Irishmen are divided. But that it will work is another thing. The South Wales miners I saw, who beat the Government before, are strong against and are in favour of what they call "a down-to-earth policy" if it passes. These former strength makes us think they will be strong again and, if so, whatever the Parliament may do, "the country" will make that do a force.

The terms "country" and "nation" have got very mixed up in the mouths of Irish makers and the poor English in Ireland. John Dillon for instance "The British Minster had declared that each soldier cost the country £500 a year. If one and a half million of men were added to our army that would mean the expenditure of £450,000,000 a year." Again "he and his friends were very

Jan. 13' sorry to see the distinction which had been made between Ireland and the other countries of the United Kingdom by introducing conscription for Great Britain." "The issues presented to the House on Thursday were not the merits of this bill or the military necessity for it: they were whether the Prime Minister should be allowed to keep the pledge which he had given to the country... or whether his members were prepared, on the other hand, to smash this Government in the presence of the enemy and plunge the country into a bitterly contested election in the middle of this great war." "Another reason which he thought of enormous importance was that this bill for the first time introduced... he would not say an element of discord, but of apparent dissension between the two countries." Rather mixed thinking, isn't it?

Bombing on 14th. Dis N-DONE. 8.50 am. At Annamoleague station on the way to Cork from Bantry. Have just seen in the "Cork Examiner" that friend Lesome machinery was arrested yesterday and placed in Cork Gaol. No charge stated. Was speaking east to him on Wednesday evening as I was coming to the train. A Mr. Thomas Kent of Castlelyons, Fermoy, has also been arrested. This arrest, the correspondent states, has caused much surprise. I remember the man at the

Jan. 14' - O'Lois Convention - a straight, strong, country type who did not mince his words.

So at the very time Mr. Birrell is blathering about the nature of the "kinder plant" he is directing his agents to strike.

Monday, 10.15 p.m. To record the events of the day. Got to Cork about 11.30 usual. Account of the meeting in the City Hall on Wednesday night. It was tremendous. The "Independent" of yesterday just mentions that there was an overflow meeting. There was. The City Hall was packed. The vestibule, which is large was packed. The crowd overflowed to the quay outside. A tremendous meeting: an absolutely unanimous, enthusiastic, strong meeting. The "Constitution", seeking to mark it for tomorrow gives the biggest report of Fr. O'Farra's speech. But he spoke to both meetings and strong. Fr. Pius, Capuchin, also spoke. He is a quiet man, but he was, not heard, carried away perhaps by such a crowd and hit at the titles that were being given - "Sir" Henry O'Shea, for one. Mr. J. Kelleher (how I met him later), an old man, told me he was there (he is emphatically not a Sinn Féiner). He had seen many political and labour meetings. He never saw one so enthusiastic, so large, so unanimous as the one on Wednesday night. Thus the meeting marking the rising tide.

There's more. It occurred about 8 yesterday morning. He knew the night before was coming. In consultation with others,

Jan. 14: decided not to resist. I feel sure his own inclination was otherwise, but there must have been good reasons advanced. Six or seven police and detectives came to the house. They made a search but not a very exhaustive one. My wife and others went to his sister's last night and had all the details. Rumours this morning that he had been removed from Cork. About 1.30 I went to here, T.C. J.P. to get a permit to visit him. Came forward me to Ald. Kelleher, J.P. - a "visiting justice" of the prisons. Got a note from Kelleher to the Governor - named O'Connor. On the way to the prison met Tolly Barry, who told me Terence would see me. Still I went on. Very nicely received by the Governor, who asked me was I a visiting justice myself! (Do I look like that really? Ah! poor man, what would you think if you saw me too about work or as in as you captive?) Governor put himself really out of the way, but there would not see anyone. So far as the Governor informed me it was that he refused to see people in the ordinary room in which national prisoners can see friends. So far as I learn otherwise what he objects to is seeing anyone through a grating. Governor O'Connor knows nothing of charge or anything else. Must await instructions from the military authorities (this much anyhow I believe). Another man waiting in outer hall. Looked at him. Saw resemblance to Kent. Asked him was he brother. Yes. Shook hands. He

Jan. 14: was waiting to go to his brother. As he would not see me, I perforce had to learn, after thanking Governor (who was quite nice, I repeat, but a puzzled man over MacSwiney's attitude). Mac knows best himself, though at ^{the} times I thought his attitude a bit hard. He knows best, though I think my own attitude in the circumstances would be different. I think I would take what I consider the philosophical view - take things as I found them and, if possible, laugh all punishment away. This may be an illusion: the illusion of one who is free, but yet I see no harm in filling the mind with such an illusion - if it be one.

I met Kent's brother again late and he says Kent is going on hunger strike till a charge is made against him. He was in prison before some 25 years ago, in fast league times. The probable charge against Terence was Kent in four speeches delivered somewhere now called Lyons a fortnight or so ago. But, so far, no charges have been preferred against them. It all rests with the military authorities.

Montenegro after Serbia. Montenegro is finished, at the hands of the Austrians. Cetinje has fallen. Thus the very latest war news.

There are many, many other things of interest I should like to note but it is late now and I must forego the "pleasure". To-morrow?

God alone knows the morrow.

Sonbáir an 15ú. Oia Sáiam. Spáibúise. 12.10 p.m. The temple of Ireland, even the poor English portion of it - is rising high against England, over the withdrawal of the educational grants.

Jan. 15:- There is much want of logic, as usual, in many of the posters. The attitude of some is "We are quite loyal to you, England; we are willing to sacrifice our blood and treasure for you. But you should not allow certain officials or certain departments of your government to do this." But all are not like that. Even some who were true are thinking of old times and speaking out. What is perhaps most remarkable is that, by the very necessity of the case, the most bigoted pro-English Irishman - even the editor of the "Cork Constitution" itself - is forced to think and speak of Ireland as a national entity, separate from England, in this matter. For, instead of being withdrawn, it has been admitted in Parliament, that educational grants to England have been increased. Where the illogic comes in is in any Irishman expecting that the English government would treat Ireland as England in the same manner. In the piling on of taxation and the withdrawal of useful grants of our money, the pro-English, along with the rest of the Irish nation, are getting the first fruits of their very loudly proclaimed loyalty. England was willing to pay much to buy Italy, Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece. It got Ireland for nothing from Mr. Redmond and his Party. If Ireland and England were one and the same country, of course that's all right. But the present attitude of Dillon and others seems to be to regard Ireland as an ally of England.

Jan. 15:- But what advantage is this ally Ireland to get from the war if the Central powers are beaten? Home Rule, Mr. S. would probably reply. But, my dear sir, we all thought that Home Rule was not depending on the issue of the war anyhow. We all thought long before the war that England - the British democracy and the Liberal government particularly - were convinced that Home Rule was an Imperial necessity. No blood and money price beyond what had been foolishly given in the past, was asked. The "Greatest heart of the British Lion" has changed towards Ireland. You can't have it both ways, sir. But why argue. The facts are patent. Before some of us - proclaimed our "loyalty" to England. Some others of us knew the result of that would be a scrounging by England. And the scrounging has commenced. On the basest calculation; in the most materialistic sense, "loyalty" does not pay Ireland. If the Irish people gave five or even ten million pounds to raise a strong Irish army and sweep the English power from Ireland, it would in the not vulgar sense pay this.

Tronóg na n-Éireann. Dia Dinné, Spioráidíde 1.25 p.m. There were any number of rumours yesterday regarding further likely arrivals. So much so that the thing became a regular joke by evening. We ought to be rumour-proof by now I fancy. 505 went to Dublin to discover the aims of Headquarters. Éiríocht na n-Éireann ag fáil arís arís arís.

Cork City and County Archives

Jan. 16: - ppsagan ian zinn.

There was still talking last night of yesterday night's great meeting. That meeting has apparently "shined the nail" put beyond all doubt the strength of the Irish Nationalist feeling in Cork. To get such a meeting Mr. Redmond & Mr. O'Brien would gladly pay a few hundred pounds and would certainly have to have bands go along and extensive advertising. All the advertising in the Volunteers' case was a few hundred small posters and a few three-penny advertisements in the "Irish". And what has happened in Cork I believe to be typical at present of the whole country. Ireland is so far removed from England in ideas at the present time as once it was in its history.

Last Monday, the President of the English Board of Trade, in Parliament made a long statement regarding the English "Blockade" of Germany and England's trade expectations as a result of the war. To my mind he gave the real reason why England engineered this war against Germany. Said he "we must make it clear that when peace is signed we should not permit the outbreak of another economic war which Germany could wage against us." and how is that to be done? By starving the German people and crushing out all German industries. "From information which came to the (English) government, Germany was at last beginning to realize that our blockade of the north sea was handicapping her trade in the Baltic, and was depleting

Jan. 16: her of many of the necessities of warfare and possibly of some of the necessities of life." The "Daily Mail" affects to believe, however, that Mr. Rumjansky's declaration of the effectiveness of the "Blockade" was only the usual clap-trap, like Churchill's declaration of a speedy victory at the Dardanelles and acquiesce that there was no shortage of munitions. It sent a special spy (he calls himself a Commissioner and is very wrathful against German traders in Denmark and Sweden calling their spies because they watched his movements in those countries) to investigate and he declares goods get to Germany through Sweden and Denmark. The "Mail" - as usual voicing opinion in certain high quarters in England now declares the "Blockade" a failure and urges stringent measures. Private property at sea is to be taken, whether belonging to neutrals or not. The list of contraband is to be extended. No attention is to be paid to the protests of neutrals, like the United States, Sweden, Denmark, Holland. The enforcement of the Blockade to be in the hands of the English navy and the English Foreign Office to politely explain things to the neutrals. An absolutely ruthless, pitiless, vindictive, robber policy to be pursued (Of course there are not the adjectives used but it is only the baldest truth to describe the policy then). Germany and the United States have come to an agreement over the "Lusitania" and some points of submarine warfare. That is looked upon as sinister; sinister because it is supposed to portend suppose that the U.S. will ask England to stand by

Jan. 16: international sea agreements. And "We" won't stand by any agreements to please Germany. We hold the supremacy of the seas and we mean to keep it by any and every means no matter what neutrals say about their rights, international obligations, law or anything else. That, baldly, and even mildly put, is the attitude advocated and already partly in force - partly, because though it may be the practice 'tis not the theory yet publicly avowed by the English.

There are of course two aspects of the matter for English statesmen. They want to beat the Huns by starvation. At the same time of course they want their own trade to go on (and by the way the House of Trade have issued advice how to do this "Copy German business methods" is the advice!). Can they really manage the two things? The starvation policy is bound to bring them into conflict with neutral countries and bound to hit themselves. And can Germany, Austria, Turkey, Bulgaria be really starved out even if all overseas commerce were completely stopped by the English? It is unthinkable. Apart from that, are English manufacturers to carry this hate of Germany so far as not to trade with those countries? They have never hesitated to do trade with anyone friend or foe. Their great bugbear of "abominable war-time restrictions". When one looks into it that starvation policy does not even lay a foundation as when looked at generally. And, all the time it must be remembered, though it is one sight of apparently in the newspapers, the German fleet is practically

Jan. 16: intact. Until that is destroyed or very much disabled England is not secure in possession of the sea. Not that it is at all so triumphant even with the German Fleet inactive owing to the submarine warfare. I try to do the English justice as far as I can, but the newspapers are so full of hypocrisy and lies and omissions and high-falootin' it is difficult for me to avoid sarcasm and snarl. On this sea question, let me try to speak fairly. The English Fleet, speaking in a general manner, has control of sea power. 'Tis not alone - there is a French fleet, an Italian fleet, a Japanese fleet helping it. Trading ships come and go: to and from English ports. Not to the same extent by any means as in peace times nor at all as ordinary. So far as we are given to know no ships whatever sail to or from German ports or of Austria or Turkish ports it is not so categorically stated but the impression conveyed is that the situation is the same regarding them. That that is an exaggeration I think; but I have no facts to show why I should have an opinion. That the English have lost a large number of ships - trading vessels and warships I feel certain. We have been told only of a few. That the loss is serious and the danger of submarines, mine and the like is very great, I have no doubt. But that the English have a clear advantage in the matter of sea power is not to be denied as that, for their self preservation, as an Imperial and great power, they must use it unscrupulously may be advised. So far so good for the English and their fleets.

Jan. 16:- Some Kerry member asked a question in the English Comm. the other day about the opening of Bishop Maugham's letters. The chief point of reply was that censorship was necessary to prevent information reaching "the enemy"! Oh! that "enemy". He must indeed be marvellous if he could get information useful to him from a letter, and be able to see a letter, posted in Pembroke St. Cork addressed to a business firm in Petrick St. - a hundred yards away! One would think from the Parliamentary reply that it was only letters coming into Ireland from abroad or going out of Ireland were censored and this we know to be absolutely false. Then in the course of reply, it was stated "Cork has not been exceptionally treated in the matter of censored letters". Now mark - that was supposed to be part of reply as to why the Bishop of Kerry's letters were passed and he lives in Killybegny! Which shows clearly the Government spokesman had the thought in his mind that Cork W.A.S. being exceptionally treated. So far as we know, it certainly was so regards Ireland but probably other places will be treated similarly now. As the exceptional censoring - the opening of all letters - occurred anywhere else in Ireland up to the present O'Leary's dictatorship would have heard of it. We have been harassed in Cork, but I very much doubt what the government found the game worth the trouble.

Kevin J. Kenney had a letter in the paper the other day about the £10,000

Jan. 16:- he got from the English Government. "I was not for him personally, he says, but for Kerry's advertising agency; to pay for advertisements in the Irish paper. Of course, of course. To call a bribe a bribe is too, too plain. To call it an advertisement is far wiser. 'Tis sometimes called a bribe; at other times perhaps a position. 'Tis never a bribe; never - except 'twas "brown gold". Your name won't wash; Mr. Kevin J. Kenney.

Stonbury an M.D. Osluain. Dinnospaige - 3.30 p.m. Last night at annual meeting of Compaib na Sociadai in Cavanagh, Sean MacDonn told me that my name was before the authorities at Col. Ligonier. "But, I have not written or spoken recently" said I, "except that letter to the City Hall meeting and there was very little in that." "Perhaps it is an order to quit the country you will get" says Sean. Now, it was stupid of me not to ask Sean where he got his information. How does he know that my name is before the authorities in any particular sense at the present moment? Of course I know it is before them with a lot of others; it is their business to have the names of all Irishmen who are opposed to English rule in Ireland before them. Sean seemed very certain of his information, but I am a bit puzzled when I think over the matter. That there is anything definite, anything that could hold the smallest weight in even such courts of "law" as we have against me at present I am not aware. There can be, so far as I make out, only the general suspicion. In the opening of letters even I do not think anything that action could be taken or against me could have been found. (Shows probably found against L. MacBride). If action

Jan. 17. - is contemplated our last Wednesday night's meeting, then it ought to be against all those who spoke at the meeting as well as, say, against me. That the military authorities at the present time have reason to take any particular notice of me is a great honour, but what puzzles me is that, so far as I am aware, I have done nothing to deserve this honour lately. Opportunities have not presented themselves to me: circumstances are compelling me to lead almost a hush-down life. I think certainly and I impute thoughts to this diary - very dangerous thoughts perhaps for British rule in Ireland - but what are thoughts without deeds? ^{human} No, how can I think or punish a man's thoughts. Human law can only take cognizance of the expression of them by in word or action. Well, if the military "authorities", representing British government in Ireland, mean to strike at unworthy me, I would prefer, I think, that they should strike quickly. Suspense is worse than the actual striking, and if they consulted my own inclination as to the method of striking I would say "Order me out of the county Cork or out of Ireland." Anyhow, thank God, I feel excellently prepared in mind and I trust that's half the preparation. I feel I can laugh: I may be wrong there: a course of prison treatment may make me, as it is said "laugh the wrong way", but I thank God that the mind preparatory anyhow is good and pleasant, whatever the reality may be. I certainly will regard it as a great honour

Jan. 17. - to be considered of sufficient importance as to be taken serious notice of by the British Government while yet in my own mind feeling unworthy of the honour as I have done so little for Ireland's freedom yet. I thank God once more that my little wife is so brave and good in the matter. She, too, is prepared. Now, strike if ye will, ye fools!

6.15 p.m. I think I have never recorded that the French English have landed on the Greek island of Corfu. Greece has protested, but the champions of local nationalities ignore the protest. Naturally, Germany and Austria make capital out of the affair.

Zionbüßl an 18.00. Tra Maier, Trombälaz. 6.40 p.m.

The way Sa. Maek got information off about my name being under the notice of the military authorities at the C.C. was quite incidental, but apparently reliable by the very fact. It may, however, be only precautionary just yet, I repeat.

Montenegro has capitulated: unreserved and unconditionally. That is one part of the war definitely finished. Certain of the English papers are attacking the English War Office fiercely over the British "Blockade". The Blockade is a farce they declare. Goods are getting through to Germany. As a piece with this, they must, as they do, maintain that Germany is in no danger of starvation. Other English papers still write up that Germany will be starved. "We are feeding the Germans" is the cry on the one hand. "Our invincible navy is starving the Germans" is the cry on the other.

Jan. 18. - Some very drastic changes are to take place it seems regarding the "Blockade". The changes will seriously affect the trade of neutral countries and, as far as I can gather, Germany has won a diplomatic victory in the United States, owing probably to what is threatened. What the details of the victory are, we are not told but the hints are very broad, so broad that it is now being said the German ambassador is dictating the foreign policy of the United States! And this at a time when all sorts of "plots" are being written up as well and when we are also told America is now solidly against Germany! 'Tis very puzzling if one believes what appears in the newspapers.

"This is OUR war. We must rely on ourselves". This a writer in the "Daily Mail" - this correspondent returned to London from St. Petersburg. "Russia's original plan was to stand fast upon a line of defense. The steam-roller theory was ours, not hers. The notion that the Russian armies would march upon Berlin was an English and a French notion. The Russians had no such thought in their minds." Well may a neutral like myself chuckle. That is really hard on all the English and pro-English "prophets." "It is not in the nature of things that Russia can decide the war in our favour. No one can save us. We depend entirely upon our own exertions."

Dion an eipinne peopl' san d'abla. Now, Mr. Liam Buille?

Sionbuir an 19^{ao}. The Centenary. Spiorbhríste, 1 p.m. The O'Connell's amendments to the Conscription Bill in the English Commons on Monday were not accepted by the Government spokesman, Bonar Law, and were consequently not passed. Mr. Law explained clearly why Ireland was not included, too clearly perhaps for the New Garrison people. "On a question of principle it was impossible to justify the exclusion. . . . If there were a permanent system of national defence, Ireland could not be excluded, but this Bill was not anything of the kind. . . . The question resolved itself into one of what they should gain and lose by attempting to force the Bill upon Ireland. It had been said there was no real opposition to the Bill in Ireland. He was unable to agree. Looking at Ireland as it was, he strongly believed that it would not be possible to put that Bill into effect in Ireland without the sacrifice of a considerable amount of force. It was no pleasure to him to emphasise the fact that Ireland was different from England, but it was, and he believed that even from a material point of view the Government would lose more than they would gain by trying to force the Bill in Ireland."

Thus Bonar Law. Then John G. R. To put the Bill in operation in Ireland "would most undoubtedly paralyse the efforts of himself and others who had worked unflinchingly, and not altogether unsuccessfully, since the commencement of the war, and it would play

Jan. 19: "right into the hands of the contemptible minority amongst the nationalists of Ireland who had tried, and tried successfully, to prevent recruiting, and to undermine the position and power of the leaders of the Irish Party because of the action they had taken." "Tried successfully" is the "Independent" report. Doubting John B. said that I looked up the "Daily Mail". "Unsuccessfully" is the word there. Of course that's the word he used. "Contemptible minority" is in all the reports. Ah! John B., John B. Come to Ireland, sir. Hold a public meeting - let the police and soldiers be called off from it and you will be surprised. Sir, at the present time, you dare not hold an unpacked, open public meeting in any part of Ireland. Talk away to the English. They will be surprised later - some of them anyhow - when they discover how you lied. And that Mr. Redmond is lying regarding the sentiment of the Irish nation towards England might be evident from the public expressions of opinion regarding the cutting off of educational grants. These expressions are not couched in any terms of "loyalty" or "imperialism", or regard for England's troubles. Bishops and priests even are indulging in strong language. Rev. Professor Corcoran, S.J. of the National University, spoke at a grant meeting in Dublin a month or two ago, called by the Gaelic League, Miss MacNeill presiding.

Jan. 19: "Break thieves" was his term for the English Treasury and the English Government officials in Ireland. "hard and prolonged hisses" were indulged in when Mr. Redmond's name was mentioned. The mention of the I.P.P. was the cause of jeers and derisive laughter. Miss Mahon, M.P. - an able woman & President of the National Teachers' organization has a letter in the "Independent" to day about the meeting, correcting their report. The reports gave the impression that the speakers were interrupted, as speakers. Miss Mahon contradicts this. She says what was the cause of dissent to remarks was the mere mention of the "Irish" Party being able to do anything. The meeting has shown her that the "Irish" Party have gone down very much in the estimation of the Irish people. But this morning to day that the grant for horse breeding will be continued, as a result of an interview, Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon had with some of the English ministers. Now, cannot the Irish Party do something? (The grant in England has been increased. The Party uttered no word all this country got into a passion. There are small matters. The Party has won a glorious victory). But the expressions of opinion generally at public boards and by the Bishops and priests show that Ireland is in a temper. No wonder at all. Not all that the New Government can say can replace away the solid, crushing facts of increased taxation and no expenditure on education. These facts show England to the old England, just as Ireland is the same old, unchangeable Ireland: "wilde Irishy".

Jan 19:- Herbert Tim has brought out a monthly "The Irishman". He calls it unique. A literary journal of a "highly intellectual" nature. Certainly that is unique just now. It is a relief from war news. It deals with ideas: poets and thinkers. But I must confess, I prefer a live journal. In poetry for instance, Clarence Mangan for me rather than W.B. Yeats. Another comic paper, "The Goblin" has come out. Not as good as Brian Higgins' "Irish Fun". The increase in these Irish papers - "Irish Fun" papers, they are called usually, is remarkable. So remarkable that the London "Times" sees signs of "German gold" running through Ireland. The "Times" is convinced that "money from the enemy" is responsible for the flood of papers, pamphlets, leaflets, etc. over Ireland, how foolish and ridiculous. But of course that's the game is over to crush Irish Nationalism - represent it as pro-Germanism. In the same way "pro-Frenchism" was used in 1948 and possibly "pro-Spanish" in earlier times. Thus the game goes on century after century.

The list of Irish papers, weekly, monthly, unions and comic is now a fairly long one - "Nationality", "Irish Telegraph", "Workers Republic", "Roads", "New Ireland", "Clarebin Solmy", "The Spark", "Honesty", "The Hilsonian", "Floods", "Irish Fun", "Catholic Bulletin", "Goblin", "The Irishman" - varying in their outlook, calling for entirely different battles, strong or weak, but at all events all for Ireland first, last and all the time. We should have one in Cork too. Now is the time for papers preaching Irish Nationality.

Zionists on road. Droptown. Episcopo na Bannodon 12 noon. Sad as the Great War is from many aspects, our newspapers tend to make it amusing by the extravagance of lies, rumors, reports. Take the case of Montenegro. A few days ago Mount Koschen was taken by the Austrians; Cetinje had fallen: Montenegro surrounded unconditionally. It was to get good terms from Austria. Yesterday: Banded against the King of Montenegro; he was a traitor; he had been in league with Austria since last October; the ^{little} country was not deserving of sympathy! To-day: Yesterday's news was all lies; the King is leaving for Italy; Montenegro has refused to surrender!!! Technically, it is still at war!

All that is typical of the kind of news we get.

Here's more - since sometime in December the Kaiser has been dying of cancer in the throat. All was over. He could not move. Till yesterday or Tuesday, he was on his way to the French front!

But here is touch as doubt - the Allies have landed troops in various parts of Greece. To show their love for the small nation, I suppose. Greece protests. But "we" so love the small nation we must embrace Greece despite her protests!

Notwithstanding all the Irish written regarding the condition of Germany I have always held the opinion that things in Germany are probably much like what they are in any other of the warring countries, more like what they are in England than in France or Russia. A reported debate in Reichstag confirms this view.

Jan. 20th:-

As the Labour members in England are split so are the Socialist members in the Reichstag. There are protests in the latter parliament by certain members against the press censorship, against the attempts to crush democratic ideas, against the profits made by capitalists, against some points in the franchise laws, against food distribution. Some English papers profess to see great hope of Germany breaking up in these things. I confess I cannot see any more in them than I see in England.

The social fight: a fight between democratic ideas and militarism, militarism that would place a military caste at the head of affairs is taking place certainly in England and also in Germany apparently.

We hear very little of France now but it is no doubt also happening in France. Out of the war, looked at from that standpoint, will come, in the nation that wins, a kind of fensation, where the fighting men will be the rulers of the land.

