

THE IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 11. (New Series.)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1915.

Price One Penny.

NOTES

There is much discussion in the newspapers about the next general election, and the general impression appears to be that a general re-election will be proposed, each party retaining the same seats as at present. It is hard to say how that will work out with regard to the members which Ireland sends, not to much purpose at the present juncture, to the Imperial Parliament. The question is still undecided, whether in Ireland a member can belong to the party to which he is elected and by whose supporters he is elected, unless he has been previously selected for election by that party. If Home Rule is safe, of course such questions really don't matter. In any case, they do not concern us as Volunteers, and I only allude to them in order to repeat, what was already said in this paper before the recent King's County election, that Volunteers, as Volunteers, will keep entirely clear of electioneering. All we ask is that those who are concerned with parliamentary work should stick to that work, leaving Volunteers to stick to Volunteer work, and no interference in either direction.

Some developments of the Imperialist movement in Ireland are very interesting. A paid organiser for a political party is reported to have announced the other day, what no political leader has ever ventured to proclaim, that it is the duty of the people to follow their political leaders in whatever line of policy the leaders choose to adopt. The number of recent pronouncements by paid organisers on high political questions is remarkable. One might think that the business of an organiser was to organise, and that the receipt of salary for that purpose did not confer apostolic powers of teaching and uttering new definitions of political orthodoxy. Some months ago the "Freeman's Journal" sneered at Colonel Moore's fitness to look after the organisation of Volunteers, on the ground that Colonel Moore, as alleged, was not a subscriber to the Irish Parliamentary fund. Now the

boot is on the other foot. Fitness to command in National affairs is made dependent not on what you pay in, but on what is paid out to you. That organiser should get a sufficient rise to make himself infallible in matters of policy.

In ancient Ireland, as the Book of Rights describes it, there were about as many small kingdoms as there now are of parliamentary constituencies, and as many kings as there are members of Parliament under the Union. Though these local governors were called kings, presided over public assemblies, administered justice, and commanded, each one of them, his local army, we nowhere find it laid down that the people were bound to follow their king in every line of conduct or policy that he chose to adopt. On the contrary we find that the people, when they desired, compelled their king to adopt their policy in preference to his own. At the instance of Brian Bórumha, a young man who held no elective position, and was no doubt described at the time as a crank, factionist, extremist, mischief-maker, etc., the Dalcassians compelled their king, Brian's brother, to abandon a policy of truckling to the Outlanders, and to take a stand worthy of the Nation to which he belonged.

We read of others of these kings who were deposed, and sometimes rendered ineligible for re-election by the thoroughly effective method of banishment to a region from which there is no return. Nowadays it seems that kings are not big enough for us. It is not M.P.'s but Emperors we are to have in future. They will command our forces and everything else in the country with the trifling exception of the government of Outlanders that governs us. Formerly the M.P.'s were supposed to be the chosen representatives of the people. Now, according to the paid organiser doctrine, the people have no choice but to represent the M.P.'s. This must be what is called the New Era. We were wondering what exactly the new feature might be. It is evident that Imperialism and Irish public opinion are not just the same thing, otherwise we should not have paid organisers telling public opinion that it has no right

to exist. Again I say, let the Emperors stick to their Imperialism or be democrats as they please, and let Volunteers stick to Volunteering.

While the people, according to the paid organisers, have just to do as they are bid in matters of national and non-national policy, the New Imperialists may be infallible, but they are not omnipotent. A week or two ago there was great glorification over certain duties undertaken by the "National Volunteers" in Cork. Now we read in the "Daily Independent" that the same Volunteers have been informed that they will not be permitted to take up military duty. And it is only six months since the declaration that the Volunteers would defend Ireland, and let the British Army be withdrawn, was received with tremendous acclamation by the Liberals in the Imperial Parliament, and with cries of triumph by the Unionists.

The discarded National Volunteers of Cork are graciously informed that, if they like it, they will be permitted to undertake the duties of an unarmed police force. In comparison with this studied insult, Lord Mayo's remarks might be taken as complimentary. In a country which, with much less occupation for its police, is compelled to spend twice as much money on police as Scotland spends, and in a country in which the police are armed as a military force, Volunteers are informed that they will be allowed to do police duty without pay and without arms. Volunteers without arms—it would take Dean Swift to do justice to the joke. It should at last be plain enough how much good will and good faith there has been in certain palavers.

Irish Volunteers, especially in Ulster, will watch with interest the discussion that is going on about the relations between the Government and the Ulster Volunteer Force. Mr. Swift MacNeill has put a question to the Government and has got an answer very like the equivocal answer that an Irish domestic is said to have given to a caller who inquired if the master was at home. The "Catholic Times," of Liverpool, which appears to

RAZORS, SCISSORS, POCKET KNIVES, and
RAZOR STROPS from 1/- to 5/6 each.
WILLIAM RUSSELL & SONS
Hairdressers,
55 SOUTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

WILLIAM FANAGAN
UNDERTAKER
AND
CARRIAGE PROPRIETOR,
54 AUNGIER STREET, DUBLIN.
Telephone—No. 12.

PRINTING.

'Phone 603.

Ask me to quote you for
anything in the Printing
Line. Estimates free.

PATRICK MAHON
General Printer,
3 YARNHALL STREET, DUBLIN.

NOTICE.

All literary communications for the "Irish Volunteer" should be addressed in future to
VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS,
41 Kildare Street, DUBLIN.

All communications re Advertisements to be
addressed to the
IRISH PRESS BUREAU,
30 Lower Abbey Street, DUBLIN.

The Irish Volunteer.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1915.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, 3rd inst., Mr. Eamonn Ceannt in the chair.

The usual reports on Organisation, Training, Arms, and Finance were submitted and the necessary Orders made.

Headquarters, 41 Kildare St.,
Dublin, 3rd Feb., 1915.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO DUBLIN BATTALIONS.

The Central Executive requests a full muster of all Companies of the Dublin Battalions at the Antient Concert Rooms, Great Brunswick Street, on Friday evening, 12th Feb., at 8.30 p.m. The Companies and Battalions will assemble at the place and time fixed by their officers, under the authority of the County Board, and will reach the Antient Concert Rooms not later than 8.25 p.m. The assembled Volunteers will be addressed on important matters connected with Organisation and Training.

FIELD KIT FOR IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

The following has been adopted by the Headquarters Staff as the list of articles constituting the Field Kit necessary for each Irish Volunteer. Company Commanders will be responsible for seeing that each man is provided with the necessary articles.

FIELD KIT.

1. The Field Kit of each Irish Volunteer will consist of:

(a) The clothes worn on the person, including puttees and soft broad-brimmed felt hat of a green-drab colour; if uniform not worn clothes to approximate to green-drab in colour; nothing white or shiny to be visible.

(b) Arms and equipment as follows:

1 Service Rifle, with sling and cleaning outfit.

100 rounds of ammunition for same.

1 Bandolier, 1 Ammunition Pouch.

1 Bayonet and Scabbard.

1 Belt and Bayonet Frog.

1 Strong Knife (for cutting hedges, etc.).

1 Haversack for Rations.

1 Water Bottle.

1 Mess-Tin for cooking, eating, etc.; containing knife, fork, spoon, tin cup.

1 Knapsack, containing: spare shirt, spare pair of socks, towel, piece of soap, clothes-brush, comb, tooth-brush; First Aid packet including Bandages, Lint, Anti-septic Gauze, Sticking-plaster, etc.; Housewife, containing scissors, needle, thread, safety-pins.

Each Volunteer will also carry in his pocket: a good clasp-knife, notebook and pencil, box of matches, spare boot-laces.

2. In addition to the foregoing, each Company or Half-Company Commander will carry:

1 Pistol or Revolver.

100 Rounds of Ammunition for same.

1 Whistle on cord.

1 Good Loose-leaf Note-Book.

1 Fountain Pen or Copying Pencil.

1 Watch.

1 Pair Field-Glasses.

1 Map of District.

1 Pocket Compass.

1 Range Finder.

3. Section Commanders and Scouts will, if possible, be provided with the articles specified for Company Officers.

4. Company Commanders will make suitable arrangements for sleeping, and if necessary will require each man to carry blanket, sleeping-bag, or part of shelter tent.

P. H. PEARSE,

Director of Organisation.

Headquarters, 41 Kildare St.,
Dublin, 3rd Feb., 1915.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

THE DUBLIN RALLY.

The Executive is very anxious that there should be an absolutely full muster of Dublin Volunteers at the Antient Concert Rooms on Friday evening at 8.30. The meeting will be a purely business one. Its object is to bring the views of the Headquarters Staff and of the Executive on certain important matters concerning Organisation and Training as fully as possible before every individual

Volunteer in Dublin. Similar gatherings will be promoted in other centres as opportunities offer.

RECRUITING.

The subject of Recruiting will, of course, be touched upon. Several Dublin Companies have already substantially increased their membership. Others are still at a standstill. The officers and men of these must really get up and do something. Some of them are too fond of the military exercise known as marking time. Nothing so tires a soldier as an undue spell of marking time. He is always relieved when he hears "Forward!"

THE FIELD KIT.

The list of articles constituting the Field Kit for Irish Volunteers which is published this week is designed to comprise everything that the individual Volunteer will need to carry with him on active service, and nothing that is superfluous. It is not intended that the kits should be served out by the Company authorities. Each individual Volunteer should make it his business to gather around him the articles specified, and Company Commanders should see that the men are busying themselves. Apart from the arms and ammunition, which the Company authorities will look after, the men will find no difficulty in equipping themselves at trifling expense. It will be noted that a broad-brimmed hat is considered more suitable for active service than the regulation cap: it affords a better protection against rain and sun and is in every way more serviceable.

TRAINING.

The Training Scheme should be put in operation at once. There is no need to wait until spring or summer. Fine-weather Volunteers are not Volunteers at all. Rain or fair, hall or no hall, our Volunteers can—and must—train. Nor is there need to wait until an expert instructor turns up. Formal foot-drill apart (and this is the least important part of our training), the local officers, if they are the right men, will be found just as capable of conducting Volunteer training as the average drill sergeant; in many instances more capable. The aim of our training is not that we may look pretty on parade, but that we may learn to move fast, to keep ourselves hidden, to know the shortcuts, to collect and bring back information, to shoot. In a word, Volunteer training is much more a matter of applied commonsense than of expert knowledge. The cardinal mistake we made during our first year was to rely too much on the ex-soldier. When most of the ex-soldiers had left us, we found that we had to begin all over again: that we had, under their tutelage, been working towards a wrong ideal in training—the ideal of the British barrack-square. We have now definitely set up our own ideal, and we are quite capable of reaching it.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE IRISH VOLUNTEER.