In the nation that loses democracy will probably be triumphant. The oligarchies in all the countries know this well or feel it instinctively. If England loses, for instance, the men who will seize the power of government there will be drawn from the working classes: the whole people will be disgusted with the moneyed class whose representatives conducted the war so badly. If England wins, good bye to democracy there for a generation.

Mr. Joseph Devlin is making capital out of the agitation ^{over} the

Jan. 20th:-

Irish grants. He makes a bid for Gaelic League support by joining the Irish Colleges. "The Party" has moved: moved at once, he says, about the educational grants. (That's the first we heard of it, except what was published yesterday about the horse-breeding grant). Mr. Redmond has "questions", however, to be put in the House next week. The Council of course is, the people have made "the Party" move and "the Party" will make all the capital they can for themselves out of what the body of the people have done.

The "Cork Examiner" is a coin! "Since the war commenced Ireland's taxation has increased by eight millions sterling a year. That enormous sum has been cheerfully paid." - !!!

So, if a burglar goes into Mr. Corbitt's house and makes him pay out at the point of a revolver, he can slap his chest before the burglar and say "Look friend, I cheerfully pay. Let us fight the Bogie Man together."

Stonewall on Alabola. Dia h-domo. Ceannspairce. 10.10 a.m. The vagaries of a railway have kept me here this morning. Something happened on the line - I think they call it a staff failure - and the morning train ran not. 'Tis a day for being within doors - a very wet drizzling rain; windy too; a soft muddy, murky day.

There is little news in the morning paper. Montenegro is to fight to the "bitter end"? The Consumption Bill has passed the Committee stage: as a finale, Mr. John William enigmatised Messrs. Bonar Law and Walter Long! Two Tories, "The Big"

Jan. 21' - is making capital out of the agitation over Irish grants, which it is now expected will be restored; or, rather, not stopped. His Lordship Bishop Browne of Cloyne, at the meeting of the St. Technical Committee yesterday said "there was every reason to hope that the educational grants would not be taken away from Ireland, owing to the prompt and active interference of Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party." 'Twas bound to come. The people are nowhere. Nobody matters. Anything that's done is done by the "Irish" Party.

Why do I take up such an extremely hostile attitude towards the Party and its supporters; and an apparently prejudiced attitude? Because I believe the Parliamentarian attitude to be wrong in principle, ineffective and demoralising in practice. Let me take the very last statement first - demoralising in practice - and illustrate by the recent agitation over the educational grants. The facts are well known. There's no secret about the matter. On the plea of war economy the English Government, represented by Treasury officials and some of its officials in Ireland, determined to stop certain Irish educational grants. Official notice was given of this stopping of grants so that it became public property. Neither Mr. Redmond nor any member of the Irish Party publicly said anything; they made no public protest whatever; they asked no questions in the "House"; their organizations passed no resolutions; their newspapers did not refer to the matter, beyond publishing the

Jan. 21' - official notifications. Some Technical Committees mildly protested. Then, the "Irish Independent" took up the matter, criticising his mother rather and "the Party" severely. The Irish Colleges Conference and the Gaelic League took it up. The Coyote-Boots sent strong resolutions to the public boards. There were avowed. The agitation was set on foot. Strong language was indulged in. There certainly was severe criticism of "the Party". In a general way it can be said the people agitated; pushed the Party; chastened the Government. So strong became the clamour of voices that members of the Party, following Mr. Ginnell, the unguised, began to ask questions. Now it seems the grants are likely to be continued. Redmond is to ask questions next Monday. From the beginning 'twas what is termed a people's agitation. Where there was any leading 'twas done by Bastardgeorgie and Sinn Féinists. But, if any success came "the Party" and its supporters would claim all the credit. His Lordship of Cloyne has eulogised them. His press supporters will praise them. Their public supporters on Boards and Councils will propose votes of thanks. Now, in my earnest view, that is all most demoralising because it is perpetuating a lie. It is glorifying a falsehood. However that practice of falsely taking credit for something done by others is but a very small part of the demoralisation of Parliamentarianism and is so common in its world that it seems to be a natural thing to do.

Jan. 21.

Here's an item interesting to me from Curach's History of Cork: "On 24th May, 1461, we find William Roche (alias De Rupe) appointed auxiliary bishop of Dr. Jordan, with right of succession to the united sees (i.e. Cork and Cloyne). In the brief of his appointment he is styled 'Archdeacon of Cloyne, of noble lineage, distinguished by his zeal, prudence, and learning.' This prelate, however, was not pleasing to the aged bishop, whilst he was specially detestable to the English monarch: and to restore peace to the see, Rome found it necessary, in the following year, to relieve Dr. Roche of the duties of auxiliary Bishop." I like that "specially detestable to the English monarch" My distinguished namesake must have been an Irish nationalist of that day and anti-English. Let us hope he is in Heaven praying for Ireland to-day.

Dromedaries. 10.45 p.m. Went to Cork by midday train: had an hour and a half or so there: then came back by the 4.15 train. The weather was so wet and windy and the train journey so long that I felt shaky and nervous and upset in mind. Leaving Ballinacorney I was alone in the compartment. Took out my Irish prayer-book and said a few prayers. Almost at once I felt better: calmer in mind, collected in thought.

I see what I have been thinking over the situation of Ireland is stirring in others' minds too. Again the "Workers' Republic" comes out very straight and strong. The opportunity for Irish independence is now, it

Jan. 21:-

says. It points to the fatal delays in '98, in '48, in '67, as I have noted. It lays blame for present delay on some of the leaders of the Oglins. It expresses many of my own ideas. But what I do not think quite wise is the publicity of such ideas. To have them translated to action there should be no publicity. Yet, perhaps the publicity is inevitable. It is strange how those waves of thought occur. Good, bad, or indifferent, I have no communication with anyone connected with the "Republic", yet here are many of my ideas written up. It would be too bad, however, if Connolly forced action which was not taken up by the general body of Volunteers. The only thing I personally dislike about Connolly and those associated with him is their irreligion. Their Socialism I would not object to; but to see atheism, agnosticism, or materialism is abhorrent, utterly abhorrent. What's to be the outcome of all this thinking? All the Irish papers (the genuine ones) keep the flag of Irish Nationality flying high; show up the hypocrisy, cunning, tyranny of England; back the "Irish" Parliamentary Party. Very well. All good for Ireland. But what then? Is anything definite to be done? The pulling down goes on gaily. What about the building up? Is it not quite plain the Parliamentary Party have no conception whatever of what Irish freedom means? Is it not apparent that England has no intention of letting Ireland free? Well, what then? What's to be done? Will we simply save Irish Nationality in this generation but let it to another to make the dash for Irish freedom? The negative side is well done; I look

Jan. 21:- at the position now. Of course the simple answer to me is "We are not prepared." Possibly this is true. But then what's all our talk about? With all the restrictions regarding arms and ammunition; with the jailing of organisers and others; with the increase in England's army, how and when can we be better prepared? And if England comes victorious out of the war no preparation can avail. Are we not staking our prospect for Irish freedom on the chance that England lose? If our idea is to merely get some Rules, to resist taxation, to safeguard this right or that, to postpone this or that attribute of our nationality well and good: we are not doing badly at all. Without the Volunteers everyone knows the position of Ireland would be worse. And though it is. But is that really all? We have at present, at this very moment, unless I am utterly, hopelessly, profoundly mistaken in all my reading of history, one of the best prospects Ireland ever has for attaining complete Irish independence. We would not have it if peace be concluded soon. Are we to let the prospect fade, the opportunity go by? 'Tis a puzzle. 'Tis a distressing thought. It gives me pause thinking till my brain wearies. Yet, yet I am only a doctor-in. I am just a private in the Volunteers, a poorly prepared one at that. I am not in the secrets of the leaders, even in Cork. I don't think I have the material that makes a leader within myself. But oh! will heart or soul and mind I love Ireland and pray we win for

Jan. 21:- her freedom. What's to be the outcome of it all? along the same old rut, or — a re-born and independent Irish Nation? God alone knows.

Tonbridge on 23rd. Old Doonagh. Spoolbridge, 3-40 p.m. There is a special O'Shea nurse to-day; operative under the command of Capt. O'Connell of Headquarters, who is to conduct a course of training here for the next few weeks. I fully intended being with the boys but did not wake in the morning till too late; not usual with me on week days though strange enough it happens sometimes on Sundays.

I have been reading pamphlets: Liberty Sheppington's speech from the dock; with Bernard Shaw's letter to Mrs. S. D.; Pin's prison feelings; lectures of Adolphe Pierre's at Wolfe Tone's grave in 1913 and in New York, March, 1914. Sheppington's speech is a very clear exposition

of the right of free speech, unimpassioned, well-reasoned. Pin I do not care so much for too much self-analysis, which is tortuous to the mind. In my place he says after about three months in goal one may go mad and he analyses why this occurs, from a psychological point of view. Swelling too much on self-analysis would I believe make any man mad: to think of what one is thinking of and why one thinks so, and how one thinks so is the most brain-wearying thing I know of. It is a sort of double thinking that overworks the mind. Pierre's ideas are more nearly akin to my mind than any of the others: truer and more understandable to me. This is a Gaelic mind; strong, straight, clear, simple. I like what he says and how he says it.

Stonewall an 24th. Dia luain. Beannceaise. 3.15 p.m.

Interesting matter, personal and public, to record to-day. When at breakfast this morning a knock at the door. My little wife opened it and ushered a young gentleman into our sitting room. He thought he might be an emissary from the "competent military authority": I thought myself he was not unlike a detective. I went out to him. He said he represented an American paper and wishes for views on Irish matters. He gave me his card "Mr. Henry West Snyden, The Brooklyn Daily Eagle." I am naturally suspicious, I fear: quite an Irish this is supposed to be. But I have no heart in me to turn a man out; so I stopped to talk. What did he want? He had obtained views of the Nationalist side: he wanted Sinn Féin views. He was quite impartial. Wishes to report what he heard or saw and let his readers take it or leave it. But, said I, how did you get here? You know no American correspondents are allowed into Ireland. "Yes, but I am here under the protection of the British office." "Everything you write will be censored?" "Oh yes, it will be censored in England." Well, I cannot speak my mind. If I did it would mean jail. What exactly do you want? "Well say Conscription. Would that really be resisted." I heard in Dublin it would, but (with a smile) I hardly believe it. Yes, absolutely so. It would be resisted. That's public property. "But how?" Well, some young men would

Jan. 24th leave their homes: others who have fire arms would undoubtedly shoot. It would take 200,000 thousand English soldiers at least to enforce Conscription in Ireland. "Yes, what I want is to get the views of the intellectuals as to Ireland and the war!" "The Sinn Féin movement was originally an intellectual movement!" Yes. "What exactly was it?" A self reliance movement. When it was attacked next was regarding the withdrawal of Irish members from Parliament - its most logical point. It is by virtue of the Act of Union the Irish members are in Parliament. Their presence there is an acknowledgment of the Act of Union. "I see" said he smiled. But, I said, people I suppose do not act logically. "How is it, as I hear, Sinn Féin has increased its membership so much lately?" Oh! every Irish Nationalist now, who is anti-English is called a Sinn Féiner. It has not now the same meaning it originally had. Sinn Féin was a policy between the Parliamentary policy and physical force. "Has Mr. Redmond acted in a statesmanlike way during the war?" No. What his own followers seem to blame him most for is that at the outbreak of war when he made his famous speech he did not insist upon Home Rule being put in force. He could have done so. "But what a time of war the proper time for that?" Well, would it not be worth while for the English Government to have pacified Ireland. "Will Mr. Redmond have

Jan 24th the same influence in Ireland after the war? No, certainly not. His own followers no longer touch him. "Why was Terence MacSwiney arrested?" Ah! how do I know. There is no charge against him. "Is not that queer to arrest a man without a charge?" Well, that's the way. Outsiders do not understand these things I suppose. Every Irish nationalist understands it. MacSwiney is arrested because he's an Irish nationalist. But that will not be the charge against him and outsiders reading reports of a trial never suspect of course that the British government would stoop to such mean tricks as to put up a false charge. The thing could hardly be done in any other country I suppose, except a man was suspected as a spy in that's ridiculous in these cases. "But, why is not Father O'Flanagan arrested?" He's a priest and if he were arrested 'twould set in quite a contrary way to what the English authorities would like. "Did a layman say what Mr. O'F. said he would be taken up?" Undoubtedly. "Can I see anyone else?" After a time I gave him the name of Tomás Curtin, so he went. Yes, there was another question. "What do you think of Sir Edward Carson?" I smiled. A strong man, but of course his point of view and an Irish nationalist's point of view are utterly at variance. Now that was the substance of the interview. There were, of

Jan 24th - some other odds and ends not of great importance. Mr. West Layden took no notes. He wrote down nothing. He is welcome to our views as far as I am concerned, but I certainly tried to impress him with the fact that he cannot get the real views of Irish nationalists as the repression of these may lead to grief. I do not suppose I'll ever see his paper, but I record the affair fully now while memory is fresh in case a question of accuracy should ever occur. He shakes he would mention no names. I do not care whether he does or not.

Came by the midday train. On the way met an acquaintance, an Irishman, a Protestant, Orangeman, strong Unionist, a young man of whom I heard last night that he has gone to the war. He has not. "All bluff for Parliament" he said about the Civil Service men volunteering. A question is put in Parliament to the Government why they expect employers to force their men to enlist while the Government does not force its own servants to do so. The reply is such and such a number have offered their services and have been accepted. Nothing is said about the fact that such offers are all conditional. My acquaintance, I expected would be a fringe. He was not. He did not believe the Germans would be beaten. And what was the use of staying in Salonika? All we read in the papers was lies.

Got into another compartment at Orinoleague Junction. A

Jan. 24: soldier there. Three other men came in. "Hullo Joe, back from the front?" "Yes." "Is that the mud of France on your boots?" "Yes." And his boots were muddy indeed and his puttees dilapidated. "Are you wounded?" "No, home for a week. Left Argentine district last Friday: must be back next Sunday. If I could get out of it I'd never go back. I would sit mind joining some other crowd now. Ye read in the papers I suppose about a great advance, humph! It might be a mile. We're in the same place since last October." And so on in quite an aggrieved tone of mind.

As for personal experiences. Public news - another air raid: on the coast of Kent this time at 1 a.m. on Sunday morning and in broad daylight yesterday. The air ships got away though fired at and pursued. Some casualties admitted: but, of course, no military importance. That! stereotyped. It appears the Germans have a new airship - the Fokker - of very high speed and it may be they were testing this. The coast of Kent is some 40 miles behind the allied lines in France and last week in Parliament, one of the War Office secretaries stated the German airships could not get behind those lines! So much for "infant" opinion and parliamentary statements. It is also now stated in some newspapers that the Germans have a new big

Jan. 24: gun, a 17 in. one, which they are putting on their warships. This is bigger than any English gun.

A pamphlet is being circulated in America, stated to be written by the German Count Reventlow. The substance matter of the pamphlet is stated to be, that the freedom of the seas depends upon the freedom of Ireland. England's command of the seas depends upon her holding Ireland. Were Ireland free it would mean freedom for Europe and deliverance from English naval tyranny. All of which is really quite commonplace, I think, but is remarkable enough to have admitted and emphasised in America.

Another interesting piece of news appeared in the papers on Saturday - Roger Casement and the crown Prince of Turkey heard discoursing in English in a Berlin Hotel.

But the most important of all: a raid made late on Saturday night by a force of police and detectives, 40 it is stated, on the house of the Countess Markievicz and on other houses. The search is stated to be for "arms, ammunition, or other military or treasonable equipment." Seven guns and a small printing press stated to have been seized - the guns in a house in Great Brunswick St. the printing press in the Countess's house. "Inquiries go to show that the raid was not directed against the Irish Volunteers." "It is believed that the houses visited

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were under suspicion for some time, and that the police and military authorities were in possession of reliable information of grave developments in connection with a certain extreme section of Nationalists in the city. The movements of all such persons are being carefully watched, and their letters opened. Anything of a seditious character is carefully noted and sent to the Intelligence Department of the military headquarters for future reference." That is from the "Independent" of to-day.

Apparently it is the Larkin Citizen's Army are being struck at more particularly. No doubt the "Republic" will be suppressed this week. But no arrests were made so far and no resistance was offered.

That is the usual way: to let things come to a certain point and then strike effectively. I suppose the Volunteers will take no action. Which shows the difference between principles and practice.

Inevitable perhaps. The fundamental declaration of the Volunteers is "to guard the rights and liberties common to the whole people of Ireland." How are we to guard this right of some of our people to bear arms? How are we to guard their liberties that are being infringed?

It is an education to note how declarations made and then putting into practice have often to vary. But, events are moving to the point when some action must be taken.

3ronbrip an 24th. Dapdaom. Deannapaise. 4.30. There is a reconsideration regarding the Irish grants and a promise that some at least will not be interfered with. Mr. Redmond put a question in "The Times" on Monday regarding them and that was the substance of the reply.

"A great triumph for Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party": as was to be expected that is the cry of the New Garrison press organs.

The "Independent", however, is on the war path still, to show that Ireland is not getting fair treatment. Its campaign will have the effect of toning down the triumph somewhat. It knows what pays to-day and yet it is an out and out pro-British paper. It blindly refuses to see the truth.

Kinnell put a question regarding MacSwiney and Kent, on Tuesday. Mr. J. Gordon replies.

"Messrs. J. MacSwiney and J. Kent were arrested by order of the competent military authority for breaches of regulation 27 of the Defence of the Realm Regulations in respect of speeches made by them at a meeting at Ballynac, Co. Cork, on the 2nd inst. Since this arrest other matters connected with these men have come to the knowledge of the C. M. A., and have had to be considered by him in respect of other charges. The C. M. A. has decided that Kent shall be tried by a court of summary jurisdiction, but has not yet determined how MacSwiney shall be dealt with. The matter is one entirely for the C. M. A."

Mr. G. For what crimes were they arrested?

Jan. 24. Mr. J. G. They know perfectly well the charge on which they were arrested.

Mr. G. How do they know it? What charge was made against them, and why were they not told when they asked what it was?

Mr. J. G. They were perfectly aware of the charge upon which they were being arrested, and that it was at the instance of the C.M.A."

So that's the charge. Sunday last Miss MacSwiney told my wife and myself she had written to the C.M.A. about her brother. He replied to say he was awaiting instructions from Dublin Castle. This does not quite tally with Mr. Gordon's reply to himself. But in all its ways English law is crooked.

Siobhán an tSúil. Dia Sámaph. Spéirbhíde 12 nóm.

Further examples of English Parliamentary lies —

In the English House on Thursday "Major Newman asked the chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland whether he could give any details as to the present numbers of the various bodies of volunteers in the three Southern provinces of Ireland; do these bodies possess any rifles or ammunition; have any of them taken any oath of allegiance to the Sovereign; and for what purpose have they been called into existence?"

"Mr. Res- (whoever he is)" The National Volunteers were established under the direction of the Irish Parliamentary leaders in the early part

Jan. 29. - of 1940, in circumstances which it seems scarcely necessary to recall to the memory of the House. The section which seceded from them, and which have, under the guidance of their Committee, endeavoured to obstruct recruiting and foment disloyalty in Ireland have called themselves Irish Volunteers. It does not appear to be in the public interest to furnish the details asked for by the hon. (the type is mixed up here in the "Cork Constitution" report) — far as my right hon. friend is aware, none of the Volunteers in Ireland have taken an oath of allegiance to the Sovereign." Now, how's that for a fine, thundering, thumping lie? A lie that is known to be a lie to every man, woman and child in Ireland.

In another part of the self-same "Constitution" is the report of a legal action which in itself shows up part of the lie. Mr. M. J. Judge of Dublin is bringing an action against the police Commissioner Harrell for damages owing to wounds ^{inflicted on} ~~inflicted on~~ ^{by} Judge ~~by~~ ^{by} the police, under Harrell's direction, on the occasion of the Howth gun-running, July, 1914. (Judge was a volunteer at the time but withdrew later).

In the course of an affidavit by Harrell it is stated "On that day (26th July) plaintiff and over one thousand persons were engaged in importing arms, ammunition and other goods, contrary to the provisions of the Royal Proclamation of 4th December, 1913." Now, Mr. Res, against whom was the proclamation of 4th December, 1913, directed? Is not all that

Jan. 29. - Parliamentary business in the English House such a
glare of lies, hypocrisy, bluff? A question
was also put regarding the recent Glynn meeting in Cork.

"The incident appears to have been purely motivated by the loyal
people of Cork, but it has not been thought desirable to take any
action against the speakers, who were only seeking notoriety by
their speeches on this occasion." City paper infamously. Every
city paper speaks in the same way.

Yes, the "loyal" people in Cork did
resent the meeting. It has colored some of the pro-English of
the New Unionism, whose term of public life depends upon votes.

Well, all those questions and answers are interesting. It is
in these; even those of the thumping lie order: that one can
discover some straws to show how the wind blows in Ireland and
in the minds of the British governors of this island.

Another Irish paper "The Gael" has appeared: printed in Dublin,
edited from Liverpool. It is good.

Jan. 30. - 3.15 p.m. The Germans
appear to be taking an early offensive on the western front, with some
success. The Austrians are pushing down the Adriatic coast. The
Turks seem to be holding their own in Asia Minor: disaster
appears to be dogging the footsteps of English forces there.
A Zeppelin came over Paris on Saturday night - the first for ten
months. It dropped bombs; did a good deal of damage and got

Jan. 31. - safely away, despite anti-aircraft guns and squadrons of aero-
planes. The description of the precautions taken when the arrival
of the Zeppelin was announced, is picturesque. Another Zeppelin
arrived yesterday - the full account is not yet forthcoming.

A writer in to-day's "Daily Mail" has an article that brings
to the surface some thoughts that probably have been in many
minds as well as in mine over the great war. With his terms
for the Germans - or Prussians - we can testotally disagree and get
pick out much from the article. His contention is that the
present great war is one of those great movements of peoples
that take place at times in the world's history. He speaks
of the movements east and west - European and movements - that
have taken place, but states there have also been north and
south movements.

He compares the present movement of the
Germans on the Berlin-Constantinople railway to the movements
of the "tribes" that overthrew Rome. He speaks of the Prussians
as a "tribe" and says they are not a Germanic people but a Hun-
dian people and appears to think the only real hope of stopping
their conquest is to divide the German peoples! Pardon barbarism!

Of course, his prejudiced view is that those present "tribes" are
"barbarians" attacking civilization. That cannot hold by a
very simple test that the English and others use themselves
apply to peoples, in historical research. From the Roman

Jan. 31!:- point of view which, to my mind, has distorted most of ancient history, "barbarians" were those who had not Roman civilization and who had only "crude weapons". Certainly, the common view of the historians of the "successful" peoples was that the more civilized peoples had better weapons of warfare than those whom they conquered. It was always assumed that higher civilization and better weapons of warfare went hand in hand. If we apply this test now, then the Germans are beyond doubt the more highly civilized to-day and are bound to win. I do not think we ever accepted this theory in Ireland, but it is rather interesting to find that some Englishmen are learning a lesson now. The placid doctrine of the survival of the fittest" which suited England while it was on top may come home to them in an ugly form. If by fittest is meant better education, better organisation, better weapons and the greater ability to use them, greater brute force, then, on the showing of the English themselves the Germans now are the fittest to survive. The whole philosophic theory behind the English rule in Ireland, for instance, was that the English were the better race; better in education, in organisation, in worldly equipment - the Irish were backward in civilization, unfit to rule. The theory is not dead yet, but see how the chickens will come home to roost.

But, the writer raises up other thoughts in the mind of which

Jan. 31!:- he is utterly unaware. In many of the great world movements in Europe, England was conquered. The Romans moving south and north-west conquered it. The Saxons moving west and over the sea conquered it. The "Danes" - rather Northmen moving south and west conquered it. The Normans moving north from France conquered it. It borrowed its kingly from the Dutch or the Germans. In fact, whenever it was invaded it was conquered. Is there a likelihood of the same thing occurring now? Not impossible: not even improbable, if the present war is indeed as it seems to be, a great world movement - if it is not just such a war as Napoleon and the French waged. And mark also, in all the great world movements, since the Celtic one, Ireland was safe at the time. The Romans stopped short: the Danes were vanquished: the Normans were absorbed: the Saxons only came after centuries of occupation in England. I am firmly convinced it would be as safe to-day as in the days of the Romans, though the Germans conquered England. Nay more, if the present is indeed a great race movement, I feel, like many others that I know, that there is again a great destiny in store for dear old 'Ire'; a destiny bright as in its great Christianising days. "Island of saints and scholars" was no empty title: were Ireland free again, in God's mercy it may go revive the old title.

Jan 31: '14. I was a haven of refuge for leaving and true religion when Europe was drenched in blood. May it not be so again? Yes, on one condition - that its people are true to themselves and to the older spirit of the race. If its people accept English civilization it is lost. The more closely we are bound to England the further away we shall get from the old tradition.

To break up the unity of the Central Powers and of the German peoples would be a great victory indeed for the Allies - but it is a foregone hope as far as winning the present war is concerned, I imagine. The unity of Germany, the binding together of the German Empire is one of the greatest things in history, is a marvellous thing indeed, considering how all these races and states were at variance for centuries. That Empire and its allies will never break up while they are winning but yet threatened. Were they losing they would probably break:

or should they win so triumphantly as to beat down all danger of attack for years, they will probably break. But, if it ever looked black for the British Empire, it looks black to day.

Feabpa an céad lá. Dá Máire. Spao bríde 12.45pm.

A big air raid on England last night - the third in year. Six or seven air ships, presumably Zeppelins, over the eastern, north-eastern and midland countries. What damage was done we know not.

Feb. I: an official report by Lieutenant Whitbourn on recruiting in Ireland is issued to day. On Aug. 1st. 1914 there were 20,780 Irishmen in the English army; on the outbreak of war 17,504 recruits and 12,464 special recruits rejoined, making a total mobilisation of 51,046. Total number of enlistments from 2nd Aug. 1914 to 9th Oct. 1915 - 75,293. From 10th October 1915 to 11th Jan. 1916 - 10,946. Total 86,277. Navy - 5,100 sailors in the British navy on outbreak of war. Since Aug. 1914, a further 3,446 have joined. "Taking the two services together, a total of 145,869 is reached." The police returns and the army returns do not agree. [Inhabitants mean that unfit rejected, desertions, double or treble enlistments are not taken into account]. Belfast area is credited with 26,883 recruits between 2.8.1914 and 8.1.1916. : Cork area, in the same period, 6,519: Dublin area, 16,726. "An estimate shows - Unmarried men in Ireland, Aug. 1915, 416,409; Engaged in agriculture, 257,000: Estimates still unattested, 400,000: Available as recruits (allowing for deductions), 100,000.

These figures are official. They do away with all the previous figures given. They are of course the very best that can be shown. They are very bad to my mind for Mr. Redmond's arguments as against the "Ulster" argument, no matter what reasons are given about agriculture areas as compared with industrial areas. Honestly, I am surprised at the figures. I was under the impression they were much larger for any the Cork area. Why in a few months of the Volunteers in

Feb. 1:- Cork city alone there were volunteers amounting to about 3,000, of course that meant only about five or six hundred real volunteers, but if a case was to be made on paper we could show as great numbers as Wimburns. Note also, Carson's Volunteers on paper during the Home Rule controversy were stated to be at least 100,000 strong. When it has come to a real test of fighting for the Empire these numbers have gone down most remarkably. Wimburns's figures are hopeful to an Irish nationalist. They show that there are large numbers of Irishmen still to count on as true to Ireland; certainly as large a number as in 1798. About 1793, after 18 months of war with France, it was estimated that 120,000 Irishmen had joined the English army and that two-thirds of the English Army was composed of Irishmen. I have noted that before. It bears repetition for remembrance. If figures meant anything we would be inclined to say Ireland was more "loyal" then than now. And yet, a few years after 'tins is rebellion.

The estimate of recruits to both army and navy up to 18th Dec. 1915 for the provinces is as follows:- Ulster, 49,760; Leinster, 27,450; Munster, 14,190; Connaught, 3,589. These are the police returns which Wimburns says are not quite accurate. But, we can easily see Mr. Redmond bawled over in argument by them. "Ulster" has contributed more recruits than all the rest of Ireland put together. Ah! my dear pro-English of the New Garrison, you might as well have

Feb. 1:- not taken the sheep course, for the purpose of proving Ireland's "loyalty" to England. Wait till you hear the English gospel when "Ulster" (that is, the Old Garrison) presses home these figures as showing how "loyal" it is and how "disloyal" Home Rule Ireland is. Your game is a bad, bad one for Ireland indeed. Amity would pay better.

Feb. 2. The Gleaner. "Provised no Canadian 7.15 p.m. Big things to record to-day. The air-raid on England on Monday night - 31st Jan. - was the biggest yet, biggest every way. The desperate attempts of official reports to keep it within small dimensions cannot succeed. The damage is too wide-spread. The English report issued last night at 7.55 says "bombs were dropped in Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincoln, Leicester, Stafford, and Derbyshire. Except in one part of Staffordshire the material damage was not considerable and in no case was any military damage caused." Casualties "54 killed; 67 injured." This report beyond any doubt is mostly humbug. Manchester for instance was plunged in darkness. Trains were stopped on the principal midland lines. The English mails due in Cork yesterday morning did not arrive till late last night. There seems to have been quite a panic in London. I discard rumours in the case, but it is pretty certain that the raid was on a big scale and that much damage must have been done. The portion of the German account allowed to be

Feb. 2. - published says explosives and bombs were dropped on near Liverpool and Brokenhead, on Manchester foundries, Nottingham, Sheffield; on the industrial works on the Humber and near Great Yarmouth. "On the Humber a battery was silenced." The airships returned safely. This is the 22nd raid officially reported. Some of the English papers criticise the government for suppressing details, which in itself shows that we cannot rely on the official reports. The newspapers have got news which they are prohibited publishing. But, despite everything, in this case some of the truth is leaking out. And it is utterly absurd of course to say there was no panic. If the weather over England to night is, as it is here, calm, clear, with no moon - it may be expected that another raid will be made to night. What the English airships are doing, or what they are capable of doing to defend England, I do not know. They make great boasts anyhow, but we cannot see that they can stop these raids of German airships.

The other item of big news I must defer till later.

Feb. 3. Disposition. Quiescent as banishment 11.30 a.m.

Talk of sea stories of the older time, of mystery ships and such. They are all thrown in the shade by that item of news I referred to above. A liner called the "Appam" from the west coast of Africa to Liverpool

Feb. 3 was ten or twelve days overdue. She was fitted with wireless but no word had been received from her. One of her boats was picked up somewhere in the Atlantic. 'Twas supposed she was lost with all hands. Yesterday from Norfolk, Virginia flashed the news that the "Appam" had arrived there with a German prize crew in charge! One report placed the number of the prize crew at 12; another at 22; "number of ~~photographs~~ ~~men~~ on board, 451, including 138 survivors of seven other ships sunk by the Germans; 20 German civilians en route from Africa to England for detention; 155 of the "Appam's" crew; 116 original passengers and the prize crew of 22." A curious assortment.

Now, how was the liner captured and taken across the Atlantic? Reports vary. One account says, by German submarine; another by a disguised German auxiliary cruiser. It is stated she was captured off the Canary Islands. The puzzle of submarine capture is this - how could the submarine hold 138 people taken off the ships sunk; how could it afford to place a prize crew of 12 or 22 on the "Appam"? But the auxiliary cruiser idea seems equally difficult to some minds - those who have such faith in the invincibility of the British navy. Yet, 'tis the probable theory. It only supposes that the cruiser, disguised, escaped the vigilance of the British in the North Sea and got out to the Atlantic. Might it not have been helped by a submarine? The submarine and cruiser may be working together: nothing impossible in that.

Feb. 3. But here's the puzzle, the greatest I think, from the reports. How was a prize crew of 12 or 22 able to command that vessel, with so many supposedly hostile people on board, even with the help of the 20 German civilians? That indeed was the remarkable achievement of the whole affair. And then, if we are to credit the news, not alone was that done, but other ships were captured on the way!

That the "Appam" is in America is true; that a German prize crew is on board, commanding the original crew and passengers is true; that the vessel was captured is true; that she carries a gun on board seems true: therefore, however 'twas done 'twas a most remarkable deed, a romantic deed, a daring achievement. The Germans are apparently the only people providing world romance in this war.

But, there's the further puzzle of the "Appam" now - puzzle for the American government what to do with her. Is she an English trading vessel? Is she a German auxiliary cruiser? Is she a German prize? Are her passengers and crews to be interned? Or, are the Germans to be interned and all others let free? Nice questions for "international lawyers".

The British officially deny the German report of the air raid on England. But, the list of casualties has been augmented.

Lord Lieutenant Wintbourne, Chief Secretary Birrell and Mr. John B. Redmond, M.P. were on a recruiting tour in Galway yesterday. Redmond's son, also an M.P. has been promoted from lieutenant to captain.

Feb. 3. Comment is unnecessary. Diarmuid O'Connor, J.P. Dublin was in Cork yesterday to see Terence MacSwiney. Presumably he was sent by O'Leary headquarters. Terence will not have any lawyer's defence in court. That of course is quite in keeping with his ideas (and with mine also) though many think it is a mistake. He agreed, however, that a public agitation may be got up, if not of a supplicatory kind, for his immediate trial. There has already been talk of this and I think it's quite right. His release or trial ought to be demanded. O'Connor said he saw report of speech delivered at Ballynacorney and that it is indeed actionnable, as things go now in Ireland. Well, all the more reason why the Government should proceed to trial on that. Trial would perhaps put an end to all the rumours going around: German gold and German communications rumours, which I need scarcely remark, are utterly false.

Feb. 3. an Yoo la. Tia heden. Deaneprize 4 p.m. The two great pieces of war news - the air raid on England and the capture of the "Appam" are, even yet, almost the only outstanding topics in our newspapers. A friend of mine was in Liverpool on Thursday and he says the Germans did not come there, as did they come to Birkenhead. The nearest they came, as far as he could learn, was to Coarse, an important railway junction. The "Appam" was captured by a German auxiliary cruiser disguised. It is reported, contradicted, again reported that the U.S. government have decided she is a German prize of war. The passengers have been set at liberty. While this decision is being made, our newspapers are telling

Feb. 7:- as that the U.S. and Germany are on the brink of war - due to "an international controversy over the Lusitania". It seems to me there is even yet far more likelihood of the States and England going to war than of the States and Germany. England is hitting America and other neutral countries harder than Germany is hitting them. Sweden for instance, in retaliation for English piracy on its ships, has prohibited the export of wood-pulp for paper. There is a threatened famine of paper. The English government, to put a good face on the matter, is prohibiting the import of paper, or wood-pulp, nominally to bring down imports and so conserve its own resources. Some of the British papers are clamouring for command of the air. They want command of the air as well as command of the sea. But, indeed, they are at present very unlikely to get that.

Friday last the "Cork Constitution" had a converted story of about a column long, designed to call the attention of "the authorities" to the Cork famine fail. The story was written around some insignificant incidents in connection with a military funeral given to a boy of the famine the previous Sunday. On a par with that - though no names are given nor innuendoes of any tangible character made is the "discovery" of bombs at Rialtip, Co. Dublin. There are old police tricks in Ireland, but I suppose they can be tried again with perhaps some success in shocking some people. Sam MacNeill

Feb. 7:- in the "Volunteers" is steadily warning the Volunteers about the likelihood of such plots and other plots calculated to get Irish public opinion against the Volunteers.

Feetips an 9th. The Centosom. Spato bridge 12 noon. There is snow on the hills and cold showers of snow falling at intervals since Monday night. Snow is good for the soil, I believe, but the weather is hard for poor people, with prices very high and tending to rise more and more.

As regards Ireland one remarkable thing is that distress is not very apparent, due perhaps to Ireland being mainly an agricultural country and to the amount of "separation allowances", which pass through the hands of the poorer people. Another remarkable feature in Ireland is the surprising decrease in ordinary crime ever since the Great War broke out.

There are two or three causes for this - one is that most of the criminal classes have joined the English Army; another is the absence of land troubles which were a source of most Irish crime in the past, though indeed some of these "crimes" were not crimes at all; a third is probably the steady effect of the Volunteers. In '93, with the advancement of the United Irishmen the same condition was apparent. In '07 it was again manifest. Whenever there is a real physical force movement strong in Ireland, lawlessness decreases and consequent crime. The English Government knows this and interprets it as a bad sign for itself. A consequence Government

Feb. 9: Agents endeavour to prevent crime or disturbance. Or, they make use of the most trivial incidents and seek to magnify them into "crimes". What was done in the past in this direction is a matter of history. But the same game is going on now. The "Cork Constitution" is an index of this. Its account last week of a little incident that occurred at a Volunteer's funeral in Cork is a case in point. It has other "accounts" to denounce. One is a sub-leading article calling on the Government to take action against the Volunteers, whose there is a special reference to some military manoeuvres carried out by the Fianna Fáil of Dublin. "Binn Fíne activists"; "disciples of his Roger Casement"; "pro-Boerians" are terms seriously used. Then it has a "news" paragraph headed "Sedition in Co. Galway". From the "account", the "sedition" consisted of some masked men taking horses from under the nose of a mineral water manufacturer, who is a recruiting agent in that district. In Sligo there is more "sedition" - some young men are drilling in a country district there! In Killybegs while a recruiting meeting was in progress last Sunday, some football players and their supporters, headed by a pipe band, marched past the meeting, which caused a foreigner outbreak from Mr. J. M. O'Sullivan, M.P., one-time Irish speaker. A Judge O'Donoghue spoke at that recruiting meeting. Then, the same judge went to Tralee and tried a case against a young man for the supposed crime of uttering "Damn the King". The young man was tried before; got three months

Feb. 9: Imprisonment; case was appealed; this was the appeal before O'Donoghue. Naturally, O'Donoghue, confirmed the sentence. He did more: made a speech; thought the government entirely too lenient as "this sort of thing". And that, though a sergeant in the British army, returned from Flanders, swore most positively that the young man was in his company and never uttered the words attributed to him. It suits the English Government at present apparently to pretend to the outside world that there is no trouble in Ireland - or, as Mr. John S. Redmond puts it, there is only a miserable and unimportant minority in Ireland as in Great Britain who are opposed to the government; for the sake of notoriety. But it goes on with the prosecution in Ireland and perhaps it suits its policy to exaggerate that "miserable minority". Suits its policy? You see, if there is "trouble", just such an account of it as can be easily suppressed, the Home Rule Act can be held up with the blame thrown on the wicked "Binn Fíne". That the English are careless about that Home Rule Act anyhow ought now be apparent to all Irishmen - but it is not so apparent. When the time comes to put it in force, the blame for everything the Government has done or may do can be laid at the door of the "Binn Fíne". What a game it is! I would not give a fig for all the game or the argument if I thought there was a serious intention of the O'Donoghue leaders to act on the opinion. But, so far as I have even yet there is no serious intention at trying to separate Ireland from England; no plans formed. It seems now to me that things are

Feb. 9:- just moving on and have no such appearance of ultimatum "figgling" out; or being crushed out without any serious struggle; as of serious business. If the British Government wish there could be another '98; or if it wish, there could be a '48, as far as appearances go at present. "Keep quiet" is the order of headquarters.

Feb 9th am 10^o 14. Drogheda. Tipico na Baidan 11.30 a.m.

Just to finish my line of thought above. Headquarters of course may have plans we know not of and are in a better position to judge the correct moment for action than any other group can possibly be. If they have, then that is all right. My misgivings arise from a study of history and of present affairs. But I have now and again to call myself back to ask who am I — merely a private in a provincial corps, with no influence. Just an out-of-the-way individual thinking, perhaps erratically, on affairs. To call myself back this is comforting at times.

Claude Chevasse of Oxford University was yesterday fined £5, with the alternative of a month's imprisonment for speaking Irish in Ballingearry, at Macroom Petty Sessions! That's splendid! It will have the finest effect. The case was brought under the D. of the R. acts. The sergeant of police in Ballingearry spoke to Chevasse apparently to get particulars

Feb. 10:- from him, his name, I suppose, and other particulars, which, by the way, he could have got on the registration forms that are at every lodging house or hotel. Chevasse replied in Irish. The sergeant, one Appleby, does not know Irish. Neither do any of the police there. So, Chevasse was arrested. District Inspector Ryan made as much as he could of the argument that Chevasse was an Englishman and that "twice his fellow countrymen made the laws and regulations!" Well, the prosecution and fine or imprisonment will have a splendid effect in Ballingearry and elsewhere. What surprises me is how the police and the P.O. were so foolish as to carry it on thus — because it is bound to have such a good effect. Even the weakly, worldly members of the Committee of Coláiste na Múnaigh ought come out on the question. If they do not, what guarantee is there that all our students in the College who refuse to speak English will not be fined or imprisoned? 'Tis laughable in ways, but so good that I am very pleased indeed. Chevasse is a man of powerful physique who wears hills.

Feb. 15th: Drogheda. Tipico na Baidan 6.55 p.m. So many incidents to record, not perhaps of mighty importance, yet interesting, since I wrote last, and so little time now to record them, that I can only begin in the hope of finishing some of them later. To the latest then — Seamus MacSwiney is out on bail till next Monday. So is Kent who was arrested with him.

Feb. 15th - As fine a comedy, to my mind, as could be played on any stage was his "trial" in Cork Police Court to-day. 'Tis the criminal side appealed to me most. How the whole proceedings came on; how I, (and others) knew of them or heard of things would form fine material for a play. Last week there was a communication from General Friend to Laurence's sister to say the trial would take place at an early date. We all heard it may be this week. But no notice given. No chance for making a defence. The counts of indictment, as far as I know, were not specified. Yesterday Miss MacSwiney called to Wynne, Esq. for "the Crown", about the case. He said, so I heard, that perhaps only a hour's notice may be given of the trial. (This, I suppose to ensure conviction). Suspecting something, there was an underlying idea that trial may be on to-day. Arrangements apparently were made accordingly by some of the O'Glas men and some friends of Thomas.

9.45 p.m. I called to Sn. MacDonnell's place about 11.30.

His assistant, Deane & Donohue, asked at once "Cao na easb' na' parlam na' ya cump?" "Cao na' ya cump?" appa murr. "Ta' Copicalbair & i'pial" appa murr. "E'fuit" appa murr - "ya' e'fuit Sean?" "Do cump?" appa murr. "Raid na' luy" "mairad" appa murr. "A'guy Do i'uatay." At about 11.45. "Laurence J. MacSwiney" was called. He came out, with Kent. Looking well, if a bit thin. On the bench were "Jorg" Kane, T.C. add. Jock. Killeher, the redoubtable baronet. Sir Ed. Fitzgerald, Staskie, R.M. O'Brien, J.P. and Lord Mayor Butterfield.

Wynne opens proceedings. Four or five counts against MacSwiney. I remember two words in a speech delivered at Ballymore, Co. Wick and in possession of certain papers (a code as it appeared after). ^{counts} Killeher for saying that the same meeting "better die in Ireland and be buried here than be thrown into a hole in Flanders" and for having a revolver with ammunition in his possession. Wynne spoke about summary jurisdiction by Resident Magistrate and applied for adjournment of the case. Up sprung Frank Healy, B.L. of Cork to say he appeared for the prisoners. He spoke splendidly. Ridicules the whole proceedings. But quite prepared to go on there and then. But spoke add. Killeher and "Fitz" bravely. "Did Mr. Wynne mean to say they had no rights there as magistrates. Was the Lord Mayor of Cork not a fit person to adjudicate on that bench in that case?" ("Heu, heu" said I). These palavers; Healy chiming in now and again in a splendid strain. Evidence of arrest and finding of documents and revolver was given. Healy - "Are not these gentlemen as much entitled to arms and ammunition as the other volunteers in Ireland? Let Mr. Birrell and Attorney-General Gordon come out straight in the matter. We know what you (Wynne, Conservative) would do if you had the power. Traipse the people of Ireland. Is 1918 to be gone over again" and so on and so on. "Are we back to the days of Louis XVI of France and better de cacher?" The urgent gave evidence of finding the secret code. Wynne - "This code may be used for giving

110.

1910. Cork City and County Archives

Feb. 15. Information about his magnificent naval and military forces?"
 - Up jumps Healy. - an utterly unfair question. There's the hint of
 hunting we have to meet. Was it the police code, sergeant?
 Do you bet? There's a betting code, I believe. I suppose the
 City of Cork Volunteer Corps have a code too."

Their worship considered. Starkie - "I will allow bail."
 Case fixed for Monday. Such an utter force of a case.
 We made no demonstration, but there were many handshakes.
 Terence looked very pleased at freedom. Kent was smiling all
 the time and utterly defiant outside. "Yes, I was in before.
 What do I care about them. Their day is done." It was well
 all the same I see that Healy was there to defend. Up to the time
 of seeing him there I believed Terence was to defend himself. He
 could not possibly have done better than Healy and he would
 have made the case too serious, whereas Healy proved ridiculous on
 it. Were the case tried there and then there would have been
 no conviction. I am certain of that. "The Crown" may withdraw
 the case now; or else will insist on their paid magistrates, Starkie,
 trying it alone. I dislike his face. Yet, I learn he is
 amenable to gentle influence too. Thomas Curran and Fred Connors
 went back. Ald. P.H. Meade was in court. Heard later he had
 some influence in bringing the Lord Mayor there.

Am engaged as Sec. of Spd Coyt in getting up a public meeting of

1916

111.

Feb. 15. - protest in chevasse case for next Sunday night. Came about then.
 Saturday heard chevasse was in Cork; at Presentation Brothers College.
 Went along Great George St. towards the College. Saw a very tall man in
 hills at other side of the street - chevasse. Went over and introduced
 myself. Recd. it was suggested to be by Sean Murphy of the O'Glas that
 it would be a good thing to get up a public meeting about chevasse.
 Brought that gentleman to Mr. MacDonnell's shop. Several other Ballisheeps
 there. All agreed public meeting a good idea. Asked chevasse to come to
 Spd Coyt meeting that night. He came and the ^{public} meeting was decided on.
 Chevasse seems a fine character of a somewhat humor-son type.
 Among others, I have invited Tom MacNeill to come and speak at the
 meeting. Hardly likely that he will come but we will have plenty
 speakers I think. Chevasse was really and truly arrested for
 speaking Irish in Ballisheary - not so much for his name. It is the
 statute of Kilkenny of 1367 renews. I have no doubt whatever
 about the success of the public meeting. The times are stirring and the
 Irish spirit is strong.

Weather - terribly wild, wet, fierce.

Feb. 15 an 21st. On 15th. - Beaconsfield. 6.30 p.m. To-day MacSwiney and
 Kent were to be tried. I would have liked to have been present at trial but
 thought better to attend to my duty here, though it may have been possible
 to manage. I left instructions to have a telegram sent me with result, but
 so far I have not got it. MacS. and Curran went to B. club on Saturday.

Feb. 21st - am taking an interest in the case, though indeed I am but no "the innocent outsiders" and have been treated as one, practically. All I know of what is going on is in support to the case and to most of the O'Leary work now is by hearing bits and scraps of news. This, however, no longer annoys me as it used to. I have no deep an interest as ever in the O'Leary's circumstances prevents me from translating that interest to action as I would like: some of the O'Leary leaders in Connagh - notwithstanding my connections with the formation and original moulding of the corps do not seem to regard me with any favour. So, I am almost an "outsider," in O'Leary matters at present. I look on those things as part of my life's lessons.

We had a great Gaelic League meeting in the City Hall, Cork, last night: a wonderful meeting as regards numbers. The tide is flowing high with us in Irish Ireland. On Saturday night the Tipi Corps decided that, failing to get a person to preside, I should preside. I saw Fr. Dominick, O.S.F.C. yesterday. All the priests of his order have got warning not to attend public meetings - this applies to the pro-English as well as to the other, like Fr. Dominick. Leaders feared to have apparently got orders to the same effect. At least I judge so from the attitude of Rev. Dr. O'Reilly and Fr. O'Leary. But the orders must not be quite so strict. Anyway, Fr. Dominick's not coming fixed me for presiding. Now, though no one would suspect it, I am exceedingly nervous about speaking at public meetings - "stage fright" I believe some call it. And I was exceedingly nervous

Feb. 21st - all day yesterday: till the moment of the meeting. On Saturday Paddy Dwyer came from Dublin, about the Corps' Irish speakers. We decided that evening that he, Cheevers and Peadar to accompany me to Ballinacorney yesterday to address the people there after Mass. They went: but this meeting, at which Fr. O'Leary, P.P. was present and spoke. They were to return by 3 o'clock yesterday. I called to this hotel at 4.30: not arrived: at 6: not arrived: at 7: not arrived: at 8: not arrived: meeting to begin at 8.30. Went to City Hall. Even at that hour a crowd outside the doors waiting to go in. Doors open and a mob. Hall packed before the time for meeting, but no account of our friends. This natural disaster staidied my nerves. But what to do? What had happened? So on with meeting anyhow. I was just mounting to the platform when there was a shout "Here they are". All well. And there was a meeting to address. Finished it about 11. Some of the crowd led by Volunteers Head went to hotel, where they were again addressed by Cheevers and Peadar. I received several compliments on my conduct of the meeting and on my speaking - why, I was unable to say, but it appeared as if I made a far better impression than usual. Spoke in Irish and English. One Sociologist said to me to-day "Dí gáir mháthair agat uirthi" "You had a voice like a bell last night. Well, I angled everything went off well. There was just one critical moment perhaps. Sheehan, M.A. on his own account, proposed a resolution that the meeting demand of the Cork Corporation to confer the freedom of the city on Cheevers: if the Corporation did not do it, that body as at present constituted would be swept away by an Irish Ireland party.