MARCHING OF THE VOLUNTEERS

I.

The one characteristic of the Irish Volunteers that stands out beyond everything else is their wonderful endurance as marchers. This has struck every trained instructor who has been connected with them, and the case is the same in every part of the country. Curiously enough the Volunteers themselves do not seem to fully realise the possibilities offered by this power of marching, so it is worth while to explain what it really means.

Suppose there is an army capable of continued marching at the rate of 20 miles a day—for five or six days, at all events—and suppose it to be opposed by an army capable of marching only 15 miles a day: clearly the former has a great advantage of the latter. If the two forces are marching to meet each other the first is much better placed with a view to seizing a strong line or position lying between them: in marches to a flank of any description the advantages are much increased—the faster army can march round the other.

This much is evidently true in a general way, but much more is possible in the case of the Volunteers. First of all, 20 miles is not an overpowering march for any of the companies even in their raw state. Very little practice would enable them to do 25 miles a day for some days and be fresh enough to fight at the end of it. They are but little hampered by equipment and would have very much less dead weight than the ordinary regular soldier. Secondly, the Volunteers are organised in small units, and, other things being equal, the smaller the unit the greater its mobility. In addition a chance breakdown of any kind such as would delay a division need not worry a company. Finally, when the unit is small its full fire power can be developed instantaneously: in such a case the commanding officer has a better chance of estimating how he stands with reference to a reinforcement and so of using it where most profit may be derived from it. There are such a very great number of roads in Ireland that several parallel roads can be used for marching the columns, and a broad front can be thus secured and reinforcements made available within reach of every point.

Evidently it is advisable to adopt such a system of training as will make the most of the natural mobility of the Volunteers. This will comprise the hardening of the men in each company into efficient and enduring marchers, and the handling of the several units in such a

way as to make the most of their mobility as units. The ideal to set before the company is 25 miles a day with the possibility of being pushed to 30 in case of necessity. There is no reason why this should not be quite possible.

To begin at the bottom—literally as well as figuratively—the men's feet must be in good condition and properly equipped. Before starting on a march the company commander should satisfy himself that his men have all washed their feet, have clean socks, and are solidly shod. The men themselves should be taught that this is a necessary part of their military education. Each man should learn to attend to any soreness of his feet after the march, by bathing them, putting vaseline on the sore parts, and airing his socks—changing them if possible. This refers to long marches—the weekly marches on Sundays. Once a week is not very often to turn out for a long march, but a man who has done 25 miles for three successive Sundays will not break down easily on active service. Sunday marches should start not later than noon: the men will then be back in ample time to be well rested before beginning work on Monday morning.

So much for endurance. The rudiments of march discipline—all that is necessary in small units—can be taught in frequent marches of a few miles on summer evenings. Even one hour spent like this in a week will be advantageous. The following points should be observed:—

1. March in step.
2. March in well-dressed and well-closed fours.
3. Obey the officer's orders with promptness.

At the same time the company officers, by practising punctual starting, definite planning of route, and general smartening up of the men, can contribute very much to their unit's efficiency.

LIVERPOOL IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

The Liverpool Volunteers are holding a Ceilidh Mhor in their headquarters, 78 Duke Street, on Tuesday, 9th March, further particulars of which will be announced in due course. Irishmen in Liverpool who wish to serve their country should come to 78 Duke Street and be enrolled in the Irish Volunteers. Drill and shooting practice every Tuesday and Friday nights at 8 p.m. Learn to shoot—it will be useful one of these days. "Do it now."

2nd BATTALION ARRANGEMENTS.

All Officers, Section Commanders, etc., of above Battalion are requested to attend lecture at Volunteer Headquarters, 41 Kildare Street, on Monday, 16th inst., at 8 o'clock sharp, when instruction in some phase of Volunteer work will be given.

BOGS AS MILITARY OBSTACLES

Any consideration of military operations in Ireland will inevitably include an estimate of the influence upon such operations of the Irish bogs. Over 2½ millions of acres, or nearly one-seventh of the area of the country, are covered by bogs of one kind or another. Some of these are situate on mountains, but the greater portion are the ordinary flat bogs in the plains, and it is these that have played the chief part in the Irish wars.

In general a bog resembles all other military obstacles—such as a river, a mountain chain, a string of lakes—in that an army posted behind it can only be approached by very few routes. The roads across a large tract of bog are not plentiful and are usually at a fair distance from each other. Of course small parties of men can make their way across the actual bog itself provided they know the ground, but no large formed body can do so. Moreover, it must be borne in mind that a bog offers no cover to an advancing force: it is a dead level without trees, rocks, buildings, or any other shelter. Sometimes, but very rarely, a very hard frost will make passable a tract that could not otherwise be passed over.