Feb. 21. - The sweeping away was received with applause indeed, but friend
 "Toby Barry, while with excitement, came out to move an amendment to the
 other portion. I knew well what was in his mind. So, I did not allow
 him speak but was again the chief resolution and then changes what
 Seachan had said by saying that we there and then, as citizens of Cork,
 conferred the freedom of the city on Chervase. This of course was passed
 tumultuously, and of course was what Toby wanted. The reason of
 Tadhg's opposition to asking the Corporation to give the freedom of the
 city to Chervase was owing to his despicable action over Xmas
 Meyer - a reason with which I heartily agreed.

8.30 p.m. about half an hour ago received expected telegram:
 "Jerry fined shilling costless. Dearmuid." More ridiculous than
 ever, but just in keeping with Cork justice of the Peace. They find
 him guilty apparently of some charge: that satisfies the Government
 (perhaps): they do not wish to punish him, so make a ridiculous fine
 of a shilling. I wonder how Terence takes that? I fancy he
 must not like it too well. It makes his case so absurd that I am
 sure it can hardly be pleasing to him. But it is well at any rate
 for him to be free.

The Russians have won a pretty big success in Armenia. They
 have taken the fortress of Gogrum from the Turks. It appeared indeed
 like a solid success. The English are grasping the German
 colonies in Africa as quickly as possible - small blame to them, I

Feb. 21. - suppose. 'Tis their old policy while Europe wars. Here's the fine
 old English touch from the "Daily Mail" of 4th day - "Just now - and permanently
 too - these German colonies are rid of their Prussian oppressors. We are in
 possession, and everyone except the Hun is pleased with the change.
 Sea power counts." Mail 11.00 & 11.15. No "small nationality" funk
 about that! No cant there. The plain, blunt tyrant-grabber speaks.

Meanwhile - yesterday in fact - German airships again raid the coast
 of England in broad daylight and escape after dropping bombs. "Our air
 supremacy" is very shaky. (Indeed "We" are not supreme in the air at all; not
 even very strong there; but "we" are endeavouring to build up a ^{big} home fiction
 that "we" are).

Well, well, well - how the wheel of fortune turns! After all the upset
 and annoyance caused by him, I see by report of Co. Technical Committee
 meeting in the paper last Friday that C.P. MacCarthy is resigning from
 his post as Commercial Inspector next 31st March! No reason is given and
 I have heard of none. What a world it is.

Febr. 21. 1916. The Mair. 11.00 a.m. 6.45 p.m. The report of
 Jerry Mac's trial occupies a very large part of both the "Cork Constitution" and
 the "Cork Examiner" to-day and yet does not cover the whole ground. The
 trial lasts from 12 to nearly 4, with adjournment for lunch and one or
 two private consultations of magistrates. The court was crowded and
 there was much enthusiasm at times; pointed passages being cheered or
 laughed at as suited. The "Cork Constitution" is very vindictive over the

Feb. 22nd - verdict. The magistrate refuses to state a case for appeal and I understand now the reason of the shilling fine was to prevent any possibility of appeal. Starbuck, R.M. of course dissented from the finding of the other magistrates. The case was made a political one by Wynne, with the usual pro-German kind of talk to secure prejudice. Wynne was charged for statements made and for having the code but Wynne put in no evidence letters and articles received by him while he was running "Fianna Fail": things wholly unconnected with the case brought on and of course illegal no evidence. Among other I understand an article I sent him was read. Wynne stated in the first part of the speech at Ballynac was in Irish they did not know what it was. Laughter in court. Then when he came to my name, he made some attempt to pronounce it. Frank Healy sarcastically complimented him, but corrected ^{his} ~~the~~ pronunciation of Liam de Roiste. Wynne made much of statements that Redmond ought to be shot or Wm. O'Brien ought to be shot — to prejudice the magistrates of course. Clarence came to the court and was received with applause. The "scenes" were "sensational" — so thought Wynne and Starbuck, not indeed said the latter because of the contempt shown for the court but because of the sentiments that were applauded — "We are ready to fight England." At the conclusion of the trial the boys sang "God save Ireland" and other songs till the magistrates left the bench: Then they sang in the

Feb. 22nd - street. And they had a march round the city later. Kent's case was adjourned till Monday next. The verdict shows how public opinion is going. The "popular" magistrates knew well they dare not convict if they wanted to retain popularity. It is no more testimony to the fact that England has not yet conquered this country. Despite all the humbug we are so truly Irish: "wild Irish" now as ever.

Feb. 25. Dia h-aoine. Dromahaz. 6.40 p.m. Sobera cold, hard weather. Heavy snow in England reported. Heavy showers of snow in Cork to-day, with easterly or north easterly wind. Isyú pláigéin oim-yá. Mairtín féin ní gearraíonn é.

"German dash for Paris" is the war news of to-day. They have pushed back the French around Verdun and are apparently in a position to win the big guns on the fortress. If so, no one expects it can ultimately stand. At other points on the western front the Germans are pushing forward also.

The courier ~~was~~ "Maive" (is that the spelling?) has "bagged" five or six more English ships in the Atlantic. One was taken to Tinsiffa by a German prize crew, with numerous prisoners on board; the prisoners landed; then the vessel was blown up. Where is "our fleet?"

Cork Board of Guardians yesterday unanimously passed a resolution condemning the arrest and imprisonment of men without

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Feb. 26th - trial and the Macroom magistrate for convicting Chevasse. Things like these show the present trend of opinion.

The "Cork Constitution", very bitter old anti-Irish organ, to-day, asks its readers to send copies containing reports of "Real Act cases" to "influential people" in England, in order to show said "influential people" what a turbulent "diologue" hot the mere Irish are. The old, old game of the eternal English garrison in Ireland - "complain to the Big Brother." And at a time too when they mouth about the rights of small nationalities.

It is public property now that priests are not to speak at Nationalist public meetings. Does this apply to the pro-English? We shall see.

There are some further matters relative to MacSwiney case I would like to note, but have not time now.

Feb 26th 1916. Oshesim. Deaneprize. 3.50 pm.

Very hard, cold weather recently, with showers of snow and easterly or north easterly wind. There is much snow in England.

Saturday night the second annual ball of Fionna Faid Copraize took place. Like all the Fionna undertake it was a great success.

The great battle for Verdun continues. It appears to be the fiercest of the war, with absolutely terrific

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Feb. 28th - bombardment by big guns. The Germans have taken some of the outer forts and are reported to be within five or seven miles from the town. That looks as if the place will fall before them. Before the war, Verdun would be regarded as impregnable but the action of the German big guns have demonstrated that no fortress is impregnable. The usual torrents of idiosyncrasy and being poured forth in the papers regarding the present battle, but on the whole, there is now more writing than usual. The "Daily Mail" had a leading article the other day headed "The Amazing Germans", which was a very gloved summary up of the war situation and was ^{almost} couched in terms of admiration for what the Germans have done and are doing. If they take Verdun - and judging by past experience of what their artillery can do against fortresses its taking seems likely - it will be a stupendous achievement. That of the papers regard it as a blow for Paris, but that does not seem at all so clear as a possible outcome of the capture of Verdun. This week many papers to regard as a most critical week. It may be.

Meanwhile, by mine, by submarine, by the "Mocve", many war English ships of various sizes have been sunk or captured. From the 1st March the Germans have announced their intention of pursuing submarine warfare on a vast scale. All ships to be sunk within their proclaimed war zone without warning.

Feb. 28: It is a queer, distressing and illogical world in many ways! That's an observation I made as a result of a discussion with friend Leon Moran last night. "Do you ever get tired of it all?" enquired Leon of me. "Perhaps," I replied, "but what to my mind will enable a man to keep going is to fix upon a few principles, hold by them, and act according to his conscience for them." The circumstances calling forth the discussion were many. Others - far apart as the poles in life from the circumstances of my life - probably find many similar experiences in dealings with men; in observing "the manners and ways of men"; in listening to their expressions. Here's an instance: Denis Mahony, T.C., was co-opted in our Gaelic League *Agóidíde* recently. Mahony was a member of the Celtic Literary Society in the old days when some of us now in the League and *Fianna Fáil* were young "intransigents." He, however, is now bound up with the fangs of Irish Librarians who do not like the Gaelic League. I was not enthusiastic about his co-opting, but he has helped much in getting Traditional Singing into the Municipal School of Music and he was co-opted. Now, Tomás Curtin and Tómas Mac Súdáin dislike O.M. very much; to such an extent that on Saturday night Tómas declared in my presence the *Amú* choirists ought to be abolished "if that was the kind of thing it was doing."

Feb. 28'. Yet, I am aware, Austin and perhaps Trench, have been quite willing to accept O.M.'s help in certain directions for the Franks Fall. Now, is not their attitude illogical? Here's another little affair. Saturday last I tendered a subscription for the I. D. A. to Fawcett. In personal compliment to yourself, I explained; I do not think the association, as an association, is worthy of support. "If 'tis for charity you give it" said F. "Idiot want charity?" High spirits apparently, but are not all subscriptions be gets on much the same level? I gave it anyhow. The truth is, ^{I suppose} I feel "sore" over the I. D. A. attitude to myself as its sole Hon. Sec. for ten years or so. When F. went to America I felt I was told, when I offered to do the Secretary's work, that I was not wanted being apparently a "suspicious character". That being so, would it really be the right, noble thing for me to force myself on the association or is my attitude of doing nothing for it justified? I don't worry over it; merely put the question.

Mãeça an 2oô lã. Oripdaom. Opoiceao na Bandoam. 12 noon.

After the very hard cold weather, to-day is a fine March day. Despite the cold, the darkness, the snow showers, a subtle feel of spring has been in the atmosphere for the past fortnight or so. It is more evident now when the sun shines. That reawakening of nature after winter, often so it seems, is still very wonderful, very mysterious. I know it makes me glad at heart.

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Máire 3. 7th Lárán. Sin é yá nárá na zóaná an an n'baillí. Dúghobáil
aró, 30n pór dom féin ná mór.

Máire 6. Dia hiam. Beannpáiré. 7 pm. Have just heard that
all shipping between Ireland and England is stopped. Cattle
dealers and other exporters here have got notice to this effect.
Also: a liner was sunk off Bow Head yesterday. The
German submarine war has started in earnest and there are
some of its results.

Máire 7. Dia Máire. Spaid Mhíche. 12 noon. The ten pastoral of the
Bishops of Ireland were published yesterday. They all touch on the
war and the crisis through which the world is passing. Many
of them have a pro-British or anti-German tone, though slight. The
one outstanding one that strikes an independent note is that of
Bishop Dwyer of Limerick. He deplores the horrors of war
no less than the others but he has no illusions as to some of the
reasons behind the conflict. He groups London, Paris, Berlin,
St. Petersburg all together as centres which, in the days before
the war, we devoted to the worship of materialism. He speaks
of the efforts of the Pope for peace and how suggestions of peace
have been treated by English statesmen: quoting words which are
probably Redmond's. His pastoral is to my mind best because it
is nearest to eternal principles of truth and right. Bishop
O'Malley of Cork speaks of young girls going with strange men;

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Mar. 7. Girls who do not seem to be under parental control. - He also
issues a warning about mixed marriages and "marriages" in registry
offices. But all these things are connected with the presence
of the English garrison in Cork and district: the facts are notorious.
Yet, there are priests who extol the "khaki clad heroes" so that
foolish young girls naturally think it an honour to be in their
company. That's the position of affairs.

Dromólag. 7 pm. A fine frosty evening without: cosy and
warm here within beside a good fire. Just such an evening, before the
lamps are lit, as sets one thinking. I have been doing a little of
that: partly pleasant, partly sad thoughts and memories. Some
embracing the world upheaval; some of Ireland; some of my dear
little wife and of the goodness of God to me, so unworthy though
I am. I have little time now for records. Duty calls. Yet
there are many things I would wish to write of.

Máire 21st 5th. Dia Cúdaoin. Dúghobáil na Canndas 10 pm. Ais Wednesday.

"Snapping" for a class for the summer course beginning next month.
in Ballinacorney today. It is a country place with a scattered population.
The Parish Priest quite genial. But difficulty is getting a building, the
schools not being central. A cooking class was held once in a dilapidated
old mansion, called Mount Mary. Fit scene of a romance, as for me I
could see. No one living in it but an old age pensioner: broken floors,
timbered ceilings; yet presentable aspect outside. A woodwork class

Mapes S. was once held in a barn now by, ^{the young flow of} on which, "air, the thing
"Fano" as he drilling every night." Not a bad place for
drilling either; a quiet, out of the way place, down beside the
Owenabucco. Thus my prospecting led me to what could be made
the scene of a thrilling story: and the materials to hand about
nearly made. Further, the son in law of the old man of the tumble-
down mansion had "travelled to world, air, but was not much good
at the working the ground."

and was leaving Cork this evening before O'Connell returns with a letter. Opened it on the train. It is from W. B. Cole, Dublin in reference to getting up a protest against over-taxation in Cork, a somewhat similar idea to one held in Dublin last week, which, he says was a huge success, though reports in daily papers were poor. Well, I shall have to think more on the matter before deciding what to do. I take it that the originators in Dublin want a combination of all parties, if possible, in this matter. It ought be easy enough to get up a meeting of Irish-Irelanders, but to get parliamentarians to combine with us is another matter. Probably the best way to work, assuming that to be the intention of the Dublin men - to get us with a support to possible - is for me to set the game going but then keep in the background. To keep in the background is the easiest thing of all to do, I have discovered; so many are eager to pass to the front.

Mapta an road. The B-Dome. Promelas. The St Patrick's Day demonstration, often interesting from the various "movements" it entails, now promises to become of the first interest. To lead up to the latest, I must go back. I think I have noted that early in January or February, anyhow very soon after his election Lord Mayor Butterfield sent a letter to the papers announcing his intention to take charge of this year's demonstration, so as to keep it out of the hands of all cliques and parties. Good motives but as I have persisted in maintaining from the beginning, impossible of attainment. As the Ardchoise of the Gaelic League was the body which organized the demonstration last year and the Gaelic League has been running it for several years, I certainly believed it a slight on the Ardchoise that the Lord Mayor should publicly announce his intention of taking charge this year, without having consulted us - just as a matter of politeness. The "Cork Constitution", as well as the "basin" of course, backed up the Lord Mayor's action. This to my mind was suspicious from an Irish Nationalist point of view. However, we were assured the Lord Mayor was quite honest in his motives and the Ardchoise sent its delegates to the meeting called by him: though he has refused to accept a deputation from us. Well and good. The Committee formed was a very miscellaneous one indeed; generally "all vote" as a compromise regarding speakers it was decided that the Lord Mayor only would speak. Then our Ardchoise delegate, as instructed, secured that the vote of

Mar. 10! - thanks would be proposed in Irish. [Here a ridiculous interlude. Our delegate is Denis Mahony, T.C. once time a good Nationalist, now trying to take two sides; but with no knowledge of Irish! and some bright "boy" - said to be John J. Horgan, Solo - proposed that as the Lord Chieftain wanted an Irish speaker to propose the vote of thanks on la'le páirpáir, Mr. Mahony himself do it! And of course the poor boys could not refuse]. All seemed well - and good, though there were some doubts as to whether the Protestant Young Men's Societies, the Boys' Brigades or the Old Boys' Training Corps may not bring Union Jacks or Empire Flags in the demonstration. I have some idea that the Ogilby men got some kind of assurance from the Lord Mayor that this would not happen. It looked as if everything was to go off all right; a big showy demonstration; all well; good parading; then forgotten. To me anyhow it would have been marvellous thus - to have all those absolutely antagonistic shades of thought come together; to have Empire men, pro-British; and Irish Nationalists in perfect harmony. But, it could not be of course. The, to be expected, has happened. As I was leaving the city on Tuesday evening a Volunteer in a brigade met me; to assure that as many delegates as we could have would be present at the St. Patrick's Day Organising Committee on Wednesday night as it was rumoured the English garrison in Cork was to take part in the demonstration! I was able to do little, but

Mar. 10! - met P. S. Macauley on Wed. evening and told him go there and get others to go, if they could. Heard no more; not being in Cork yesterday. But got the "Constitution" at the station here as I was going up from Bantry this morning. A kind of report of Wednesday night's meeting; about half a column long, and a leading article. "Irish Unionism again". The proposal to have the soldiers - 6,000 of them according to the "Con." - in the procession was defeated, on a vote, the "Con." says, which I believe is not true. It further says, there are to be 2,000 "Irish Union Volunteers"; and some "1,500 National Volunteers" (sic) "which is very creditable seeing" that nearly 300 of these have joined the army." It again trots out the machine-gun fiction. The leading article is very bitter, and ends in a threat: a threat of a separate demonstration. It has a rub too with the "Examiner", though in the report it states followers of Mr. Redmond and Mr. O'Brien were for the soldiers in the procession. This is so, I learn. The man who proposed that the garrison be invited was George Corbie, B.L. proprietor of the "Examiner"; he was recorded by John J. Horgan, Solo. Seeing the feeling of the meeting so strong against it, he withdraws the resolution. But, it was understood I am told, that there would be no opposition to individual soldiers in the procession, as they often were in it before! I don't quite agree there, that even there should be allowed, but of course it is not easy to keep them out. It was left to the Lord Mayor's hands to

May 10! - make the "individual" welcome known. The "Irish Times" has a somewhat similar report to the "Con." They are up to the old, old game - tell Johnny Bull what a naughty people these "new" Irish are and how he could never get on but for his dear old faithful Garrison. Máire an Mhá. Da Sáirín. Spáid b'páid. 1.40 pm.

More news of the Patrick's Day Demonstration in to-day's "Constitution". A report of a sub-committee of the Demonstration Comtee. appears, whereas the minutes of Wednesday night's meeting were read and one reported. It appears there that the following supported the resolution to invite the English Soldiers - Crabbe (who won't it) ^(no I.O.A. delegates) Borgan (Nat. Vols.) Wm. Kelleher (all for Irl. League), Harry Omega (Nat. Vols.) opposing - a Mr. John Lyons (Grosvenor Association); Thos. Dooley (I.O.A.); John O'Mallaghan (all for I. League) John Good (Trades Council), James Cusack (O'Leary); Laddy Barry (I.O.A.); Bombard By O'Mallaghan (American Alliance U.O.B.); R. Barrett (Young Irl. Society); Rev. Bro. Rahilly; P. Bradley Alfred Forde. Some of these are a surprise. ^(Heard since they were only spoken) in grounds of persistence at last night's meeting. The delegates of the "Church of J." Y.M. Association and Y.M.C.A. state that report in "Con." yesterday was not correct. Apparently they intend to cling on. The Lord Mayor has gone to London, interviewing Lloyd George about munition work in Ireland, but a letter appears from him to say soldiers and sailors will be welcome in the demonstration by the Committee in charge. This is, I

Máire an Mhá. b'páid, as was agreed upon. How some of my friends have agreed to it I don't quite understand. The argument of T. Mac B. yesterday was that we ought encourage Irishism in the rank and file of the Irish soldiers of the Brit. army. They may be useful later! I cannot agree. Why, such an argument could easily be used to justify Mr. Redmond's eulogies of our brave Irish soldiers "marching to Huns". No, no, the principle of the thing is what matters: not the method of doing it. Why not the whole garrison come in a body, as "individual"? Of course there is a little insult in not being formally invited, but I do think our friends of the O'Leary may as well go the whole hog and plainly say no Irishmen in England's army and navy are welcome in a St. Patrick's Day Parade. Many things are puzzling to me these days in the actions of my friends. If I were the person to have agreed to that "compromise" I would never have heard the end of it I know. Well, well.

Máire an Bád. O'Máirín. Deangraigh 4pm. Delivered a conversational lecture at O'Malley branch Gaelic League, last night, on the history of the years 1792-1798 compared with recent years. Intended talking for about half an hour. Found to my surprise when I sat down I had been talking for an hour and a half. Owing to style adopted - conversational, not formal - I know the audience was not tired. An excellent debate followed; a debate of very high level of knowledge and address. Proved so interesting

Mar. 14: - things were arranged amicably. as I put it in my letter -
"Cozaó capad coq namad."

Ed. Sheehan, M.P. and his Consumers' League are taking up the question of taxation about which Cole wrote to me. Cole also wrote to Fawcett and the latter spoke to Sheehan. I do not quite know if that League is the most suitable body to take the matter up and if Sheehan is the most suitable man, but I suppose it will be as good as any other. When I mentioned about Cole's letter to me to Jerome MacSwiney and a few others, T. took - pushed the matter as far as "we" were concerned. "Let somebody else take it up: we have too much to do" was his attitude.

Fawcett's position is a curious one. He is now distanced on both sides. Some of the pro-English crowd who helped his Flag Days are having doubts regarding him, fearing the money may go into "Sean Fin's funds" - whatever they are. And the O'Leary men also distrust him. His not a nice situation. M.A. Ryan, now Hon. Sec. of the I.R.B. is one of his best friends. As Ryan is well known not to be a Sean Fin's, he is writing letters to the papers - sensible letters indeed - showing that the Association is composed of men of all parties, and it indeed is.

It is somewhat strange to remark now perhaps that there is

Mar. 14: - apparently no intention whatever of a fight in Ireland on the part of the Fanna Fail. The whole attitude seems to be "if the Government does nothing we'll do nothing". Of course if the Government act, in absolute self defence the men of Ireland must act, as they have always acted, voluntarily or no volunteers. I do not quite know what is the attitude or what the argument of the O'Leary leaders, but 'tis a general feeling now I know that there will be no fight: unless of course the Government as I say, force one.

Mar. 15: 18.00. O'Leary. O'Leary no. 11.45 p.m. Development! A five or six line paragraph in the "Cork Examiner" this morning informed me this morning at Drimoleague that there had been police raids yesterday morning in Cork on some men of the Irish Volunteers. Arrived at the railway station here I got the city edition, "Cork Constitution". Full, more than full information there, in as villainous half a column as ever was pointed in a paper. Villainous: diabolical! In sober seriousness there are the only words to use. The whole purport of the "Con." news ^{is} to provoke a row between the Red. Vols. and the Fanna Fail either now or on St. Patrick's Day; a row which may have serious consequences and would give an excuse to the "authorities" to suppress, even with blood, the Volunteers. That seems incredible is an attitude for any paper to adopt, but it is plain as a pickstaff in the "Con." half column. It is stated that the Red. Vols. "act" the police in action against the

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Mar. 15th "Sinn Féin Volunteers." It says people are disappointed because the Red Vols. and their President do not speak out more strongly against the "sedition" of the O'Boys. It says ~~poor~~ feeling is running high between the two bodies of Volunteers and people are afraid of what will happen if they come together, armed, on St. Patrick's Day! (These are palpable lies). The "Con." is at the game for some time past; the "Irish Times", Dublin "Daily Express", London "Globe" have taken matter from it all to the same purpose of felon setting and "dog-baiting."

But to what happened. The police raised Tomás Curtin's, Jennings (lodgings and shop) and Liam Shortens. They got documents of some kind at Curtin's; non-compromising documents; a revolver and some ammunition at Jennings; nothing at Shortens. The "Con." had correct about the revolver and ammunition: in the "Independent" it had grown to several stands of arms and many rounds of ammunition. The whole thing in result was not very serious but of course there were wild rumours and then to-day there was the "Con." devilishness. I called in to Jennings about 12. Curtin was there. "Should we take action about the Con. article?" he had to a question. I thought not but that the Red Vols. ought and that Curtin might see some of their leaders to urge them to take action.

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Mar. 15th Shorten came in then. Then Thomas MacSwiney; at which Curtin, calling Thomas, moved away from us and both went away: apparently to discuss whether they would take action or not. Why they would not discuss the matter, or any matter, with the rest of us I know not. I find that kind of thing, however, very usual when I come on the scene whenever Thomas or Tomás are discussing serious O'Boys matters with anyone. It lasts a little.

Heard later on that either Curtin himself or he with Connel and John J. Morgan, Solo, were to have a letter in the "Echo", presumably repudiating the "Constitution" assertion of "bad blood" between the "Red Vols." and the O'Boys.

March 21, 1916. Dapdun. Spurburgh, 10.45 a.m. Letter in "Garrison" this morning from Lieut. Col. Donagan of the National Volunteers, repudiating "Constitution" insinuations; and from Tomás MacBurtain, expressing kindly feelings of O'Boys towards Red Vols. Report of St. Patrick's Day Demonstration Committee meeting last night. There also, Tomás expressed some feelings. The York B'd's and "Church of Ireland" Y.M.C. wrote to say they will not take part in procession. All well. It should be quite evident now that those bigots of the old Garrisonism will only join their fellow bigmen on one condition - that all who are not Unionist become so. That old Garrison crowd are more English than the English themselves. The New Garrison are not yet wholly lost. The whacking of the "Coke Constitution" may have a good effect on some of them in Cork so

Mar. 16:- showing them the error of their ways. The police authority, in the "Co.", also reject its suggestion that it was the Red. Vols. gave information about the fanna men. The "Co." puts the police disclaimer in an obscure corner: its lies yesterday were under large headings.

The "Cork Free Press" states a raid was also made on Pahi's Barry's home at Glanworth. Pahi is now organising, he was "adjutant" of the Cork Battalion. The "Free Press" also has comments on the absence of news of the great Irish Convention in America recently and reads, and read myself, into the absence of news the information that the convention was a huge success. It quotes from the "Irish World" some matter dealing with object of the Convention. The objects were quite plain and straight apparently - to consider how an Irish Republic may be established. Of course the "Press" pook-pooks this idea; not, let us remark on grounds of principle, but of expediency: "England is not yet defeated, it has suffered least of all the combatants in the great war; it has an invincible navy and four millions of an army; therefore our few thousand obsolete rifles" have no chance of winning a way to Irish freedom. There is a fair basis of argument in what the "Press" says but I believe its argument is the argument of all cowards and slaves. It condemns every Irish armed movement as a foolish catastrophe. There are many things to be considered besides the number and quality of the rifles ^{with} ~~in~~ ^{which} side when thinking of a country's freedom, though I would be the

Mar. 16:- very hard to overlook the important fact of numbers on quality - an armed struggle. ^{not} So the very mention of ideas of an Irish Republic at this present time proof positive that all that talk of a New Era, One Bright Spot, Ireland joined to England and so on who the veriest humbug?

Mar. 16. On Mar. 16. 1916. 1 p.m. So all the poipen and poipaga about St. Patrick's Day in Cork in 1916 had died down. The day passed without incident with the usual procession - larger in numbers and in representation than formerly - and with less than usual number of speeches. Less drink appears to have been consumed too. The O'Leary numbered something over a thousand; the Red Vols. 135 all told - with ropes supposed to be ^{keeping} a place for three of them at the front! Alas! poor ghosts. The "Co." in that morning assured its readers there was no fear of a fight; unnecessary assurance to any one who knows; and on Saturday it gave a glowing account of the order, decorum, sobriety, of the crowd and the processionists; exaggerating the numbers of both Vol. bodies. The Lord Mayor was the only speaker at the meeting - a wishy-washy speech. MacDonnell proposed thanks to him, a Boehmen aside; Harrell seconding. The Gaelic League collection and sale of flags were better than ever before. The sum realized will be double that of last year, which was good; but it is in fact I think the largest ever got in Cork streets for the language. Concert in City Hall, well attended but a very poor performance - due to Peatag & E. Donaghy. Peatag does not

May 21. - understand organising in a city like Cork. Continuation of
debate on my spoken lecture at Spaul in Spauls Sunday night,
poco - as I expected. The war news seems to shrink.

The same old piffle is dished up to us in the papers so that we
nearly cannot hear when important events take place. The
fight around Verdun still continues but it is very difficult
to understand clearly what has taken place there or what is
taking place.

There was an air raid over the Kent coast
on Sunday. An English airman followed one of the German machines
and is reported to have brought it down. Admiral von
Tirpitz has either resigned from the chief command of the German
Fleet or has been forced to retire. What the change means
we cannot say.

We are getting practically no information
regarding the submarine war now going on. A Dutch liner
was sunk recently - the English say by a German submarine;
the Germans say by an English one or by mine. The old
muddling and faction fighting is going on in England. It is
now chiefly over conscription of married men. Mr. Hughes,
Premier of Australia is at present in England and is saying
some things which cannot altogether please to some of the
chief men there. It is foreshadowing a scheme of Imperial
federation - to be put into operation "when the war is over."
That may come indeed if the old Empire survives at all, and

May 21. - will be somewhat a copy of the German Empire. But
what is of perhaps more interest just at the moment is his plain
declaration that England is not the Empire; even Great Britain
is not the Empire, that the colonies, like Canada, Australia
and South Africa, practically independent states, who can
leave the Empire if they chose, demand a share in the control of
the Empire. That is good, at the present time. Can it be
that the people of Canada and Australia feel they have been hurled
into a war by England, without their consent? It would look like
it and it looks as if they are not going to let England be the
complete and absolute boss in the future.

What was the object of the raids on Curtin's, Jennings' and
Shooten's last week? It is not clear. There have been rumours, so
the object of the raids is yet wrapped in mystery. It may simply
have been on the chance of discovering documents which "the authorities"
imagined were to be found. If there were real law or justice ^{any} in
this country under English rule things like these apparently senseless
raids would be counted intolerable. But, as we know how affairs of
government are worked here as one is surprised.

Had another letter from Coll about taxation agitation.
The Cork Consumers' League are having a public meeting to-morrow night
to deal with the question. Sheehan intimated inviting M.P.s. of city and
other public men, but on discussing things with him, I pointed out that

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Mar. 21. - probably the first thing these men would want to do would be to send a deputation to some English minister, which would only be begging and fooling and not in accordance with the ideas of the promoters of the agitation in Dublin. They stand on the independent ground of denying the right of the English Parliament to tax this country at all. Some of the public boards are passing resolutions of protest all right, but I fear they do not quite understand the principle of the matter. It is a simple thing to protest against taxation and is always popular: but that kind of protest won't do this time.

Jock. Haney T.C., one of the magistrates who adjudicated in MacSwiney and Kent cases, has been deprived of his J. P. ship by the Lord Lieutenant! Bravo! The reason for having said at the Corporation that "as long as Ireland was bound to the accursed Empire we would be on the verge of starvation" a perfectly just statement of a historical fact. Every little thing like this now counts in strengthening Irish nationalist opinion.

Notes on 22nd. On Saturday, Spire by bridge. 12.30pm. Tullamore looks large to day. So large that in the place of the "Independent" it has crunched out war headings completely. The cause a fight between the Volunteers and police there, the police - a County Inspector, District Inspector, Head Constable and Sergeant - being wounded, the latter seriously.

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Mar. 22. - As far as can be gathered from the reports, facts are - a crowd gathered in the street outside Volunteer and Cumann na mBan rooms, a hostile crowd, waving Union Jacks and shouting "Down with the line Fiends". Some members of Cumann na mBan were assaulted. Stones were thrown at the windows. Volunteers inside fired some revolver shots. The police burst in, demanded names and were ordered to seize the revolvers and search the place for arms. The Volunteers resisted; some fired at the police, others apparently used any weapon at hand - knives apparently. The police arrested four men charging them with wilfully and feloniously attempting to shoot themselves. Three general facts. An interview with Gulam Hatoon is published. Report of Volunteer officers in Tullamore states police made no efforts to disperse crowd. Volunteers protected Cumann na mBan girls to their homes. Some of the O'Leary injured apparently. A Flag Day for Volunteers in Tullamore on Sunday. Now, the root-point, which does not appear of course, is, why was there a hostile crowd and who or what brought them to the O'Leary headquarters? These crowds hardly ever gather of their own volition. We had experience here, on the night of Blarney's lecture, and in Birmingham. Then what was the cause in Tullamore: who gathered the crowd? Was it official or non-official? Were the police themselves at the bottom of it, acting on a wink from Dublin Castle, or was it surely some few irresponsible? Our "Cork Constitution" has a leading article

Mar. 22. - about the affair. It encourages the "Irish Times" by acknowledging that they were not the attacking party, but it wants to know what the Government is going to do. If the Govt. does nothing then "loyal citizens" must take matters into their own hands and this will lead to civil war! Is not that nice? It is simple fact to state that the "loyal" people hate Irish nationalists far more than they hate the Germans.

What will be the result of the Tullamore affair? I am inclined to think it will have results. Again the "Con." for one possible result the affair will be magnified in Germany to the extent of showing Ireland in rebellion. Seeing how news spreads and grows, that is possible. But results in Ireland? The boys in Tullamore certainly acted in accordance with the general orders of Headquarters that Volunteers are to defend their arms even with this line. It appears only three revolvers were taken in Tullamore. Is Headquarters' view that we are to submit to a repetition of Tullamore affairs all over the country, with numbers in every district being taken up, charged with attempted murder? but no definite result for Irish freedom? Of course, morally, there was no attempted murder on the part of the Volunteers. They were morally right in resisting so far as my common sense and conscience tell me. But, what will be the result in the minds of the men at Headquarters?

The effect on the general body of Oghas? It will harden some, it may frighten others. The effect on police? Ought to make them less aggressive, but may have effect of preparing them for resistance.

Mar. 22. Effect on Dublin Castle and Government? May have effect of attempting disarming. Personally think it may be just as well if it would so that's the very thing would strengthen their spirit. Effect on Irish people? Some timid. But the general attitude of people always has been against police and this is likely to hold, so that little sympathy will be wasted on the police. Memorials will also stir, how Carson's men were allowed to arm without Government interference, how Ireland was saved Conscription (so far) by the existence of the Volunteers. General effect then ought to be good for Irish nationality.

Am I super-sensitive over attitude of T. MacB. and T. MacC. and coming of friends in Oghas towards me? Or is it all imagination on my part? Yesterday morning T. MacB. was up in train with me from Don Macinnis. He never discusses serious Oghas matters with me. Attitude seems to be that such things are not to be discussed with me. I may be wrong in thinking there is any such conscious attitude, but I note the fact. I remarked "that was a wicki-wacki speech of the Lord Mayor's on Patrick's Day". He smiled "Oh! none all right" he said "We were satisfied with it, as he did not go over to the other side." Now, that's where I may be over-sensitive. I noted the "We". "We" meant T. MacC. and himself, but it was put as if the Cork Committee were meant and its use meant that I was an outsider and that my opinion did not count. I hate dwelling on these things but the cumulation of small incidents, remarks, attitudes has been a bit disquieting to me in meaning to show a mistrust of me. But now, a small sequel - the Lord Mayor ^{presided and} spoke at a recruiting meeting yesterday! Just

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MAY 22nd - as I expected I must say. I don't blame the man. He is in a difficult position as Lord Mayor of all the citizens. He has been trying pretty hard to take all sides - an impossible position for anyone but particularly hard in Ireland at the present time. T. MacB., T. MacB. and some of their friends have been trying to create the impression in the O'Leary that he was "all right"; almost one of ourselves. Like an inspiration the reason for this came to me to-day: his presence and action at T. MacB. trial. T. MacB. was not in any way: but by way of saying a bit of T. MacB. to the O'Leary. Deep T. MacB. was put up with in a manner. This was the reason of course why that impression was sought to be created of an "all right" man. But now? Will it make any difference that he has become a renegade, do I expect nothing ^{from} him? I am not surprised. But the others, who allow themselves to be led? I must haul myself up in many things. The true philosophy of life is not to be disturbed in mind over anything except one's sins: though the world urges you to disturb yourself and you apparently lose in the struggle of life by taking things calmly. You are buffeted, tossed about, maybe knocked down, trodden on, despised, unless you fight and struggle and beat others down. But you can endure and "patient endurance attaineth to all things". Then "let nothing disturb thee, nothing affright thee: all things are passing!" That is the higher philosophy. Over again and again in it, oh! my soul.

Donatus
Máire on 24.05.05. On 11.05.05, 9.25 p.m. nine more young men - or boys rather have been arrested at Tullamore. The police, it

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MAY 24th - is reported are looking for two others, one of whom is badly hurt. They have searched for arms also and gave orders that no motor cars were to be hired out or given to "Irish Fenians." Naturally, there is much excitement in the town. I am now inclined to think it was a Dublin Castle organised affair: nothing else could account for a Co. Inspector, District Inspector and Head Constable being in it all at the one time. It may be only a trial case, or it may be the forerunner of other raids and rans. Yes, the more I think of it the more I feel it is a government manoeuvre. Has the Castle time come then to take action? Perhaps. But tactics for Head-Quarters to let them choose their own time. But, this seems fate in Irish affairs.

A debate on the D. of the R. Act; questions by Guinness regarding recent raids in Cork and the removal of Lane from magistracy, were items of interest in the British Commons yesterday. All came to nothing of course beyond giving publicity to those matters.

There is now a cry for universal conscription in England. The partial conscription has been muddled and is consequently a failure. The campaign in Mesopotamia is admittedly muddled. One member made a charge that some officers in the English air service were murdered by being sent in unreliable air machines. The factioning, grumbling, discontent continues.

Protests against over-taxation in Ireland are getting strong.

May 24th - card loud. The I.P.P. have not yet moved. They must
= soon. Some talk of members' salaries being cut off.

That, if done, will make them hop.

Remember that since Fr. Pius spoke at Fr. O'Flanagan's
great meeting in Cork, the Capuchins have been "muzzled"
from Rome. I know they have been ordered not to speak,
but - from Rome? It does not seem, however, that all the
secular priests have been "muzzled" yet. Some of them are
speaking bravely.

The protest meeting under Consumers' League auspices
against taxation, high food prices, etc. was very large
I believe.

Méica on 24th vi. Orluain. O'Connell's. 4 p.m. On Friday, police and soldiers
took away printing plant of the Gaelic Press, Dublin, printers of "The
Spark", "Honesty", "Gaelic Athlete", "The Gael". Reason stated to be
a revolutionary article appearing in the "Gael". Newsagents shops
in Dublin were raided for copies. At the Co-operative stores attached
to Liberty Hall, a revolver was presented at a policeman and he
was told clear out. He came later with a number of other
policemen and a search warrant: he was then allowed to
search the place, but found nothing of importance. The police
it appears also wished to enter Liberty Hall - headquarters of
James Connolly's Trades Union of the Citizen Army - but the Citizen Army had

May 24th - mobilised quickly and fifty armed men barred the way. So, no
raid was attempted there! It appears there are armed guards
at the Hall since. They met the men in the right way: the only
way indeed to preserve liberty.

Ernest Blythe and his fellows have been again arrested:
Blythe at Athos, Co. Limerick; fellows in Athenry. Charge against them
not published. A Limerick man has also been taken up for
uttering seditious statements; he tried to seduce a soldier from his
allegiance to King George. Things are stirring. It looks
as if the Castle authorities were beginning to act decisively at last.
The very, very greatest danger I see is that one of waiting; letting the initiative
to the Castle: having merely a series of disjointed outbreaks in
various places; no definite all embracing plan. But, what's the
use of my thinking; of my speaking; or writing to myself what is the
right thing to do? From various causes I am of no importance in the
councils of the Fenian Fall and, even if I were, there seems a hint of
fate over Irish fights for liberty. Now, as now the policy seems to be to
wait till the British Government moves; till it makes Irishmen
strike anyhow, in ^{perfect} self-defense. It is hard, hard, hard to see what
one considers the right path to pursue in such important matters and to
be utterly impotent to have even one's ideas considered. Last night
Commandant John D. expressed the opinion that he expected serious trouble to take
place in three or four weeks at the outside. He may be right. He may be wrong.

Mar. 27. - I don't think any one is anyway frightened of it now. But what troubles my mind is the happy-go-lucky attitude of those whose very lives may depend on the preparations made. I believe the preparations for defence are all right; but certainly it seems to me there are little or no preparations for success. Of course I must again remind myself that I am an outsider, that there may be plans formed of which I ^{know} nothing, as I am not in a position to know, as those who, in Cork, may know them, seem to have no faith in me, but I judge as one who has been inside, as to speak, for years, having the trend of opinion and the possibilities.

The war news is interesting but not striking. Rabbits interesting to note that there is factionism in Germany, as well as in England - "factionism" it is called in Ireland. Some of the Socialists there are apparently not in agreement with the Imperial government there. English factionism continues strong and there is fierce criticism of the conduct of the campaign in Mesopotamia. It appears to be a badly muddled ^{at} Gallipoli - if not worse so.

Mörs on 25.00. Dramlough. On the train between Dromlough and Dromlough. 9 a.m. The struggle between the British Government & the O'Leary is coming nearer. It may be only a day now - at most it looks as if it can be only weeks. A manifesto from the O'Leary Council, their quarters, issued yesterday, published in this morning's paper makes the issue clear enough in one particular. Well, God

Mar. 28. give us all wisdom & courage!

Spoto bridge. 11.30 a.m. The news in country edition of "Constitution" consists of 1. The manifesto; 2. Orders of deportation to Glyke, Shillons (who are in prison) and to Alf. Monaghan (who is not in prison yet apparently). These are to be deported to England without trial or further ado: forcibly deported; 3. Arrest in Tipperary of a District Councillor for "uttering seditious statements"; 4. account of a Volunteer manoeuvre in Clonahilly district last Sunday. A recruiting meeting was held in Ballinacree and the O'Learys from there went to Clonahilly; 5. A strong, insulting, independent letter from John B. Redmond, condemning in almost violent terms the agitation against overwhelming taxation; denouncing as Pro-Germans those who are organising that agitation and stating Ireland is willing to bear any taxation for the war! 6. account of preliminary trial of Tullamore boys.

There must be further news in the city edition, as I have tried seven shops for a copy but failed to get it. Its city paper has "astonishing reports" - "The Sinn Féiners".

The issue I imagine is very near, if the Government takes up the challenge contained in the manifesto. The challenge is contained in the statement that we deny the right of the Government to disarm us and that if disarmament is attempted it can only lead to bloodshed. Very clear, straight, correct.

May 28. - The "Trecman's Journal" and the "Irish Independent" have no word
about the Volunteer statement. They have small notices of the deportations as of
things of no importance whatever. The "Trecman" has Redmond's letter and
one from John Dillon, as well as a long leading article denouncing all
and sundry who dare to say Ireland is overtaxed by the British
Treasury. They are "Pro-Germans", "traitors", "Granks", "As-
boodies", "enemies of the Irish Party", "anti-recruiters" &c I thought these
things had been killed by ridicule by this, but it seems this is not so.
How can this long burdened people have patience with these politicians.
Here in the plainest manner Ireland is being robbed, and the
gentlemen of the I.P.P. say "All's well. We must bear the robbery."

Had a chat with a few of the O'Leary chief men here. (Miss S. was in Dublin on Sunday. I expect he has the latest news for this I was talking to. I gather from them there is no initiative of an organized fight. Things are to be allowed take their course in the same happy-go-lucky fashion as ever in Irish history. Every man to do the best for himself, avoid arrest if possible; fight if he has opportunity and inclination. What I heard is almost a denial, in a way, of the manifesto in this way, that, reading the manifesto one would imagine great deeds were in contemplation but such I learn is not at all the case. Whether the deportations will be allowed or not no one knows - it seems they will and then a "grievance" made of them. But things were nearly coming to a fight in Dublin last Friday night!

Mar. 28th believe. When the police were ordered entrance to Liberty Hall, the military got orders from General Friend to be ready. They would have acted too - such runs the story - but that Chief Secretary Birrell countermanded the order. Major Price, who is normally in command in Dublin and who is liberal minded was away and Friend is not liberal minded. The outlook for any successful

liberal minded. The outlook for any successful action seems black. One man I was talking to uttered very depressing sentiments: he was depressed at the apathy of the people generally. I do not agree there. If there is a grievous

generally. I do not agree there. If there is a grievous fault committed now, it will be, as often happened before in this history, ^{due to} ~~the fact that~~ the leaders of the physical force movement not acting quickly enough. 'Tis a mistake now, as it appears to me to always have been a mistake, to allow the Government the initiative. Mr. Wilton Buelo a Buelo, - no cop on scene and

initiative. No. 1. At hon Enlele a Bualoi, no cop. ba Sape an
bulle pen a Bualoi go Hobann, papa bid an Rualoiap ulthar punny.
The 29. Tra Cusom. Spaw bryde. 12. 35 pm. Only a little
time now. Another young man arrested in Kuroch in

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coming out in discussions in the English Parliament.

1. An air raid on Mar. 19th of which no accounts in papers. Admitted only accounts are given when civilians are killed or injured. No accounts given of soldiers killed or military damage done. A striking avowal that now of healing in accounts. 2. Naval activity - no accounts given practically. Just a few here and there. 3. Charge of murdering airmen by sending them up in unreliable airships. 4. Labour trouble in South Wales and on the Clyde. Some of the leaders at the Clyde ^{have been} deported, without trial (Can it be they will be sent to Ireland while Irishmen are deported to England). Declared by some members the House of Commons is now the only place in England where a man can say certain things without being taken up under the R. of the R. acts. Thus has English boasting of liberty fallen!

S.p. a short paragraph in "Independent" to-day about cancelling of order to military in Dublin on Friday, bearing out what I heard yesterday. Estimates of ships sunk by submarines during march, 34 or 36. There were twice as many I should say at sea. Railways - Fishguard service stopped again. Terrible snowstorms in England. Cold here, but yet more like April weather than March.

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account in evening paper of a ship torpedoed off Baltimore and rumors of three or four sunk off Cork Harbor.

How free is English respect for small nationalities! an English agent in Candia caught by a trap for the German Consul. The trap was discovered and the spy was arrested by the Greek authorities and imprisoned. Five English warships, followed by ten other allied warships thereupon arrived at Candia; declared a blockade of the Candia coast; demanded the release of the agent; and that the German Consul should be given up to them!

England is out to crush militarism, at home! Soldiers broke up luncheon peace meetings in London, and last week broke up a meeting of married men called in connection with Lord Derby's pledge or impulse that single men would be called up before married men which pledge, by the way, the "noble Lord" has no intention of keeping. That action of course was not "Prussian militarism" & no, twice English militarism, a thing we know well in Ireland.

Maíza an Stáid. Dia h-donn. 4.10 p.m. In Brimslague Boys' National School. My last night here.

Albáin an Caomhóla. Dia Sácráin. Spéir bheag. Noon. a glorious spring day, with birds singing, bright sun shining, nature stirring and man working. Had not time to write in Brimslague last night and now notes have crowded thick and fast. Finally, there was a meeting series of meetings of protest against deportations in and around Dublin mansion & one on Thursday night. The Lord Mayor's house was provided and strong speeches were

April I. - delivered by Ald. Kelly, Rev. Mac Beall, two priests and others. Many priests sent letters or telegrams to the meeting. Afterwards an enthusiastic crowd paraded the streets and it appears another shot was fired. Very few Volunteers, as Volunteers were on the streets apparently. A bicycle lamp was broken and a young man brought up for it. From report of his trial it appears he was actively of an opposite opinion to the crowd - which just shows police ways in Ireland. Most of the papers yesterday "wrote up" the "scenes of disorder" on the streets rather than the meetings - the "Cork Constitution" excelling them all - and thereby increasing its circulation enormously. There is no doubt but the meetings were huge, were strong, were enthusiastic. But, I always ask, what then?

Burnell, as shown by replies to himself regarding breaking up of type of Gaelic Press, is getting nasty; more and more cynical. Public meetings are all right as indications of public opinion *sic* *in* *cum* *sic* *synopsia* *no* *nam* *any*. A prohibition against sending envelopes by post has been published - indicating that this must have been taking place.

The trouble in the Clyde is not yet settled. The deportation of some Anarchists from there has also naturally roused the temper of many of the workers. But, if we can trust some newspaper reports, things are quietening down and nothing will come of it in that district. There is also labour trouble in Liverpool and the road and rail men are showing a disposition to strike against the labour bosses. There is an agitation on by the oligarchies for extraction of income tax. If the working classes in England suffer this well - let them. They can seize the reins of government of England if pressed.

April I. - if they wish, if they are determined. Under the working of the Dublin acts they too are being deprived of many of their elementary rights and liberties. If they stand the tyranny of the ruling classes so much the worse for them. But the English are probably an even less revolutionary people than the Irish. And at present of course they are getting good wages in military supply work.

Mr. Dequith has gone to Rome from the conference of Allies' political leaders in Paris and it is reported he is to visit the Pope. ~~Circumstances may be possible?~~

The Germans have won a victory near Verdun - decisive. It is admitted in the French official report as well as claimed in the German one. Even the pro-English "Cork Examiner" announces it, so its decision now must be underlaid!

A Zeppelin raid on England late last night nearly this morning. Only very meagre official accounts yet given.

The submarine war continues. A ship Russian it is now admitted was sunk off Cork coast last Saturday. The crew taken on board the German submarine. Later the submarine hailed a Baltic fishing smack and transferred the crew to it. They were brought into Lifford in photographs. Five excellent accounts of treatment on the submarine so does captain of smack give of his submarine commander treats him. These things are really a matter of course, but there is so much not spoken and written that I suppose some poor foolish people would expect the Germans to let this captain!

Abán an Capulá: O'Donnogh: 9.50 a.m. The funeral here ~~had~~ under more to be ready and stand to their arms for 25 hours - 12 of which have passed. At a prop. of Sinné again a mberé nup. Inge as no beré. It is no inqum pín as pín and air spread. Mappín pín tóné-ge. When. Zeppelin raid on England seems to have been in

April 2:- a very large scale. One Zeppelin was brought down, however. Some down in the Thames estuary. The crew were made prisoners, but the ship itself was lost.