With reference to the roads over bogs there are two points to notice. The road has to be built up artificially for its entire length and consequently is made as straight as possible to save labour: again, it is unfenced because there is nothing on either side to be fenced in. A bog road, then, is a straight causeway at a fair height over the level of the surrounding country. It is consequently especially liable to be swept by fire, and any force advancing along it may be stopped by a few picked riflemen well posted at one end.

In short, a much inferior force is safe behind a bog as far as a frontal attack is concerned if the commander has taken his measures with ordinary care. Only a turning movement offers the prospect of success, and the defender should be able to meet this if his force is considerable or to withdraw in good time when the enemy is definitely committed to his flanking move.

In the case of a hostile army marching parallel to a long expanse of bog leaving the latter on its flank, it would seem that the marching force is covered by the tract of waste land. But as a matter of fact a long tract of this kind is usually not continuous but it split up by slices of good land, where there will be good roads. Evidently such country as this is very suitable for raiding enterprises by small bodies of cyclists against the enemy's

flank. Cyclists are just the kind of force for the "hit and get away" tactics required on such raids. Cyclists can cover the distance rapidly for a sudden attack, and can retire rapidly and safely where it would be impossible for infantry to do so.

The danger of fighting in front of a bog is naturally very great. There are numerous instances in the Irish wars of troops being driven into bogs and then helplessly slaughtered. On the other hand a bog offers a means of escape to a small force with good knowledge of the district withdrawing into it at night. In one respect bogs give a kind of concealment as they are but a poor background for a target. The moisture over them also causes error in the line of sight. For these reasons it will often be best to hold fire if the enemy advances over the moorish surface itself, and then overwhelm him at close range. Artillery is comparatively ineffective in such ground.

ROLL CALL.

The Limerick Regiment has struck a recent visitor from Headquarters as perhaps the most efficient in Ireland. In some respects it leads Dublin.

Tralee maintains a very live corps. Its fine drill-hall (once a skating rink) is an important asset.

The four Companies in Cork City are busy under peculiar difficulties. Cork is always saved by its minorities.

In Galway City there is a hard fight, but the men are determined and courageous. And they know that the Gaedhealtacht round about is with them.

Belfast rallied splendidly to hear Eoin Mac Neill last week. Let no man think that even there the Nation is not remembered.

Naas has started what looks like a promising Company. In several Kildare towns the moment is ripe for a similar move.

New centres in Fingall will shortly join in. The old centres are active.

Commandant MacDonagh keeps the 2nd Dublin Batt. busy. Field work and special training for officers are the key-notes of his system.

Commandant Ceannt is responsible for a new and valuable departure in the 4th Batt. Ten men of each Company bivouacked in Kimmage the week-end before last. Special drill, a Ceilidhe, and church parade were features.

leabair dhille dóglaíob na héireann. (ar leanmáint.)



Ar aghaid
úine.

Cliatánac le
úine.

Beirtear an gunna treapna an cléib agus leagtar ar a taobh ar an ngualainn clé é i dtreo go mbeir an magairin iompaighe amac ar taobh na láimhe clé. Beirtear greim ciotóige ar bair an gunna i dtreo go mbeir greim as dá alt de sac méir ar taobh uachtaraic na baire agus an óróis tuairim órlaig or cionn rinn na baire 7 a bfuil ón uillinn ruar den lámh clé go dtéir leir an gclatán agus an cúro eile ói rinne amac díreac agus rál baire an gunna ar aon líne le lár na ceatpáman clé.



Cliatánac le
úine.

Ar aghaid
úine.

Sciobtar an lámh dhear cum an taobh deir. Ní mór feuchaint éirge go mbeir an lámh clé rinne amac díreac ón uillinn, agus rál baire an gunna ar aon líne le lár na ceatpáman. Muna nbeirtear an dapa ní bíod rál ragaíó beul an gunna le fánaig amac ón gcórr nó, neacatar aca, ragaíó pé tímhéall an muinil riar.

A very interesting operation was carried out in South Co. Dublin on Sunday week last. Picked men from various Companies of the 1st Batt., under Capt. Daly, assisted by Capt. Beasley, Dolan, Acting-Capt. McCormack and Allwright, Lieuts. O'Sullivan Fahy, Whelan, Shouldice, Lynch, O'Callaghan, etc., advanced to the attack of the village of Rockbrook, which was successfully defended by the local (Rathfarnham) Company under Capt. Pearse and Lieuts. Boland and Clarke.

The operation showed that, in the absence of artillery, a small defending force which knows the ground and is well served by its scouts, is practically invincible in a well-chosen position.



GAELS! Remember an Irish Irlander when you want New or Secondhand Typewriters, Duplicators, Stencils, Stencil Ink, Ribbons, Carbons, Papers, &c. Any make of Typewriter Repaired.

THE FOLEY TYPEWRITER TRADING CO.,
Reis Chambers, Dublin. Telephone 117Y.

Ask for

VOLUNTEER SAUCE

MANUFACTURED BY

TWINEM BROS.,

S. C. ROAD, DUBLIN.

CITY CLUB CIGARETTES.

10 for 3d.

TRY THEM.