This is the first German ship brought down on English territory.

Abp. an. 30th. (On leave). Sp. 20. 2. 1916. 6. pm. There was another Zeppelin raid on England on Saturday night and still another, extending to Scotland, last night. The "German official account" - or what is termed so - of Friday night's one is published in this evening's papers. The British Press Association declares it all a lie with the exception of the statement that one Zeppelin was brought down.

But here's the fix we're in - we do not know if it is really the German official or not. It appears to be incomplete and how are we to tell whether the British have "censored" it or not. Between assertion and contradiction, counter assertion and counter contradiction one is left wondering as to how exactly things stand.

We now know that the British give no accounts of military damage done by Zeppelins or of soldiers killed. But we can judge about events that when raids take place on a large scale, large damage is done, and ordinary reason tells one that panic must prevail. So that no matter what the reports are, common sense is enough to tell us that these raids are very formidable for England.

Mr. Asquith has visited the Pope. In the very same paragraph we are informed that His Holiness is to make renewed efforts for peace. So that there is a connection acknowledged between those two statements.

Further, Asquith went to the Pope direct from the Conference of the political chiefs of the Allies, held in Paris last week "to discuss trade after the war."

April 3:- Then, the Crown Prince of Serbia is in London at present and there have been many codings and prings. What do these things portend if not efforts at settlements. The stuff written around Asquith's going to the Vatican is eloquent of it; the plan for the Pope, the tributes to his influence amongst people in the warring countries and so on. How the English had enough of the war? They should have. They have failed to break Germany out with the ring around that country. They may not have suffered so much as France or Russia but they certainly are getting a fair whacking. Their merchant ships are going quickly enough now to the bottom of the sea. They are far from flattened out yet, as now might be a favourable time for them to endeavour to save themselves.

I wonder will there be any results in Ireland from pressure at the Vatican by British ministers there? It often happened before that there were acquiescent receipts and highbats that.

There was another meeting, open air, in Dublin on Saturday about the deportations, which, by the way, are probably accomplished. The speakers, old Kelly, Tom MacDonagh and others, deprecated the use of violence in the streets. Rightly so perhaps amongst an undisciplined crowd. But it may be asked by some, how is a crowd to prevent broken heads by police batons? There is also a big strike on in Dublin. Our special order in Cork are now off - no developments.

By good luck I have been able to see the "Irish World" of New York of early February and the "Catholicism" of March 1915. It is somewhat surprising, knowing how close the censorship is, to find how well informed the

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April 3rd - former was of the situation in Ireland. To instance, it had minute particulars of the arrest of Thomas MacSwiney. I had also a good cartoon showing John Redmond and Wm. O'Brien as recruiting sergeants grovelling before John Bull, offering bribe money as recruits and Bull, holding out his hands, saying "Bless you, my children." The "Catholic News" has a pretty full report of the great convention of March 4th and 5th. An organization called "The friends of Irish freedom" was established and a long, temperately worded statement was issued from the convention. The whole affair seems to have been characteristic of clearness and strength; nothing in the nature of flamboyancy or ruminis is shown. It has just the spirit of, say, the Volunteers, plus the Gaelic League, plus the Industrial Association and shows what outsiders term "the Irish Revival" at its sanest and best. The I.R.P. is definitely repudiated and so is its attitude to England and the British Empire. The account surprised me somewhat as, somehow or other, I have part of the foolish idea that the Irish in America are usually given to wild, whirling statements. But here there were none of them. There were 2,000 delegates present, and it was interesting to note some of the names. Of course John Devoy was there, but there were also men like Humphrey O'Sullivan, the manufacturer, who, the last time he was in Cork gave five to George Cooke of the "Examiner" for the Volunteers. Altogether the convention was excellent, steady, patriotic and emphatically on the true nationalist line and strong in the declaration that Ireland's claim must be considered when terms of peace are being considered; equally strong in declaration of American neutrality.

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Abpán an tAobla. Oia Máirt. Spóilspóir 6.15pm. The "Good Constitution" is still writing up "Linn Tein" doings under big headings. Report of another meeting held last night in Dublin re deportations and as a recruiting rally at which O'Riordan stated despite proclamations and all rifles were being imported. Large numbers of recruits are apparently joining the O'Glas in Dublin. Judging by reports there appear to be lively times in that city and there are many rumours going around Cork of doings there, shooting of policemen, throwing of soldiers into the Riffy and so on, most of which are as dark as fable. I generally discredit rumours but, when they are general, they show unrest and an expectation of things likely to happen. And things are likely to happen now; dramatic things, sudden things; it all depends upon the Dublin Castle government. Rumour has it that the military authorities want to move against the Irish Volunteers but that the civil authorities deem it at present inadvisable to move on a large scale. This is probably correct. The Volunteers now at headquarters will not move apparently unless the Government moves. That being so, if the Government let things go, nothing beyond brave words will be heard; words of criticism and words of defiance, good things in themselves, expressions and moulders of public opinion but yet not what a Government need be afraid of if it be wise. The strike troubles in England are apparently finished again. So we gather. "Have" has triumphed. I have heard nothing regarding deportation of Blythe, Bellas, Monaghan - they have I expect, been deported. Thus here, too, "have" triumphs. The resolution of the Dublin Financial Relations Committee is now meeting bad treatment at the hands of Irish public boards since Redmond Dillon letters. The public boards

April 4th - "we have nothing to do with 'Irish Tories' and 'pro-Bernanos'." "Every thing is safe in the hands of Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party." That's the cry. Did we not know how strong is the spirit of Irish Nationality among the mass of the people at present one would almost despair of a country that has such "representations" - such real foolishness in its public life. Foolish from the very narrowest standpoint, from the most selfish point of view. I was talking to a man to-day, a good Irishman enough and a good business man, who thought Mr. Redmond was playing his cards well and had got the sympathy of the British democracy for Ireland. I disagreed utterly. But, even, I argued, you may be as loyal as you like to the British Empire and yet consider that Ireland could not afford to pay the enormous taxation - enormous for her, but quite insignificant for the war expenditure. He agreed that this was partly so, and that certainly Ireland had special claims. Then I pointed out that the democracy had no real power in the government in England, that that country was still ruled by the plutocracy. He partly agreed. Then I argued - as he is a Home Ruler - Ireland's only claim for self-government is on national grounds and as such is an international question that should be discussed at the peace conference at the end of the war irrespective of what England may or may not do. He hoped the Irish in America would see that it was so discussed. And, I said if Ireland is not a Nation, with the rights of a small nationality, just as important in a European settlement as Belgium, then indeed we ought to be satisfied with government from Westminster and not want Home Rule. And there I left him.

Abp.án an 5aola. The Curfew. The Curfew on Sunday 7.30 p.m. There was still another Zeppelin visit on East Coast England early yesterday morning. Usual report - no damage done. A powder factory in Kent "quite accidentally" took fire the other day. Over 200 casualties. Telegraphic communication with London is seriously interrupted - attributed to the storms of last week. Holland is taking some steps towards mobilisation - consequent upon the recent allied Conference in Paris and rumours that the allies have a notion of getting into Holland in order to strike at Germany. The "Independent" has a small paragraph to-day, headed, "What does it mean?", to the effect that two military majors have been appointed magistrates for Dublin city and county. What does it mean indeed - majors Dorr and Swan re-incarcerated? A Volunteer Captain at Mullbridge, Co. Clare was sentenced by the Resident Magistrate there to 2 months hard labour for saying to Volunteers on St. Patrick's Day to defend their weapons with their lives; that to shoot in such circumstances was not murder but self defence; the description would never be passed for Ireland while they had weapons. Two months hard for that! "Disaffection to His Majesty the King". Those fellows ought to be real soldiers and not "tin pot warriors" was the "judicial" remark from the bench. I have not noted that the sentence of Charles Cheavasse was confirmed at Quarter Session in November last week. There was a trial between

April 5th - the magistrates 4 for Cheveson, 4 against and the County Court Judge, Mr. Haynes, said he took that as affirming the conviction. He also states, in the course of the case, that he would convict any witness who came there and gave his evidence in Irish! This is quite in keeping with the administration of English law in Ireland. I think I noted that Fitzpatrick was acquitted for much the same "offense".

The English Chancellor of the Exchequer McKenna introduced his Budget yesterday. It deals in hundreds and thousands of millions. Mr. Wm. O'Brien, Mr. T. M. Healy and Kinnell made some case for special treatment for Ireland, in fact a fairly good case as things go in the English House, but "the watchdogs" - the I.P.P. were silent, so that Ireland will get no special treatment. Indeed why should it if we are all one with England? Yet, Mr. O'Brien's argument is fair enough too from his point of view: Ireland is willing to do what it can to win the way to make sacrifices and so on but is really unable to bear the financial burden on any scale compared with Great Britain. A fair argument one would think even for the I.P.P. But 'twill not avail a jot. The Poor Law Boards and Councils are throwing out "the Sinn Féin" resolutions against the burden of taxation, so there will be no effort on the part of the I.P.P. to save Ireland from the terrible money tribute. I cannot see why even the most "loyal" Irishman could not protest against the crushing taxation, though indeed it is doubtful if any protest would now avail. The British Treasury must get money, little or much.

April 5th - It was acknowledged in 1896 that Ireland was undertaken by the English Government to the extent of some £16 millions beyond even what under the Act of Union it was entitled to; this for 80 years or so meant a sum of some 200 millions or more but the rotter instead of having any notion of paying back that debt has piled on millions and there are fools of Irishmen to say to him "Quite right, good sir!" Is it not disturbing, maddening? It is like an inevitable tragedy; like a horrible something that is so huge and monstrous and all devouring that we cannot get away from it but must look fascinated till swallowed up. A monster sucks the vitals of Ireland, blood and treasure, treasure and blood and there are those to say "why 'tis a noble thing and a first thing to pay him his tribute: if he did not gobble us a worse monster would." Is the land damned? The picture of Moloch^{gold} can be a thousandth part as ugly as this of Britain which is before our eyes. What was the Babylonian captivity of the Jews to this of Ireland? And the most horrible sight of all are the willing captives, the agghon sycophantic slaves, comrades in their own land of any expression of dissent to say nothing of freedom. May God save us.

Abp. n. an. y. w. t. o. Du. M. m. 11.40 a.m. 1 Scana many-cup life Molaza Dom 23 mainaim op n. op a. p. ile, Sean a. C. u. l. a. m. op "copparb" equate a. n. y. a. j. a. l.

1.25 p.m. Remained in the abbey for a short while then had a delightful walk. The day is a typical spring day, warm, with light showers and at times a pleasant breeze. There is a delightful hush about

Appl. Y. - noisier in the country on such days as this, broken at times by the song of a lark, the bark of a dog, or the crowing of a cock, or by the sound of a human voice.

I walked here from Bandon yesterday, some nine miles by the most direct road. That was also very pleasant. This is a pleasant spot, and peaceful. War and other news seems very far off, yet there a few things to note.

A paragraph in yesterday's "Cork Examiner" states that a major Keenan would ask the Chief Secretary for Ireland "whether, with regard to the recent refusal of arms and arrest of leaders of the Irish Volunteers, he has evidence to show that, before receiving arms, members of the force are compelled to sign a sworn declaration not to surrender their arms to any authority in Ireland; and whether the Irish Government intends to proceed with the disarmament of the force?" Also "whether he is aware that of a consignment of ammunition recently sent to the military at Haulbowline, Co. Cork, 1500 rounds were missing when the consignment arrived at Luccanstown; and whether this missing ammunition has since been recovered?"

The answer to that ^{first} question may be "interesting to all Volunteers, but it is not given in the country editions of the morning papers

The fuller report of ^{case of} Brennan, Captain Volunteer, Smanilebridge, Co. Clare, is more interesting than short summary shows. He was sentenced to 3 months hard labour and so "Independent" states. [The correct word was not he who a little thing like that is incorrect?].

Mr. Moran, Solr. for Brennan "submitted the prosecution was grossly

unfair and unjust, as similar language had been used in the North of Ireland by Gellagher Smith and his Edward Carson, and the Government had made no attempt to prosecute. Sir Edward even threatened the Government that he would bring the Kaiser over."

"Chairman (Mr. Slattery, R.M.) If you bring Sir Ed. Carson before me on your case, I'll be delighted to convict him, and so would the other magistrates."

"Mr. Studdert - He would get 'socks' (laughter)."

"Mr. Moran said his client only gave right and legal advice to the people to keep their guns, to retain their own property."

"In the course of a lengthy judgment, the Chairman quoted the stirring words of the great Prelate, the Archbishop of Tuam, a great Irishman, against whom even Mr. Brennan would not be so presumptuous as to put his opinion, in the appeal in his Pastoral to rally to the flag of the country in this great crisis. He also quoted a speech of Mr. John Redmond, the leader of the Irish people and a great statesman.

Then the defendant laughed.

The chairman said he noticed that Mr. Brennan laughed at the mention of Mr. Redmond's name. That was an outrageous thing for any Irishman to do in any assemblage of decent Irishmen."

Brennan said he obeyed Headquarters and would obey Headquarters. He did not retract one word of what he said.

The R.M. said "that the Headquarters that gave such advice to young boys should be prosecuted." Three months hard in Rimerick Gaol, unanimous bench of five.

1. Apr. 7. I have written out this case pretty fully as it is such a clear, straight issue on fair logic and argument. From it emerges the following facts. 1. To advise Volunteers to stick to their guns is a "crime", 2. To obey headquarters of the O.G. is spreading that advice or acting on it is a "crime". 3. Irish Volunteers have not the same right as Sir Edward Carson had, (a) to preach resistance to the government, (b) to arm and train Volunteers; (c) to express opinions. 4. It is very wrong to bought at Mr. Redmonds name. 5. An Irish Volunteer has no right to his opinion or to his property if the property is a gun. The issue and the result in Brennan's case could not be clearer. Of course it may be said those things have only been laid down by a Petty Sessions Bench of Irish magistrates but as against that "the crown" orders the prosecution and all Ireland knows "the crown" would back up the magistrates' verdict.

The restriction on volunteers are still receiving bad treatment but here and there indeed there is a voice to proclaim independence of thought and to question the infallibility of the I.R.P. But this is only a voice not general on public grounds.

Apr. 17. 11.0. The Mags. opened 11.0 a.m. From yesterday's papers - Mellows and Blythe have been reported to England. The Volunteers in Dublin, 1,300 strong, and including 500 recruits, assembled on Sunday in Parnell Square and marched through the city, carrying a banner indicating that the parade was "Dublin's reply to the Banishment Order."

April 11th. Speaking at a concert, Connac Dail "referred to the deportation of certain Volunteer organisers as, for the present, 'casualties'."

"Sun Fern. More Defiance. Motor car seized. Rifles in Parcel. Seized by Police." These are headings from yesterday's "Cork Constitution" over the account of "an incident" which occurred in Dublin on Sunday. A motor car was held up in College Green by the police. There were two men in the car - Joseph Doyle and Patrick Kenny of Fines, Co. Wexford. The car was searched by the police and, as it appears in this morning's papers, 8 new U.S.A. shot guns, 10 rounds of ammunition, 50 rounds of revolver ammunition, 10 home-forged bayonets, some revolvers and other ammunition and papers, including a copy of the "Irish Volunteer", were discovered. Police court proceedings yesterday. The car is owned by a Mr. Murphy, C.E. Wexford but "he did not know the purpose for which it was being used." The young men were taking the guns, etc. from Dublin to Wexford. From statements made in court they seem to be very simple minded young men, though one of them had three revolvers on his person, two loaded. The simplicity may be accounted for - who gave the police information? The case is pretty clear against them. They have broken Fenian's "law". There appears to be efforts to induce them to give information.

A great protest meeting against Treachery was held in the Phoenix Park on Sunday, Walter Cole presiding.

The Rt. Hon. James Campbell, K.C., M.P. of the Orange Brigade, has

April 11th - has appointed His Majesty's Attorney General for Ireland, Mr. John Gordon, of the new brigade, having been made a judge. This is the gentleman Campbell who was an obstacle to the legal hanging of the I. R. B. when it was proposed some time since that he be made Lord Chancellor. What have they to say now? Apparently nothing.

April 12th. Dia Ceudain. Tpoicav na tannan. 7 p.m. My life has been a strenuous and riving one - comparatively - for the past few days. Monday evening cycled, ^{from Cork} to Traishannon, a lovely spot on the banks of the Brandon river about 14 miles from here, to open a class there. It was my first cycle ride for two years or so, but I was well pleased with the exertion. The night coming wet, left my bicycle in the school and went home by train. Yesterday evening came here for some traps, then took a car from here to Traishannon (asp. Co. Limerick). A beautiful drive Past Poll na long where there is an old castle of the De Roys. After 9 p.m. took my bicycle for Cork. Went well till within about 6 miles. Then a puncture. Had to walk over 5 miles, getting home at 11.30. Here again this evening.

Heard of news to-day - Inglemore prisoners again charged and uncharged. Criminals released, police sergeant above not yet out of danger. Looks like a dodge, as general report is that the sergeant is all right. Reported for a Belfast paper "Northern Whig" that 500 unfranchised bayonets, consigned from a Sheffield firm, for a Belfast firm, to a cullery house in Dublin, were seized by the police. No

April 12th - corroboration in Dublin, says the "Irish Independent."

Police have read the Dublin list for newspapers in Cork and Dublin, warning them that if they sell "seditious papers" they are liable to be prosecuted and the papers confiscated. Sounds legal enough at first sight, but queries - Are the newspapers to read all the papers to see if there is sedition in them? Are they to be authorities on what is sedition? Of course, in common sense, every one knows which papers are meant, but still there can easily be quibbles. Are the "Reader," "New Ireland," "Clare's Irish," "Catholic Bulletin" "seditious"? I would say offhand "The Workers' Republic" is, from the authorities point of view, but indeed I could not say if the other four are. The action taken shows cowardice on the part of Dublin Castle and intimidation on the part: cowardice in not suppressing what it considers "seditious papers"; intimidation on newspapers, who are absolutely guiltless. Of course this kind of intimidation on a small scale has been going on for a long while, but not glaringly governmental: just the act of the police here and there.

Mr. Justice Keary is perturbed over "the spirit abroad" in Dublin city. Opening the Assizes there, he has practically no criminal cases before him, but he has delivered a lecture on "the spirit abroad", a spirit of sedition, anarchy, and what not. The failure of recruiting for the English army perturbs him. The papers of the Irish Ireland papers perturb him. "Every decent citizen"

April 12th would welcome drastic action. Of such are judges in Ireland, of such they have been, of such they will be as long as the English rule Ireland. Keany's remarks are pretty fully quoted in the "Daily Mail". They will appear fine in other countries at the time Mr. Prime Minister Asquith is replying to a speech of the German Chancellor - Bethmann Hollweg. I did not see the Chancellor's speech, but Asquith's reply is unimpressive in many particulars to an Irishman - amusing, if it were not so serious that cant, humbug and cynical hypocrisy should rule. Here are specimens - "As the result of the war we intend to establish the principle that international problems must be handled by free negotiation on equal terms between free peoples and that this settlement shall no longer be hampered by the overmastering dictation of a Government controlled by a military caste." A fine principle. But let's examine Asquith's tone pious to speak. He has said the Irish people are a free people. He said that in Dublin. He - a son of his former Liberal Government - acknowledged in Westminster that the Irish people were a nation. Very well. Will he admit the representatives of the "free" Irish Nation to the peace conference? We know well he will not if he can prevent it. We know what his government would do to any such proposal. And regarding the dictation of a military caste - two years ago (it seems like a long time ago) there was what is known

April 12th as the "Curragh mutiny". Oh! no, of course that was not German militarism, so 'twas all a fight for the rights of free nations as *Soleil* from E. to the "Daily Mail"; in effect, says to-day, all Mr. Asquith's pronouncements are as clear as bog water! "There is another aspect of the war to which we have from the beginning attached capital importance. We are in this struggle the champions, not only of treaty rights, but of the independent status and free development of the weaker countries." (Can Irish flesh and blood, feeling the treatment of Ireland, really stand that humbug?) "In those circumstances, cynicism could hardly go further than in the Chancellor's claim that it is for Germany's of all Powers, to insist when peace comes, upon 'giving the various races the chance of free evolution along the lines of their mother tongue and of national individuality'." (Well, as far as an ignorant Irishman can see, Germany has just as much - or as little - of a right to claim as England to insist on this. But there's more. Histen ye heavens!) "Apparently, this principle is to be applied, I suppose, on the approved Prussian lines to Poland and to Belgium. As regard to the first of these countries, the Poles have already had some illuminating experience as to what is meant in Berlin by 'free evolution along the lines of the mother tongue'. The attempt to Germanise Prussian Poland has been for the last 20 years at once the strenuous purpose and the colossal failure of Prussian domestic policy. No one knows this better than the Chancellor, for he has been in his time one of its principal instruments, as for instance, when he tried to colonise Poland

April 12th with German speaking farmers." [What! what! oh! incredible tyranny, oh! monstrous iniquity that Ireland - I mean Poland - should be anglicised - pardon Germanised - and that Posen - Ulster should be colonized by English speaking farmers - pardon, pardon - German speaking]. [20 years strenuous purpose - 20 years resolute government, Salisbury like. But I'm getting mixed. 'Tis not 20, but 400 years strenuous efforts to Germanise Poland; since Henry of Bluff memory lived indeed it has been going on strenuously and a colossal failure withal. The poor Poles!]. There's more of the fearful iniquities - "The use of the Polish language in the schools was restricted until it was only allowed for religious instruction, and, finally, even this concession was withdrawn, and the little Polish children had to learn to say their prayers in German." [Horrible!! Awful!! Fearful!!! Frightful!!!! Now that could never, never, never happen under 'Ollie' government. Quoad a Cheavappa can certify this. So can ten thousand other Irishmen still living who knew of the "tally stick" used in "Pohish" schools to make the little Polish children "speak German" and be decent." Against you Asquith!]. "The wholesale strike of the children, the barbarous floggings that were inflicted on them, the arrests and imprisonments of their mothers, form a black chapter even in the annals of Prussian culture." [They apparently leave Sergeant Applebys and Judge H. J. in - Posen!]. Well, well.

April 12th - will Cant and Ansbach always rule? God grant not. Satan reproving Sin; the Pot calling the Kettle black next in it with Mr. Henry Herbert Asquith, present Prime Minister of England answering Chancellor Bethmann Hallweg.

Apart from above Asquith's speech is interesting & indicating terms of peace. The allies do not want to destroy Germany; they want to crush the Prussian military caste; that's all. So says Asquith now. "Trade after the War"; "Education after the War" and things like these are occupying predominant attention at present. There are conferences, associations being formed, discussions, articles in the papers, legislation of Chambers of Commerce, etc. all these seem to indicate an early peace. International Trade agreements are being, or have been, arranged by both groups of belligerents. Asquith's speech indicates terms of peace as I have said.

The only country apparently where no organisation for trade or commerce is being made is our own beautiful land. To do anything here might shatter Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party. In England, the Metal Tax is being opposed, the Mineral Water Tax is criticised, the railway ticket taxed is to be fought against; to talk of taxes in Ireland is Sinn Féinism, open pro Germanism and hence anathema. Bishop O'Donnell of Raphoe - a whole-hearted Redmondite - counsel, however, less consumption in Ireland of taxed commodities. Rank Sinn Féinism that. That was the one of the very bad rock planks of Sinn Féinism and was laughed at by all good Parliamentarians.

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Cork City and County Archives

Apl. 12. Bissello's reply to Major Newman ~~is~~ ^{an} action against the O'Leary is what might have been expected. It is inadvisable in the public interest to say what steps are being taken against the Irish Volunteers, but the body is getting close attention.

Meanwhile prosecutions for sedition are also going on in Glasgow and meetings are being broken up in London.

Apr 11 1916. Dapinson. Sp. Bp. 10 p.m. I have read Von Bethman Hollweg's speech in the weekly paper. As is Asquith's reply terms of peace are there outlined. Generally, Germany intends to retain what it has won and so do its allies. That is the general impression created. But there is talk of safeguarding national characteristics - Flemish in Flanders for instance. Tribute is paid to the heroism of the French in the war. England is indicated as the arch enemy and the great disturber of European peace and outrage of international rights at sea. Russian rule in Poland and Finland is referred to. I am much mistaken but the German Chancellor made a point about English rule in Ireland, but there is no mention of any such thing in the report I have seen.

'Tis out what I suspected about Asquith's visit to the Pope. From "La Croix" (Paris) - "Rome 3rd April, according to information from a most reliable source, in the audience which the Pope accorded to Mr. Asquith, the English Prime Minister drew the Pope's attention to the rôle which the Catholic Bishops of Ireland

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Apl. 13. - could fulfil in an opportune manner, by intervening with the people to bring about a union, so desirable at present, with the other parts of the British Empire. Mr. Asquith assured the Pope, among other things, that after the War the Home Rule question would be settled in an equitable manner."

Any Irishman who has studied events, past and present, might have suspected that. We all know in Ireland what it means that our gray God so inspire Benedict with truth regarding Ireland, and we have yet, thank God, a few untaught Bishops in Ireland.

The "Freeman's Journal" is perturbed over the Campbell appointment, far more perturbed than over the taxation question. It anticipates coercion as a result. Coercion against whom? "Sinn Féiners, pro-Germans and Cranks" of course. But, the "Freeman" might welcome such coercion. Yet, it fears the result of coercion, knowing something of the spirit of Ireland.

Mr. O'Brien made a good speech in Westminster about Irish taxation. But it is no good. William lost his chance. He took England's side at a critical time and is not forgiven by his own.

The English suffered a big defeat in Mesopotamia. The other day it was acknowledged they failed in an attempt to push forward to relieve General Townsend in Kut el Amara. The Turkish account now published shows what a defeat it was. Townsend will have to surrender in all likelihood. Not alone will that be a military defeat, but it will be

April 13 - another damaging blow to English prestige in the East.

The British Empire will not fall to pieces suddenly and dramatically, it will crumble piecemeal. In time to come people may exclaim

the decisive turning stroke was; but the actual fact, as in all Empires will be slow decay.

And there are really more evidences of the slow decay now, I think, than were apparent at any time previously since the war began.

Another attempt is being made at general compulsion. It is not for winning the war; that, really and truly, now seems a hopeless task for the Allies. It is with a view to keeping the democracy of England under foot when the war is over.

Though it is almost step by step, the Germans are gaining ground round London. If they succeed in this objective there peace will be appreciably nearer. Owing to the lies and humbug and suppressions in the papers it is almost impossible to get anything like a clear view of things, but there are certain admitted facts - the Central Powers have won in Belgium, in Poland, in the Balkans, in the Dardanelles, in Asia Minor.

True, they have not broken through in the west; but neither have the Allies.

The English have failed to attack Germany; the Germans have not completely blockaded England. England's naval power, as far as we know, is not seriously crippled; but the German fleet is intact.

So the matter stands.

The English and French have occupied Cephalonia. The Greek

April 13 - Government has protested strongly. Poor Greek Government!

apparently you have not how deeply the Allies love small nationalities and how they respect small nations' rights.

Looking back on the fight made for the educational grants the easy gagging of Irish public boards by the I.P.P. on the over-education question is astonishing.

The public boards protested strongly over a few thousands; they are almost completely gagged on a question of millions which are bound to have the effect of crippling Ireland in every department of its national life, if it remains tied to England.

It is not surprising and not a little disheartening to find how stupid and foolish many Irishmen can be on a matter that one would think would have the effect of rousing the whole country.

Well, as John Mitchell might say, if Irishmen are willing to be made bigger of by taxation - let them be bigger and be damned!

Wynan Head. Oia Kalamo. 11 pm. Tiz Molaga. Replying to Guinell, Birrell states that Mellors and Blythe are not imprisoned nor interned in England.

They will have to remain there, however, till the "Competent Military Authority" wishes to allow them to return.

The Wexford men arrested in the motor car in Dublin last Sunday got 3 months imprisonment.

The police sergeant, to their solicitor, said he knew of nothing against them. Then, to prevent any counsel, on a hint apparently from the magistrate, he said they were "utterly disloyal". They were so because they were Irish Volunteers.

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April 14:- The "Independent" to-day, has a doleful leading article on the state of Ireland, industrial and financial. Doleful but perfectly correct. It does not repeat the Irish Government - that is Winkworth, Bissell, Rathor, to do anything for Irish industries. Quite right. No Irishman expects they will. The Irish political leaders have accepted any border of taxation the English parliament wishes to impose. So there's no hope of redress of taxation. If Home Rule were operation, it thinks industrial affairs might be improved a little - according to the Act on the Book - financial cannot. In law, it says, has done more for the poor than Australia, yet Mr. Hughes, Premier of Australia, will be at an Empire Trade Conference and there is no least possible taxation on Australia. All correct; all right. But, does the silly "Independent" think, while it supports the war on the English side, while it calls on Irishmen to pay the blood price to England, that Ireland will get any return but what it is getting, that it will not have to pay the money price too, till it be bled white? The Irish people, "Independent" and all the other pro-British, will just get what Ireland always got for "loyalty" - a nothing.

April 15, 1916. Dublin. Spaid by Dec. 5-45 p.m. This week is holiday week, being Holy Week. There are many things of interest that come under

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April 15:- my notice but nothing very striking or startling. It is reported in the papers, per a Stockholm paper, that Roger Casement has been arrested in Germany - no reason assigned. Some time since it was reported apparently that he was taking steps to become a German citizen, on the painful supposition that when the allies got to Berlin he would plead German citizenship as a refuge from being hanged as a traitor by the English! This is solemnly stated as an indication that the Germans are beaten and that Casement knows they are. Previously it was reported he was interested, and I think I noted - no reason given. These are all painful stories I expect. Yet, as I look at things, his arrest, though improbable, is not impossible. My view of German state affairs is that they are much like what obtains in, say, England. There are different parties there as in England; men high in position, working for their own power, men varying in ideas and outlook. Some of these high in position as doubt would disagree profoundly with Casement and his views and, if he were urging certain views as to what Germany should do in the war, which was counter to theirs, they would probably have no hesitation in compassing his downfall. This is just a view based on knowledge of men and things. The interests of German statesmen is in what they conceive to be best for Germany, as the interest of English statesmen is in England. The only people who are, or ought to be, really and truly interested in Irish freedom, are Irishmen - the leaders of the Irish people. Unfortunately, the nominal leaders of the Irish people have all their interests centered in England. Hence, our very unfortunate state.

April 14:- an incident of perhaps some significance took place in Dublin yesterday. The Citizen Army solemnly raised a Green Flag ~~over the~~ headquarters at Liberty Hall: to show to all and sundry, I take it, that there is one body in Ireland, however small, who stand for a free Irish Republic. Since Larkin went to America, James Connolly is in command of the Citizen Army and Transport Workers' Union. Connolly I believe to be a sincere Socialist Republican and quite a determined man and the men he leads are also beyond doubt a determined body of men, composed of dock labourers and other workers commonly called "unskilled". The work of Larkin, Connolly, etc. at Liberty Hall has made them intelligent and done much to educate them.

What I dislike about such education is that a big strain of contempt for religion is mixed with it and that such men scarcely a certain mind elsewhere of a man who joins them. Of course, I am only writing in a general sense and really know very few of the Citizen Army men. My whole struggle in life seems to myself to be to keep a certain intellectual freedom. Hence I fear I am often a "crank" - a nuisance as one - in societies and organisations. But this is getting into a study of self, which for some time past I try to avoid as it shows egotism.

There is another "crisis" in English state affairs, it appears. The question of conscription is again the issue. "Lord Derby's Scheme" and partial conscription has been a suicide and a failure. The group for whom the "Times", "Morning Post" and "Daily Mail" speak want to force general conscription. Sir Edward Carson is the leader. Asquith, with his Coalition

April 14:- Cabinet, want to "wait and see" as usual. The conscription group want conscription regardless of everything else: the apologists of the Government point to other things quite as important, they say, for England. The number of fighting men is not everything, they say. Munition works, industrial works, shipping, finance are important too. England is a trading country. Trade must be kept going as well as war. "Oh!" reply the others, "we can have no trade unless we win the war." "But we can't win the war without money and trade" is the further reply, "we must keep men in our industrial works." To an outsider it is indeed interesting. It looks very likely at present that England can not do both things. It certainly cannot win the war now without overwhelming numbers and equipment. But it cannot put overwhelming numbers and equipment in the field without very serious interference with its industries. So 'tis between the Devil and the Deep Sea. Here we have now our "the shipping crisis". The activity of German submarines, due to the activity of German submarines, is causing alarm - is shipping circles. "Underwriters are no longer willing to take war risks. And, as if to grieve the English, German trading ships are now out in the North Sea" - we read today of one being sunk off the Swedish coast, by a mine.

The evening paper contains items of interest. The munition act is being invoked by Dublin building employers against workmen on strike. Just a sidelight to show how all the tyrannical acts called Defence of the Realm acts are being used where possible to crush democratic national liberty.

The allies have suppressed a Greek paper in Salonika which has news of

April 14th - the movements of their troops there. Doubtless to show their love for "small nationalities' rights and freedom of the press. There is a fine statement of Cardinal Mercier replying to General Von Bismarck, German Governor in Belgium - "Scathing rebuke for Von Bismarck" is the "Sibs" heading. The French and English and pro-English in Ireland of course use it as an anti-Irish argument. They forget that things like the following may be "dangerous" in Ireland - "Even though we may be smitten with admiration at the paroxysm of war surrounding you, and at the brilliant staff that, like King Saul, you have attached to your person, we should preserve entire freedom of judgment. In the troublous times through which our country is passing we cannot, and will not, abrogate this liberty." His Holiness, Leo XIII, "has forced us from obeying the civil power as soon as they give orders contrary to the law of God and man." Splendid! Cardinals would to God we had churchmen to talk like that in poor Ireland. The English in this land give orders contrary to the law of God and man and our "leaders" are mute as mice or else fawn like spaniels on their masters. "As soon as a Prince ceases to be just we owe him neither obedience, respect, nor devotion." And if less than a Prince be unjust? They swarm in Ireland; less than princes but more unjust than a prince ever was. And we are told to be obedient and respectful to them. Oh! for an Irish Mercier. "We give you the silent homage due to force, but we preserve

April 14th - closed against your attempts the sacred domain of our conscience, the last refuge of oppressed right."

These are brave and splendid words, applicable not to Belgium alone but to all of forced countries, to some perhaps more than to Ireland. Poor Ireland. Just now it seems to me the outlook is black indeed. Every effort is being made to stifle free expression of opinion; not at the moment so much by the British Government directly as by those of our own who support that government. Everything vile is being poured forth in the heads of those who dare utter the least complaint about the crushing taxation of our country. Every species of muddle-headed argument is being used to bolster up the case for placing that burden on Ireland. Talk of slaves hissing their chains! The picture of slaves lifting their chains to batter the heads of those who would set them free is nearer the truth of what is going on in Ireland now. The forces of the Old Garrison and the New Garrison are strongly entrenched and just now are sending forth armies to take the offensive. And the forces of the unconquered Irish are talking, writing, discussing. The argument, which I in my poor judgement think unwise, is holding the field - "Do nothing for fear you do just what the enemy wants." Poor Ireland.

April 15th 1916. On Sunday, Spalding 3.45 p.m. From "Irish Independent" of yesterday "Draic Action. San Remo Movement. In the event of Sir Edward Carson passing his motion to a division, it is doubtful, says the Parliamentary correspondent of the

April 19th 'Daily Telegraph') if the Irish Nationalists will be able to support the Government in full strength. Mr. Redmond and the leading members of the Party have been regular in attendance at the House of Commons but a great many of the rank and file are absent, not having been specially summoned for the occasion. Unfortunately a very unsatisfactory state of affairs prevails in Ireland. The Home Rule movement is growing to such an alarming extent that the Government may find it necessary to take drastic action at once.

Something of the same import as the latter portion of this item of news was in the "Cork Examiner" to-day taken from the "Northern Whig".

The occasion of ~~the~~ ^{the} debate was to be the debate on general conscription which was to have taken place in Westminster yesterday, but which did not come off as Prime Minister Asquith was not ready for it. The political situation in London was yesterday said to be acute: last night it was said to be easier. It appears as if all sorts of manoeuvres are flying around; resignations of ministers and such like; then compromise in the good old English way leaving everything unsettled till the next "crisis".

I have indicated the general lines of thought, dividing them into two great ones. There are those who want to keep British industries going at all costs and those who want war and militarism at all costs. Hence the "Daily Mail" of yesterday in which was, as I think, a good leading article.

"If the Germans are not beaten on land and on sea and in the air there will be no British industries, no munition works,

April 19th "no Parliament, nothing but a ruined and prostrate nation." Therefore the "Daily Mail" view nothing matters but "how many men are wanted to beat the Germans and win the war." The results of these measures "are to be seen, apart from the position of Belgium, in desolate Serbia, in the stationary British line in the west, in the disaster of the Dardanelles, in the constant sinking of our merchant ships, and the miserable muddle in Mesopotamia." Such is the state of affairs it has produced that unless tremendous change is made this country will slowly drift towards an inconclusive peace that would be as bad as defeat, because it would mean that Germany would spring upon us again, when we were without allies, at the first opportunity."

As this paper, "pro German" or such in Ireland could say more than that, to show up the aims of England; its present "pitiable" state, and its hopes and fears. Peace talk is strong in Ireland. It appears, so strong that the rates of exchange have been much affected by it.

The English recorded at "amusements" on the Tigris yesterday: to-day they acknowledge they have been shown back "500 to 800 yards." Why do you suppose they acknowledge this so promptly? To prepare the public mind of England for the surrender of ^{General} Townshead - I tell all - amuse. In contrast to the English defeat the Russians have taken Trebizond on the shores of the Black Sea.

It is announced to-day that Bruce Blythe has been arrested and lodged in Oxford jail for "failing to report himself to the local police."

April 19th - a "stop-the-war" meeting to be held in Trafalgar Square, London, on Sunday next has been proclaimed. Question in Parliament the Home Secretary said prohibition was due to meeting being opposed to the Government but for fear of riots.

America and Germany on the brink of war. "One million students of American schools are ready to rally to the colour" What! again? *Cir. 1916*

April 20th 1916. Holy Thursday. Good Friday. 11 a.m. Session at the heart of the British Empire! Judged by the canons applied to Ireland, the English are utterly unfit for self-government! They cannot agree. The governors of that country are split up into opposing factions. Asquith rose up in their House of Commons yesterday evening and, instead of a statement on recruiting, he informed them that the Cabinet were almost hopelessly split up. Unless a compromise can be arrived at, and he gave no great hope of this, the government must break up. He moved the adjournment of Parliament till Tuesday and in the meantime negotiations are to go on in the hope of patching up some kind of agreement. The chief line of disagreement, as I have already indicated is - general conscription or no general conscription. If the cabinet agrees to no general conscription there will be resignations of high position, Lloyd George apparently for one and probably some of the chief military men. If this is the case, Sir Edward Carson will move a resolution he has in in the House of Commons and this will show up the differences there. If the cabinet majority decide on

April 20th - general conscription. There will be another batch of resignations, possibly including old man Asquith himself. There are also probabilities of a general election, more likely now than at any time. Anyhow, Asquith's statement is not serious for Great England and its Empire; serious for its Allies in the making of Germany, and probably serious for poor old Ireland. The aspect that is well written up in the papers, but which to my mind is the real struggle is this - a fight between the military caste and the democrats in England. That's the real issue. The military caste want conscription, strong measures, iron rule. The democratic element are opposed to this, naturally. These are the principles that are being fought out, all the other things are only arguments on the side or the other. The issue certainly seems to have reached its calmest point. There may be a compromise just to save the present Coalition, but the issue remains. And a grave and serious issue for England it is - one for us who, unfortunately, are tied to that country. If the military finishers win this battle! for "strong measures", for coercion, for himself. If the democrats win, well, the English will never win in the war and the position of Irish nationality and the rights of Ireland will continue for some time. To the French, Russian, Italian the situation in England must appear very serious indeed. It appears the English government has bound itself to its Allies to fulfill certain obligations as regards the number of men it will place in the firing line. Now, Asquith's statement must show all that the English can not be relied upon. In Germany of course the effect must be electric and heartening. We have heard much of possible "upsets" in

April 20th Germany. None of them had a thousandth part of solid foundation as the statement of the Prime Minister of England has for a "split" in England. The Germans have had many seasons for ventilation since the war began. But imagine this one, flashed from east to east of the Central Empires. "The English Government breaking. Hopeless Faction. Divided councils." That will certainly stir them all, Germans, Austrians, Turks, Bulgarians. The traitors of the old British Empire are creaking. Will they snap?

430P^{PM} The "Daily Mail" of to-day says the Conscriptionists in the balance have practically won and that the only question remaining for settlement by its members is whether there is to be Conscription now or in a few months time. The "Mail" calls the "Crisis" a "Healthy" one, which means that it is pleased with the way things are going. The "Evening Echo" just out has the following "Political Situation. Crisis Ended. Proposals to be submitted to secret session on Tuesday next." "The Cabinet at this meeting to-day came to an agreement upon the proposals which they will make to Parliament on the subject of recruiting. Their proposals will be submitted to a secret session in each House of Parliament on Tuesday." Aye, aye, aye, but what Ate the proposals? 'Tis not an agreement about taking parliament into confidence, but what are the proposals to be submitted? That's what interests us now more than ever in Ireland.

I have connected the morning and evening accounts of the English political disturbance, but affairs in Ireland are looking serious too (perhaps) and are likely to be serious at once if the military crowd win in England.

April 20th - Yesterday a document of a serious character was in possession of some soldiers in Cork. As a consequence the Easter massacre, which was publicly announced, tended to become serious. I had heard nothing of it till I saw the publication of the document to-day and then I learned it was regarded seriously. I am in doubt as to whether it is serious or not. The document is one which will probably have a vital history. It was read by Ald. You Kelly at a special meeting of the Dublin Corporation called to pass the Poor Rate, which includes the police tax and which as a protest against Judge Kenny's remarks, the Corporation refused to pass last week. Ald. Kelly read a letter from Mr. P. J. Little, editor of "New Ireland", which the alderman explained only is not a Sinn Féin organ. Little stated that the document which he enclosed was portion of one on the files in Dublin Castle.

It gives "precautionary measures" which it says "have been sanctioned by the Irish Office on the recommendation of the General Officer Commanding the Forces in Ireland." All preparations to be made to put the measures into force immediately on receipt of an Order issued from the Chief Secretary's Office, Dublin Castle, and signed by the Under Secretary and the G.O.C. the F. in Ireland. Then follows a list of persons to be placed under arrest next by names but associations, houses and offices to be taken possession of, premises to be isolated, and the city to be under martial law. The military authorities it appears were shown the document and declare it to be "utterly bogus and without foundation from

Apr. 21. - though not immediately. That apparently is just the situation. Asquith and the others have been knocked down and thus keep their hats and their policies. General conscription beyond doubt will include Ireland and we may see Redmond at least I suppose excepting it. Can the bluff continue?

Lord Lieutenant Minto has intended going, or is going, to Belfast, "to discuss questions with business men those concerning trade after the war." The business men met and have told Minto that they cannot discuss "trade after the war" unless they are assured as to the position of Home Rule. They do not want Home Rule. The South African Constitutional Association say they are "just as determined to resist Home Rule" - if not more so - to resist it to the uttermost. So far as this Association is concerned, there is not the slightest change of feeling on the part of any of its members. Our Covenant still holds good. And we have been assured such men as those are fighting for the rights and liberties of small nations!

Ally Urban Council have spoken out strongly against over-taxation - even denouncing Mr. Redmond for calling some "Pro-hermen", etc. to those who are opposed to taxation.

A new clause of the D. of the R. acts makes provision for prohibiting meetings. The power for carrying out the arrangements in Ireland is in the hands of the Lord Lieutenant.

If there is much that is base & evil in these times there is also

Apr. 21. - some heroism. An example of the highest kind - a priest of the Capuchin Order in Cork, a confirmed Roman Catholic, volunteered as chaplain in the English army for service in the fighting line, because of a desert of priests amongst Irish soldiers. That is true Christian heroism; conquering of self.

Apr. 21. 1916. Dia Sazarpin. Spire Brixle 1.20 p.m. yesterday I was a little "out of sorts" I fear, troubled at party arrangements, disturbed at the attitude of certain men towards me. To-day, after confession, I am quite calm, but only because of Dia. This state of mind after confession is to me one of most marvellous proofs of grace which brings peace; verily and indeed as I feel, a peace surpassing understanding, a peace which the world cannot give. I have no particular reason to know or to think such, but I also feel to-day that we may be near stirring things in Ireland. Of course in reasoning it out I can see we have often touched on the time and since Christmas at least, it seems at times to have been touch and go as to whether the English Government (via Dublin Castle) and the Fianna Fail were to begin armed action in Ireland or not. From what I know of the Fianna Fail, ^{chief} men, there seemed to be no great inclination on their part to take the initiative: the attitude was one of waiting for the Government's action. That is undoubtedly the attitude still, but we really seem once more to be very near to government action; how near and in what manner it will come it is impossible to say.

198.

1916.
Cork City and County Archives

April 22nd. Here's news that may precipitate it - the news seems highly coloured but appears to have a substratum of truth. Off the coast of Kerry, near Tralee, the An Garda Síochána have arrested a man - a stranger to the district, name not given - who was in charge of a collapsible boat containing arms and ammunition. He was arrested at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, on the strand. Nationality unknown; details of arms unknown. Such the morning mystery. Late news in "Independent" - three Dublin men have been arrested in connection with the affair. Late - outside "Cork Constitution" office - great excitement in Tralee; the military, naval and police forces are co-operating. Now, the story may mean much or little. I imagine it does mean something pretty serious. If the fact of the collapsible boat with arms and ammunition is correct it at least means some kind of a ship, large or small - likely small - off the Kerry coast. Hence co-operation of "naval forces". I have no information whatever, but my guess, like the guesses of many others, would be ^{Irish} American aid for the O'Glas. If it suit their purpose the authorities may pretend a German landing - I personally do not believe there is any such thing. The whole thing may be small, just the ordinary endeavour of the O'Glas to get arms - they have been faced with trouble in this from the very beginning, long before the war. Or, Dublin Castle may wish to make it big in an attempt to justify any action they contemplate taking against the Volunteers. The air is just a little charged no doubt

1916.

199.

April 22nd - and we may see developments. On reading map to O'Glas, R. na Sloipe, can't get all in any, to no been very close with in help. This much now can I write - I have searched my own soul and I have no personal feelings whatsoever against any man; no personal feelings for glory, for fame, for honours. I bear no enmity to any man or any set of men. I am ready for anything that may befall the soil of DE, simply because I believe it my duty and right in the sight of God, and now to do what I can in my own small, weak way, for Ireland's freedom. It may be foolish, as the world looks at things; I believe it eminently wise from the spiritual standpoint. My conscience tells me that those who are ready to fight and die for Ireland are really and truly acting in Our Saviour's word "Greater love than this no man hath that a man lay down his life for his friends." God has been with us marvellously in our efforts to save Ireland's soul. I hope and believe God shall be with us and that there are great chances now for true Irish freedom. We spurn the bribe of Empire; it is to my conscience and faith the Devil's bribe of a share in the despoilment of the nations. To us Irish nationality is a spiritual thing; a part of an eternal principle and for that principle we are ready to fight, to die - if that be God's will. Note - this near to Resurrection Day - God grant it be Ireland's resurrection.

Abpán an 22nd:- 6.30 p.m. Sensational occurrences arising near according to all signs and information received. The papers have been forbidden to make any references to or publish any news of Kerry affairs. Significant. But there is news of "three gentlemen" in a motor car going out from Killybeggin about 10 o'clock last night having been drowned - One drowned, 4 on shore. The chauffeur swam ashore. It appears the motor car went over a bank into a river. In the "Echo" late news, - "Traces correspondent says this tragedy is believed to be connected with the sensational affair in this county." Names unknown. It is said if connected with O'Leary.

The latest general "rumours" are that an attempt - a general ^{made} one, I expect, - is to be, probably to night to disarm or arrest all Volunteers! As things are this may be true, though it is absolutely contrary to all I ever read of civil, constitutional, or military law, without notice. Even in '98, in the most troublous times, some notice used to be given. Here there a proclamation of martial law; were there an actual state of warfare, it would be understandable. But in a time of what may be called profound peace, at a time when there is yet some supposed constitutional government of this country, when the ordinary ^{law} can yet apparently be enforced, it is monstrous to think that such action would take

Ap. 22nd place. And yet, those of us who know the ways of English government in Ireland would not be one bit surprised that this quite illegal, even unilitary, dishonourable deed may be done. There is a fine spirit anyhow here among the men and boys of the Volunteer. And God defend the right. God grant it be Ireland's resurrection. God guard every man whose heart is true to dear old Ireland in this hour; true in the spirit of her noble ones and martyrs.

Abpán an 24th. Thalmáin. Sp. b'páde 6 p.m. Where shall I begin? Shall I just record the latest rumour (or certainty?) or shall I record experiences of yesterday: serious for the rumour, ludicrous for the experience? I know not but angst waits me - and every other Irish Volunteer if I go to Headquarters here! One rumour, hot on the heels of another, is more amazing than the other. The last here: thick with rumours: and apparently it is a well of mystery and rumour in England also. I could laugh yesterday and did. But I written here this morning I would laugh too. Now, it is hard to say whether one had better laugh or be really serious. There has been some very bad blundering somewhere in Cork O'Leary affairs; very serious blundering or mismanagement. I know not. I am into the state of mind of passivity; prepared for any circumstances, but so

April 24: situated so to be powerless to influence events. It has almost come to the condition of every man acting on his own judgment. God guide my judgment.