P. CONWAY & Co.,

TOBACCONISTS,

31 EXCHEQUER ST., and 10A AUNGIER ST.

ESTABLISHED 1894.

Hopkins & Hopkins'

Wristlet Watches.

Highest Grade Lever Movements.

PRICES LOWEST POSSIBLE FOR CASH.

CATALOGUES FREE.

Opposite O'CONNELL MONUMENT, DUBLIN.
Telegrams: "Meyther, Dublin."
Telephone: 3569.

IRISH BATTLES.

VIII.—THE BATTLE OF BALLYNAHINCH.

The Battle of Ballynahinch on the 12th and 13th of June, 1798, was the decisive battle of the Insurrection in the North of Ireland. The Antrim Insurgents had been defeated a week earlier, but a victory by the Down men might very easily have brought them into the field again. In any event Down was the more important of the two counties, both in resources and numbers, and especially by reason of its situation in the direct line between Belfast and Dublin. In the event of an English defeat there were no considerable forces at hand to repair the disaster, and

on cars, which were fairly well handled, but there was not much ammunition.

POSITION OF THE IRISH AND ACTION OF 12TH.

Munro, in anticipation of an English attack from Belfast and Lisburn, had his line drawn so as to face in a general north-west direction. This commanded the road towards Saintfield—which he secured by a force on Creevy—and covered the southern part of the county. On June 11th an advanced detachment under Townsend occupied the town of Ballynahinch, driving out the few English troops there without serious resistance. Munro then formally established

was quite confident of being able to hold the position, but Munro did not agree with this view and ordered him to fall back to the southward. At the same time the English—now able to bring up their artillery—drove Townsend out of Ballynahinch. This closed the first day's fighting.

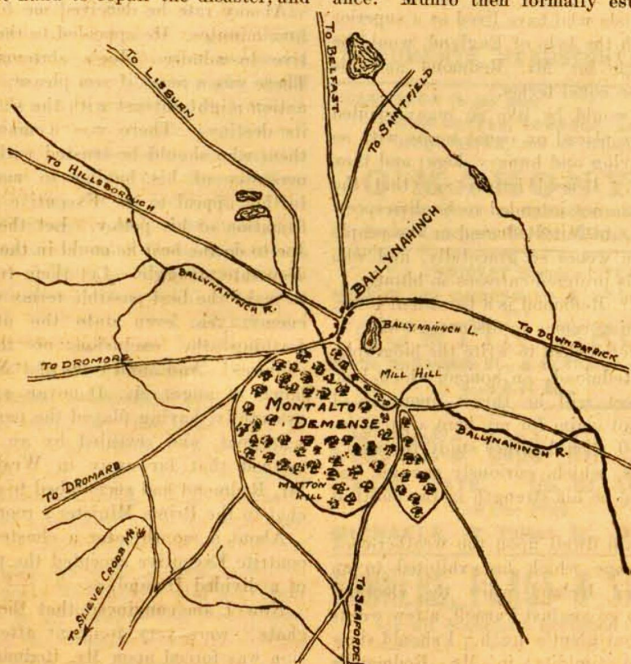
During the night two English outposts were attacked and severely handled by small parties of Munro's men. An inhabitant of the town, coming into the Irish lines, stated that the English troops in the town were in great disorder and that a sudden night attack would find them utterly unprepared. Most of the Irish officers were in favour of making the attempt, but Munro himself opposed the design and no such attempt was made.

THE BATTLE.

Early on the morning of the 13th—about 3 a.m. probably—the general engagement began. The artillery on both sides opened, but the heavy English guns were by far the more effective. Nugent sent a detachment under Col. Stewart against the Irish left, consisting of the Argyle Fencibles, a force of the 22nd Light Dragoons, and some Yeomanry, and another—Monaghan Militia, Yeoman Infantry, and another body of cavalry—under Col. Leslie—against the front. This last body was fiercely attacked and driven back into the town. Stewart's command was also heavily attacked by Munro in person, but a 6-pr. and a howitzer of the English commander's inflicted very heavy loss and the Irish were checked. What actually happened subsequently it is almost impossible to put together from the conflicting and contemporary accounts. It is certain that after marked initial success the Irish fell into confusion and were eventually routed with considerable loss. Munro rallied a rearguard on Ednavady and checked the pursuit for a time, finally seeking refuge on Slieve Croob mountain.

COMMENTS.

Munro has often been blamed for not attacking on the night of the 12th, but the danger of night attacks should be borne in mind. His troops were raw and he had no time to make any adequate preparations. The ease with which raw soldiers are thrown into confusion was manifested in the fighting of the 13th, where they were successful to begin with. It is possible that Munro was more at fault in not reinforcing McCance on Windmill Hill the day before. In any case that officer's handling of his detachment is a model for such operations: it was a perfect combination of daring and prudence, and his use of the ground was admirable. The cutting off of the outposts at night were such minor enterprises as would naturally contribute largely to strengthening the morale of



probably the entire province of Ulster would then have risen.

Munro, who commanded the Irish army at Ballynahinch, had been elected to the chief command upon the arrest of the original leaders some weeks before. His army—mainly recruited from North Down, was assembled in the neighbourhood of Saintfield, Ballynahinch, after various detachments had been successful in preliminary actions at Bangor, Newtownards, and Saintfield, at which last place the English had met with a very severe beating indeed. The Irish commander had established a system of requisitions for provisions, which was carried out in a very orderly manner, and his force—numbering at least 5,000—was well supplied and well in hand. The great majority of the Irish were armed with pikes, but there was a good number of fire-arms also. Munro had also some half-dozen small ship guns mounted

his line, posting McCance with the main body of his musketeers on Windmill Hill and the pikemen on Ednavady overlooking the town on the left. About two in the afternoon of the 12th the English from Belfast—about 1,500 strong, under General Nugent—appeared, and were joined by a considerable detachment from Downpatrick, which marched wide round the Irish flank, avoiding the force at Creevy.

McCance on Windmill Hill was called upon to bear the brunt of the English attack. His men, well posted behind the hedges, surprised the English at short range and drove them off. The English reinforced this section of their line heavily and came on again. The fighting was very fierce, and McCance's skirmishers, using every scrap of cover and retreating from hedge to hedge, held the enemy in check for about an hour. McCance asked for reinforcements and

the raw Irish levies. Nugent's conduct in seeking a battle with numerically superior forces was bold. His situation in Belfast was by no means safe and a victory was the best way out. As things appeared to him it was questionable whether the risk was justified. His action is an instance of the truth that in war the boldest course is often the most prudent.

BELFAST VOLUNTEERS.

The relaxation from the ordinary routine of military work, in the shape of the Concert and Ceilidh organised by the Belfast Committee on the 29th ult., was greatly appreciated by the Volunteers of the Northern capital and their friends. Great interest was taken in the visit of Eoin Mac Neill, the first since the inception of the movement. The dimensions of the crowd and the enthusiastic reception accorded the various speakers doubtless "gave furiously to think" to those few who "came to scoff" and learnt to appreciate.

But the Volunteers in Belfast do not allow even such pleasant distractions to divert their attention from the more serious work in hand. The new scheme of drill has been enthusiastically adopted, and the recent set-back has served only to make the men even more attentive to their military work. The special parade for field work on the 24th ult. was most encouraging in its results. The scouting ability displayed, and the aptitude which the men showed for taking cover were productive of high praise from the officers in charge.

The next parade for the same purpose has been fixed for Sunday next, 14th inst. Time of meeting and starting point as usual. Half-day's rations to be carried, and skeleton equipment. All men are ordered to attend punctually; further details will be announced at the various parades during the week.

IF YOU WANT TO SHOOT STRAIGHT come to THE FOX & CO. SHOOTING RANCE, 74 THOMAS STREET.

Managed by all-round Sportsman.

Avail of our Competitions and Money Prizes.

Open 1 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

Sundays from 11 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.

DO YOU FEEL WEAK, Depressed, or run down? CAHILL'S AROMATIC QUININE AND IRON TONIC will tone you up, steady your nerves, improve your appetite, enrich your blood. For summer lassitude, for Neuralgia, try a bottle, 1s. and 2s.; postage 4d. Made only by ARTHUR J. CAHILL, The National Chemist, 82a Lower Dorset Street, Dublin.

VOLUNTEERS!

SEND YOUR COLLARS, SHIRTS, etc., to
THE NATIONAL LAUNDRY
60 SOUTH WILLIAM STREET, DUBLIN.
UNIFORMS CLEANED AND PRESSED IN
TWO DAYS.

A GAME THAT MAY BE PLAYED.

By A. NEWMAN, Author of "The Pessimist," etc.

Unionists profess to be afraid of subjection to Mr. Redmond. They explain their fear by telling you wonderful stories about "Nationalist cunning." But, in passing, it may be worth pointing out for the twentieth time that cunning is a characteristic of downtrodden people and animals. For instance, a fat pug dog, protected from all disturbance, and overfed if anything, has no cunning whatever. But the stray dog, who is chased and harried, and whose meals are few and far between, develops cunning rapidly.

Unionists who have lived as a superior race with the help of England, would be no match for Mr. Redmond and his friends on equal terms.

They would be like so many spoiled pug dogs placed on equal terms with so many roving and hungry dogs; and they know it. I need hardly say that the analogy is not intended to be disrespectful either to Mr. Redmond or the people whom he woees so gracefully, and who refuse his proffered caresses so bluntly.

But Mr. Redmond is a persistent lover, and nothing seems to discourage him.

If I were asked to write the biography of Mr. Redmond—an honour which I do not expect will be thrust upon me—I should not claim for my hero a great intellect. I should rather study the man's weakness, which, curiously enough, has proved to be his strength in the political game.

I should dwell upon the weather-cock performance which he exhibited to an astonished Ireland when the elections began to go against Parnell, a few weeks before that giant's death. I should show how the timidity in Mr. Redmond's nature led him to avoid the kicks of fate, and eventually to emerge after the split as the chairman of a united party, simply because he makes an excellent chairman. I should quote, for the benefit of an admiring public, the words of a man bearing a name which is one of the five great political names of the last century. This intelligent Englishman once said: "Mr. Redmond is a charming man, a pleasant companion; but for my purpose he is useless. You see, all the Government have to do is to invite Mr. Redmond to a little chat in the Prime Minister's room, and he succumbs."