Well - to the latest. Rumour or Fact? "Larkin's Citizen Army" are "out" in Dublin. Coin MacNeill has "rattled." (That's how I heard it but that's not the correct idea, I am positive. I feel certain Corp's idea is that the Citizen Army outbreak is premature). Páiparz mac Páiparp has assumed chief command. Bulwer Hobson has been arrested by the Citizen Army. No news of Séamus Mac Donnagáin.

A small par. in to-day's "Independent" seems to give some show of truth to rumour ^{or} MacNeill, if par. itself is correct. Coin issued ^{on Saturday} ^{order} there were to be no parades or turn out of any kind it is stated in the "Independent".

So far Dublin.

What has happened in Tralee? Such rumours; such counter rumours; reports: arrests: police scattered and beaten: Munster Fusiliers ordered out, refused: fights between soldiers: rifles that were landed last Friday secured by Volunteers: yes? No? What does it all mean.

In Cork? Too long a story now.

Thus are we to-day. But no excitement now can write. We are so filled up with these flying stories that I have almost come to disbelieve everything I am told.

Abpán on 25.04.06. Dps Márz. Sp. bpríde. 10.30 a.m. Well! Well!! Well!!! Well!!!!

are we really fools in ourselves; being fooled; or are some serious things happening? I have almost come to the conclusion that the man of no imagination is best off at present. He certainly is the man of easiest frame of mind.

The opening sentence of the leading article of the "Daily Mail" of yesterday, referring to the secret session of the English Parliament to-day, is the most apt thing I know of to describe things here - "To-day begins a week of mystery, and consequently a week of rumours." A week of mystery and a week of rumours. Why, we have gone through a century of them in Cork since Friday. So many, so strong, so persistent the rumours; so deep the mystery that I do not quite know just now if I, myself, as an instance of many other individuals, am to go on with my ordinary association to-day or not? I am coolly and calmly writing away here yet not knowing if I may at any moment receive a call to arms from the Volunteers, or a call to prison from police! I know not but if I go into the city ^{but} I may get that second call unexpectedly! Rumour, feeding imagination, makes everything or anything possible. It is only good, wholesome common sense saves the situation for me and makes me inclined to laugh at those wild things.

The most persistent rumours of yesterday were - the Citizen Army had risen in insurrection in Dublin! They had possession of

April 25th - the G. P. O., possibly of the Bank of Ireland, and were attacking Dublin bustle! The trains to Dublin were stopped and communications cut! [There seems to have been some little ground for train stoppage idea: heard that an accident had occurred, from a "neutral" source that]. But, when some rumours were traced it was easily seen how little foundation there was to them. The central one, however, persisted and, on account of that little paragraph in the "Independent" about the order of Tom MacNeill and the orders, which apparently MacC. etc. received regarding manoeuvres in Cork, it certainly bore some semblance of truth to me and I took certain small, though ^{very} serious, steps in my own behalf, so as to be prepared for any emergency. It did strike my mind that those rumours may have started with "the enemy" - to bring about the Olog and provoke action. It is increasingly difficult to say, what is true, what is false.

Years have passed. But some incidents stand out so clearly in my memory that I can record them as if written on the days they happened. The "Independent" did not arrive in Cork on the Tuesday - April 25th. This I took as one of the tests of the truth or falsity of the rumours. Its non-arrival convinced me that rumour spoke truly - the train was not running from Dublin.

As I went down the street met F. J. C., the closest friend of T. MacS., who expressed the latter's views. He said "Connolly had forced the pace"; that the

"better men" were against the Rising; that Pearse and others had 'gone over' to the Connolly crowd; that the men here [T. MacS. and J.C.] had decided to obey Tom MacNeill.

As I had to leave the city, in the ordinary course, I called to Volunteer Headquarters in Shearwater St., to see if I were wanted, or, going to the country, if I could be of any assistance in conveying messages. T. MacS. was there, very serious, very disturbed and strained, I thought. I proffered my services. As I was going to Inishannon, he said to go to Hales', of Ballinacree, near Bandon; to tell them take no action; if possible to get to Taddy O'Shea, San. railway, and deliver the same message. Went to Inishannon on my bicycle, taught my class for a short while, then set off for Ballinacree. Was compelled to ask the way, which was a mistake for me, as subsequent events showed. It was a wet, dark evening; and portions of the road were covered with trees, dripping, dripping with mud. Had to walk several times, on hilly roads. Met very few people. To push on before it was late at night was my desire. At a cross-roads had to ask my way and was directed on a road that was impossible for cycling. High hedges of furze rose on either side and I seemed to have got into a wild, uninhabited district. At last arrived at a house, up to which an avenue led. Knocked at the door. It was not opened, but someone spoke from a window. Yes, it was Hales'. But after a few questions, discovered it was not the Hales' I wanted. However, the man of the house came with me to the other farmer's place. It was sometime after ten o'clock at night. I did not quite understand the attitude of the people of the house. Delivered my message, however. Said I, personally, did not agree with a policy of inaction, but obeyed the orders given. "It will be as in '98" said one of the

young men, when Weaford fought, but got no help." I asked to be kept for the night. Though drawing on to 12 o'clock, some of the ^{men} began manufacturing "bombs" in the kitchen. I learned they had sent a man to the city, but he had not returned. Went to bed and slept. Next morning was again drizzly and wet. Intended getting an early train from Bandon; was told it was only about half a ^{River's} ~~mile~~ ride. After long delay, got breakfast [I was rather shy in many respects at that time]. Set out for Bandon, but was late for the first train.

As I walked the platform waiting for the second train, a policeman came up to me, asked my name; but, more particularly, asked where I had stayed the previous night. I was my first experience of being questioned by a policeman about anything. So, I was, I believe, somewhat flustered. But, anyhow, I told a bald, plain lie to the effect that I had remained in the hotel in Banishanass, of which, by the way, I did not even know the name.

So, I got into the train, taking a bicycle ticket for Bantry, which was my destination for that night. While in the train, I reasoned thus: the police from Banishanass must have telephoned to Bandon to have me questioned; they must have learned I was enquiring the way to Kales', and Kales' to them are "bad boys"; my questioner at Bandon station is slow, but he will report when he returns to his barracks; a telephone communication will pass to Banishanass; the police there will find out I did not stay at the hotel; this

will make my movements look the more suspicious, as my answer has been evasive; a message will be sent on to the next police station on the line before me to have me apprehended; that is Ballinacree; there are two stations before that at which no police patrol; so, if I am to save myself from arrest I have got to leave the train at one or other of these stations.

So, I got out at the little station of Desertserges, bringing my bicycle with me. The guard was surprised, but I made some excuse. I crossed to the north, having fixed in my mind that I would get to Ballingearry ultimately, which lay north west.

I had a revolver in my possession: of no utility as I had no ammunition! A man breaking stones on the road gave me directions how to avoid police barracks. He seemed to suspect I required such information. He also advised me to be careful whom I talked to, as I was in "a Protestant district," and he wished me safety.

In a house where I had something to eat, I made a fool of myself in talking to a farm labourer. I do not recollect what I myself said, but I remember what he said - "Ye are well paid for this," said he.

I did meet a policeman, one guarding an "evicted farm". He was also cycling on the road. Took the bold

course with him - went up to him and asked the way to Crookstown [the direction in which I did not intend to go]. He gave me the directions, so then I knew the roads better. It occurred to me that, as Ballincary was far off, it would be difficult for me to reach it that night; so I bethought myself of old friends at Donishy. There I went. One of the young men of the house had been with the O'laig the memorable Easter Sunday when we all got to Macrossa.

Nearly ~~all~~ lived Murphys - one of whom is married to Michael O'Callaghan of Limerick and the young girls of this family travelled to Cork every day to attend the University. [My own friends are also Murphys, of Crossmahon House, [sic] islands].

So, we had news every day from Cork and what could be got from Dublin, and I was also thus in communication with my little wife.

I considered the Cork O'laig would be forced, by circumstances to come out and that their plans would probably draw them in Macrossa direction. So, we waited and waited, notwithstanding the reports that the city was normal - except for rumours of doings in other places. I learned of course later that J. M. S. and T. B. had determined months previously that they would obey Brins MacNeill if, and when, any emergency arose.

On Sunday, April 30th, little wife came out to me and I went home with her. "It was all over", she said, and she was then one of the officers of Cumann na mBan. Mary MacSwiney had told the women "Clement was a traitor" and that it was only "the sons of Dublin, Larkin's crowd" who were fighting. Some of the women repeated these remarks, including Baby, but the majority were influenced by Miss MacS.

So, as far as I was concerned, Easter Week 1916 was ended - with heartburnings, disappointments, very bitter feelings. The hour had come and we in Cork had done nothing. The hour had come, and many of us were ready, stung up to the point of making the greatest sacrifice, with the best and highest intentions and purest desires - and, as we saw the situation, our leaders in Cork had failed in the crisis, had fooled us. Dublin fought almost alone. For a long, long time infrequently it was a poignant feeling with me, cutting to the core, to dwell upon Easter Week, the failure of Cork, the treatment meted out to those of us who were ready and who considered our leaders had failed us and fooled us. My bitterness was added to by the acute realization of what those leaders would have said and done had the situations been reversed - had I for instance been a leader and they the expectant volunteers.

And my rifle, which I had treasured, met an ignominious end!

Cork City and County Archives

210.

— many more years have passed. It is the 7th April, 1953.
 I am writing some records for the Military Bureau of History
 and have arrived at Easter Sunday, 1916. Now I find I wrote
 nothing of it at the time (Sep. 202). But, the main
 incidents stand out clearly in the memory. The general ones
 have been explained by the histories of Easter Week that
 have since been recorded by many. The particular and
 personal: particular to Cork: I am recording for the
 military bureau; helped by some notes written by Michael
 O'Neill, the only one I could get to record the events for me.

memo
Private①
First route march on a

Sunday in April 1914, at Blarney.

Volunteers addressed by J. J. Walsh
 & S. O. Hegarty from a ditch on the roadside
 Runners throughout the town during
 previous week raised number of
 volunteers from three to ten thousand
 strong, & as a result Angles St was
 lined with a large & curious crowd of
 people, who laughed ^{decisively} at
 the small number of men ^(about 200) that emerged
 through the Cornmarket gates.

Arms

Lee Enfield Rifles were loaded
 & volunteers who were told to call at
 D. J. O'Sullivan's shop in Cork St
 The rifles were wrapped in some kind
 of black cloth. Don't remember
 date, but understand that J. L. Fawcett
 was responsible. These rifles were
 carried to Macroom on Easter Sunday.
 stored in Volunteers' homes.

meeting in Cornmarket

Only speakers recalled are
 J. J. Walsh & Sean O'Hegarty.
 He made a very vehement speech
 & J. J. was I think rather mild

over

Easter Sunday ⁽²⁾

Cork City Companies, Cove
East Cork. (I know there was one man
from Ladbysbridge) Ballinacree under
Hales. (R.I.P.). Cove men included Seamus
McGould M. Leahy. The numbers
marching were small, something less
than 200. After leaving train at
Cork Station, these were joined near
St. Kilmurry by a company from (Ballinacree)
Pat Higgins. Lead these men.
Seamus Sullivan (R.I.P.) was in charge of
the united body. ^{amongst} Other officers were
Charles Gorman, David O'Leary (from An Collins
(cant remember any more)

Some Dublin Castle R.I.C. detectives followed
back on bicycles.

Volunteer Cycle Corps joined at Macroom
Recollect ^{seeing} only a train de route.

David McNeill, Mr. Philip J. B. the Gayler
of course there were others too.

Can Collins addressed men on Sunday
evening, (the weather was wet & boisterous)

Easter Monday

Seamus Murphy was in charge of Volunteer Hall
in Shanes St. (He will be able to tell you all that
happened). He informed only J. D. McNeill that
they were out in Dublin (about 6.30pm)

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Easter Monday

(3)

Curious incident.

late that evening when going home, rather
hungry (nothing but a dinner morning), noticed
military recruits, saying something to all
soldiers he met. Could not catch what
what he was telling them for a long time
but heard it "East. "Go back to Barracks
& stand to arms". From this incident
it might be inferred that the Anti-Social
in Cork was very meagre until a late hour.

In passing might say that chap
named O'Connell from Cove, & self must have
the only two armed men on duty in the in the
Street. Acting on instructions from Seamus Murphy
we took a position in Shanes St (outside
Mahony's pub) armed with ^{each} a short Winchester
rifles (which was unable to load or fire, or
very poorly) to take any attack by the military
on the Volunteer Hall in the rear from some
of houses adjacent. I think we selected
a house with a parapet near the pub as
the most convenient. It was not a bit
thrilling. The fact, cold, hungry, tired
from standing in the rain, was rather
glad to be dismissed before home to tea bed.
I am afraid I was a reluctant warrior, when
all is told, but it must be remembered
we were only volunteers, not bound by oath
or anything of that nature, nothing or except
highly military discipline

NO. 10111

27. 4. 1916.

1 Duiz Croíge Mázuin, 5 míle ó Máicómia dom. I. de R. (1)

(1)-(VH)

12.25 p.m.

Tá ré oppainn ya deipe! Lzuy tá zac níd i támarb Dē.

So neapnuizid Sé na fip aza a zoid ap yon na n-Eyesn indom.

So Saopaid Sé Eya anoy. A minye mázap zuid oppainn.

Zoz mo bean biaz aza ya zaiay ~~zaiay~~ fē d'fallanz. A

Pádyaz Naomía cuimniz ap do minuzip fēin indom. Iapp an

Dia yinn do fapad o pmaiz an Zall p Seipe.

Can I really believe that I am sitting here, cool and calm, and the things that are happening? Ireland's Day at last has come! How goes the news? The news from government sources may be summed up thus -

1. The situation in Dublin is well in hand by the English military.
2. Liberty Hall has been shelled from a gunboat in the Riffes.
3. It has been occupied by English troops.
4. It is described as the Sinn Féin Headquarters.
5. The English military commander at Inceenstown says the situation in the provinces is normal.

Martial law has been proclaimed. I have heard that. do not know exact terms. Beyond accounts of German Zeppelin raids and German cruisers battling with English ones off Lowestoft, we cannot say what's happening in England, or on the seas. Almost impossible to get exact news: but where there are continuous rumours of any one event, we can be certain that event has happened.

5.30 From to-day's "Cork Examiner" - chief war news - Readings -
 "Dublin (official). Liberty Hall Shelled, By British Gunboat.
 'Situation well in hand?' Courts martial substituted for Civil Courts. German Naval Raid on British Coast. Important Naval Battle. " There is no ^{other} war news of any kind from any

of the war areas. "Defence of Realm." "A Royal Proclamation was published yesterday which substitutes trial by courtmartial for offences hitherto triable by civil courts."

Though there is no account of an outbreak there, down in Tipperary a Volunteer shot a sergeant and constable of police who came to arrest him. It is stated the affair began in a row which the Volunteers had with some boys.

Wm. O'Brien's paper, the "Cork Weekly Free Press" condemns the rising in strong terms, while also condemning the Government, Redmond, the Germans, Sir Edward Carson and others.

Rumours - The Volunteers in Galway are out and hold the city.

Not a
rumour, but
Govt. official.

In Drogheda, Redmond's Volunteers have joined with the English soldiers against the O'Learys. Dublin Castle has been taken, retaken, taken, and the Green Flag set flying over it. James Connolly, in command of the Citizen Army, is dead. Countess Markievicz and Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington were blown up by a machine gun they were working. (From the papers - 10,000 English soldiers, with artillery and Engineers have arrived in Dublin). Tralee is again active.

An attack is expected in Cork city to-night: numbers of police and soldiers from outlying districts have been drafted in.

There are no definite orders for country corps from Cork Headquarters. I have written to my little

wife for news: have had no reply yet. God grant she is safe and sound and may He keep her so.

There are fine women characters in the country: in this very house is one with a true, true heart. There is no terror, no panic. Everything is accepted in the good, old Irish way - "Toil Dé".

Still there are also despicable characters. I met both types yesterday on my journey here.

28.4.1916 Friday. 12.10 p.m. Lazily basking in the sunshine: and

glorious spring sunshine it is. Sunshine and shadow: April weather. A strong cool breeze from the north, where Murrige Mór looms up as a purple peak in the distance. My thoughts are now more collected and better under control by the will than they have been for two days past. at times I just feel as if times were

quite ordinary and that I am lazily dreaming dreams, with a youth's imagination on reading stories of wild adventure. The opportunities for wild adventure in reality have come: not the imaginative wanderings of story tellers, but stories of living, palpitating beings in the world of fact. (11)

Well, well; let me write it as if to convince myself that it is really so - We are in the midst of the Irish Rebellion of 1916. It is yet hard to realize it; difficult to marshal one's thoughts so as to grasp the fact. But it is so. History is making fast and furious. It began in deadly earnest on Monday in Dublin, and about noon as far as I can gather. The Citizen Army, led by James Connolly, began it. It is certain Dublin Post office was taken and is yet held. What else was achieved is uncertain as living so far away. Trains were stopped, communications cut, bridges blown up: yet about 4.30 (or perhaps a little earlier) I had heard from a friend what had happened - "Kearney's Army were out." I know not particularly how the news came. Whether the Volunteers had gone out or not was uncertain: the sequel shows they must have done so, but there were no ^{definite} orders to go out apparently.

What had happened off the Kerry coast between Good Friday and Easter Monday I know not for certain. The Government account is that a German auxiliary cruiser, attended by a submarine, appeared off the coast with arms, presumably for the Volunteers. The cruiser was captured by the English patrol boats or warships and, according to common rumour, was sunk by her crew. The exact connection between that vessel and the rumour of some boat off Cork Harbour, I don't know - they are probably the same story. Also, it must be that some arms were landed as Saturday morning's papers had the account of a collapsible boat found on the Kerry coast, laden with arms, and a stranger of unknown nationality standing beside it on the strand. Then rumour had it the stranger was Roger Casement, but this was generally discredited. Then there were stories of a fight by the Volunteers in Tralee & the taking of the arms from the police. The story was unfinished when the Dublin outburst came and eclipsed it. Mr. Asquith in Parliament declares the whole thing to be part of German propaganda, which

is most certainly NOT. But that statement of the Premiers is just in keeping with the other things that have been said about the Volunteers even before the war. The present rising is part of the age long struggle between the Irish Nation and the English government in Ireland. It is the old fight, which has been waged in a variety of ways. If it succeed — so respected O'Connell! If it fail — well, we are back to old coercion, for a time. But one fact is certain even now, it is already the biggest fight for Irish freedom by force of arms since 1798 and in some ways it has already surpassed '98. What the ultimate outcome for Ireland will be in case of failure, will depend upon the outcome of the Great European War. The English Premier in Parliament has stated that his government have taken care to let its allies and neutrals know the true meaning of the Irish rising. Following, as I have followed, the statements from time to time in Parliament & knowing how false answers given to even simple questions of fact which I knew of myself were, I have very grave doubts as to what the "true meaning" will be. But, such is the world. Falsehood, lies, hypocrisy. Until the great war started I never realized the depravity of man's nature in this respect. But it now seems to me, alas! that in public affairs, in politics, in diplomacy, and so on, there is no truth whatever uttered by those who lead.

Well now - GOD guard the right and keep my little darling and all of us free from harm and from sin.

29.4.1916. Du Sárainn. 11.30 a.m. Latest official news continues the same as yesterday or day before - "Situation well in hand." Liberty Hall and St. Stephens Green have been taken by the English forces. Eleven insurgents were killed in the fight for Stephen's Green. Provincial news is reassuring. "The rebel associations are going to be proclaimed illegal." Martial law has now been proclaimed all over Ireland. In Cork the National Volunteers (Redmondites) have offered their services to the government. The Cork Co. Council has condemned the rising. The "Cork Constitution" is bitter and bigotted as ever.

The "Cork Examiner" of yesterday had, for such a paper, a good leading article: wobbly in the beginning; an appeal to Sir Ed. Carson further on to join hands with "moderate" Nationalist Ireland; almost rising to decency at the end. Sir John Maxwell (never heard of him before) has been appointed to command the English forces. It is stated in the papers that General Friend went to England on Friday and that most of the military officers were away from their units. Rumour has it that Friend was captured by the Volunteers or Citizen army and it is admitted in the "Constitution" that many officers were captured. The "Examiner" and others of its political way of thinking are endeavouring to throw the whole burden of blame for rising on to Kaskin's Army and endeavouring to disassociate the Irish Volunteers from any responsibility. It is denied that there are disturbances in Galway or Tralee. General war news is very, very scanty. "German Fleet bombards Lowestoft": that apparently on Tuesday. Several Zeppelin raids on various parts of the English coast. Fighting going on in Egypt. British warships bombarded Zeebrugge. Official report of secret session of Parliament. Chief points regarding conscription - If at the end of 4 weeks ending May 27th, 50,000 of the unattested married men have not been secured by direct enlistment, the Government will forthwith ask Parliament for compulsory powers. If in any week after May 27th, 15,000 men have not been secured by direct enlistment, the same course will be taken. That arrangement apparently applies only to Great Britain. I suppose the situation in Ireland knocks the idea of conscription for this country completely on the head. John B. Redmond and Sir Edward Carson fell upon each other's necks [figuratively] in Parliament to condemn their fellow-countrymen fighting in Dublin. Mr. Redmond views the fight with disdain and contempt. As was to be expected. Basement is in military custody in London. He is to be tried for treason. Appreciative articles regarding him are appearing in some of the English papers! Which gives one an idea that he has powerful friends there who will make an effort to save him. Other papers call him an arch traitor and arch villain. Oh! I would like to know exactly what things are happening. am

great things are happening we know nothing of. The weather is glorious. God's blessing is on the land. Promise of fruitfulness and plenty. *Buidéacáir nóg 10 Orl.* (VI)

5.30 p.m. What happened off the Kerry coast has been related by the Marquis of Landsdowne in the English Lords. A German auxiliary cruiser disguised as a merchant ship, and a submarine, appeared off the coast. Casement and two companions got into a collapsible boat and came on the coast, where, or before they landed, they were captured. A patrol boat got the cruiser and ordered her to proceed to Cork Harbour. On the way she was scuttled by her crew and sank, with whatever was on board. Some of the crew were saved, if not all. The Government cannot discover that any serious efforts were in preparation on shore to assist the disembarkation of arms and ammunition. Apparently, judging by this account, the Tralee business mentioned in the papers on Saturday morning last, was connected with that landing or attempted landing. The account given - as I think I have noted before - was that a collapsible boat was discovered by coastguards or police off the strand near Ardferst. The police seized the boat, which contained arms and ammunition. Then the report was the police, naval and military forces were co-operating in the affair. There the newspaper accounts stopped and rumours began. One was strong that the Volunteers in Tralee had taken the arms from the police. Then that the Munster Fusiliers had refused to act against the Volunteers and that other units had to be drafted in to quell them. Then that a German collapsible boat, with 40 on board, had been blown up by its own crew off Cork Harbour. There were Saturday night and Sunday rumours. The affair then appeared to be all over on Monday when, like a cloudburst on Monday afternoon, came the rumour to Cork that the Citizen Army were out in Dublin, had taken the Post Office and Bank of Ireland and so on. Trains left Dublin as usual on Monday morning for there were a number of people coming from there to Cork races. I was talking to an acquaintance who left that morning & he was dumfounded at the rumours. Everything was very quiet when he left Dublin and, as appeared in the "Irish Independent" all parades of the Irish Volunteers had been cancelled. Then a rumour grew [how rumours start and grow I know not] that Eoin MacNeill it was who had issued that order; that he had been arrested, along with Bulmer Hobson, by the Citizen Army; that P. H. Pearse had taken command of the Volunteers. And there rumours stopped for a while again. ^{Tuesday morning;} definite that no trains were running to or from Dublin; that ^{there was} no telegraphic, telephonic, or postal communication between Cork & Dublin; and no Dublin newspapers had come. I was on the look out for the latter myself to see if the rumours of the previous evening were correct & judged they must be so when no papers came. Since then the Government news (official); questions & answers in the House of Commons; and news & articles reprinted from English newspapers is practically all I have heard.

... stories of persons having fled from the city + there are generally of a
 lurid kind. People flying from the city; food scarce; poorer classes
 have broken into the shops; an Irish Republic proclaimed by posters
 put up on walls, etc. all over the city and environs. Fighting also going
 on at some places in Dublin country. Ba mair liom spair ar a lán
 nuaire eile arís, aís ní fíor dom féiníz cairín a béinn, b'féidir, roisín ar an
 námaid 7 ní déanfaid yé don mairí dom 1 zcuipz an baill mo ymaoine béir
 noeraizic aigan ar páipear.

(VII)