I should give much to know how many times Mr. Redmond was invited to "little chats in the Prime Minister's room" during the final struggle for Home Rule. But from what has occurred it is quite possible to realise that the visits bore their accustomed fruit, and Mr. Redmond succumbed on each occasion.

We know that he succumbed to the "little chat" about exclusion. In fact, I recollect an incident which points to the date of this particular exhibition of weakness. Mr. Devlin visited Belfast and brought with him our amiable friend Mr. Donovan. After "Joe" had talked to the Executive about Ireland's unalterable determination, the forces arrayed against the Nationalist party, and that beautiful thing, the great soul of English democracy, Mr. Donovan rose as though by a sudden impulse. I must say he played his part like a man and delivered his carefully prepared impromptu excellently. His business that evening was to appear impulsive, and let the Executive feel that he had just dropped in as it were and had been carried away by "Joe's" eloquence.

At any rate he deceived me for about four minutes. He appealed to the Executive to admire "Joe's statemanship." There was a man, if you please, whom a nation might entrust with the shaping of its destiny! There was a man before them who should be trusted without the necessity of his having to make any further appeal to the Executive for confirmation of his policy. Let them trust Joe to do the best he could in the present desperate struggle. Let them trust him to make the best possible terms with the enemy, yea, even unto the uttermost farthing—the exclusion of the four counties! And amid cries of "No" and howls of anger Mr. Donovan sat down gracefully, having played the part of the scapegoat, and revealed by an obvious method that far away in Westminster Mr. Redmond had succumbed to a "little chat in the Prime Minister's room!"

About a month later a chastened and contrite Executive accepted the principle of a divided Ireland.

Now I am convinced that the "little chats" were very frequent after exclusion was forced upon Mr. Redmond; and I am convinced that Mr. Redmond realised that Home Rule was lost pretty early in the struggle. He made no attempt to meet the unconstitutional opposition of "Ulster"; and he awakened suddenly to the fact that the rise of the Irish Volunteers might mean a victory of a sort for Irish Nationality, to which he himself could not lay claim. Before his eyes, I believe, was Home Rule defeated by the unconstitutionality of "Ulster" and the obvious union of English statesmen. I credit Mr. Redmond with appreciating to the full the fact that Ireland has invariably been betrayed by English statesmen, that it is not in the breed, and is contrary to the nature of the animal to keep faith with a "subject race." And perplexed by the Volunteer movement—an instinctive uprising of a nation which feels itself in danger of betrayal—and knowing that his paltry claim for Home Rule disappeared after a "little chat,"

Mr. Redmond looked about him for some refuge from the inevitable anger of his followers. And there his cunning saved him. He looked at the Volunteers for the first time with loving eyes. He saw in the Volunteers a great possibility. He saw in them a buffer which he could place between the party and the people when the people realised that thirty years of constitutional agitation had borne only dead sea fruit!

In his agile mind Mr. Redmond planned a game which we shall at some future date see him play.

"I shall split the Volunteers," he said to himself; and on the faction which the split creates, I shall lay the blame of the loss of Home Rule, and I shall then play the part of a betrayed leader. And they shall write of me in the chronicles of the party:—"Now in those days came forth a leader of the people, John, the son of Redmond. And he reigned thirty and five years in Westminster, and he did that which was good in the sight of the party. Now it came to pass that certain bold and lawless men arose, and did evil in the sight of the party, so that the people lost their liberty. Among these were Eoin the son of Neill, Roger the son of Casement, a sojourner in strange lands, and others with them, upon whom the people fell and in their wrath utterly destroyed them. But John the son of Redmond lived to a good old age and slept with his fathers, and Joseph the son of Devlin reigned in his stead."

Forewarned is forearmed!

Let us watch Mr. Redmond when he comes forth in his wrath, a beaten leader, beaten by a far away "little chat in the Prime Minister's room," to lay the blame of Ireland's betrayal upon the men who, fearless of consequences, strove to arm and prepare the Irish Nation to defend and maintain its liberty. But as Volunteers let us go forward and perfect ourselves for the struggle which the defence of our liberty will demand.

"The tragedy of the situation is," as Mr. Griffith said to me the other day, "that Redmond had a chance which no Irish leader ever had, and he missed it. Had Parnell been in his place when War was declared he would have got the repeal of the Union in two minutes, for the asking." Oh, for another Parnell! Well, we have something in his place; we have a united and armed body of men under brilliant and determined leaders, and through their fidelity Ireland may yet be saved.

DON'T FORGET

LARKIN'S LITTLE SHOP

For Big Value in Chandlery,
Tobaccos, Cigarettes, &c.

Irish Goods a Speciality.

WEXFORD STREET, DUBLIN.

Telephone 222.

John A. O'Connell

SCULPTOR,

King Street, Cork.

MONUMENTS, HEADSTONES, Etc.

VOLUNTEER to get your

CIGARETTES, TOBACCO, SMOKERS'
REQUISITES, and all NEWS

AT

O'MAHONY'S

STATIONER & TOBACCONIST,

31 Great George's Street, West, CORK.

For CHOICEST Blends of TEAS,

HIGH-CLASS GROCERIES & PROVISIONS,

TRY

CURTIN BROS.

52, 53, 54 Shandon St., & 40 Thomas Davis St.,
CORK.

Michael's Caps All

AT 11d.
1s. 5d.
2s. 5d.

3s. 8d. HATS. 10s. 5d. BOOTS.

All One Price.

MICHAELS, 77 Talbot St., DUBLIN.

BANNERS, FLAGS & SASHES

for all occasions designed and
made at Lowest Prices.

M. Cahill & Co., Parliament St.,
DUBLIN.

RIFLES.

Stevens .22 Repeating Rifle, American, 40/-.
Winchester .22 bolt action, 20/-.
American made .22 rifles from 10/- upwards.
Rifle Slings, Oil, Pull-Thros, Cleaning Rods,
Sight Protectors, etc., at Lowest Prices.
Knuckledusters, 6d., 9d., 1/6.
Life Preservers, 1/4 upwards.
Sword Cases from 1/6, great variety.
Large Stock of .22 Ammunition, lowest trade
Prices.

DEAL WITH AN IRISH FIRM.

JOHN LAWLER & SON,
2 Fownes's Street, Dame Street,
DUBLIN.

DE WET'S

Motto was—Never let the grass grow under your
feet, keep moving.

VOLUNTEERS'

Motto should be—Never let your whiskers grow,
keep moving them with a good razor.

Prices 2/- to 7/6.

McQUILLAN, 35-36 Capel St., DUBLIN

Ósúláiz na héireann

(DUBLIN REGIMENT).

"B" COMPANY, 1st BATTALION.

GRAND IRISH CONCERT

In Foresters' Hall, Parnell Square,

ON

SUNDAY, 21st FEB., at 8.

Programme will include Orchestral and
Choral items, Irish songs, recitations, and
dances by the best Irish-Ireland Artists.

ADMISSION - 2/-, 1/-, & 6d.

If you have not the ready money convenient,
there is an Irish Establishment which supplies
Goods on the Easy Payment System. It is THE
Dublin Workmen's Industrial Association, Ltd.
10 SOUTH WILLIAM STREET.

Office Hours—10.30 to 5.30 each day. Monday
and Friday evenings, 7 to 9. Saturday evening,
7 to 10.30. Manager—Alderman T. Kelly.

CAELS—Where to get your News,
Stationery, Cigarettes, General
Fancy Goods, etc., etc.—

O'Faoláin,
35 LOWER DORSET STREET.

Patland Plug

TOBACCO

FOR VOLUNTEERS.

W. & M. TAYLOR, DUBLIN.

Leanam go dtéid do clár ar Sinn Féin.

IRISH VOLUNTEERS

Support your own.

IRISH FARM PRODUCE CAFE
21 HENRY STREET.

No Foreign Foodstuffs.

Shooting at the CITY RIFLE RANGE

95, TALBOT STREET.

An Ideal Place to practice. Three Ranges, 10,
25, and 50 yards.

Up-to-date Rifle and Equipment.

One minute from Pillar.

Convenient for City Visitors.
Open 11 a.m. to 10.30 p.m., Sundays included.

féach annso!

IF YOU WANT Comfort and First-Class Attend-
ance, try

THE COSY CORNER TEA ROOMS,
(Corner of Baggot St. and Merrion St.).

Breakfasts, Luncheons, Teas, etc.,
At Lowest Possible Prices.

M. CALLENDER.

Halt at KELLY'S

40 AMIENS STREET.

VOLUNTEER OUTFIT MANUFACTURER.

5-Pocket Leather Bandolier	...	5/-
Belts	...	1/6 & 2/-
Rifle Slings	...	each 1/-
Caps	...	from 2/6
Haversacks	...	10d. & 1/-
Puttees (same as Uniform)	...	1/6

All above made on Premises.

UNIFORM TO MEASURE ... 30/-

Spurs, 2/6 & 3/-. Special Marching Boots, 10/6.
Also SHIRTS, COLLARS, TIES, CAPS, HATS,
SOCKS, BRACES, etc.

EVERYTHING TO EQUIP AN ARMY.

1d. THE SPARK 1d.

No. 2. Sunday, February 14th, 1915.

Is Mick McQuaid Really Dead?

THE "LITTLE" PAPER.



As I write these notes the first sheets of "Fianna" are being printed off. I give the paper a hearty welcome, for never was a paper launched with more daring or with less capital. All honour to Patsy O'Connor and Percy Reynolds for their indomitable spirit and enterprise. They share between them the entire work of editing and managing the paper; no easy task for two boys to perform in their spare time. Good luck to the pioneers.

I do not know what the contents of the paper will be like. I have, however, been shown the first instalment of "The Wandering Hawk," which will appear in the first number. It promises to be a really first-rate story of school-life. In the chapter I have read we are introduced to the personnel of the school, from young Clery, the favourite, to "Old Snuffy," the distinguished President of St. Finian's College. The first chapter does not thrill, but, like the first week at school, it introduces you to all the fellows and masters, and you begin to know and like them like an old hand.

It is an extraordinary thing that until the Christian Brothers took the initiative and published "Our Boys" a few months ago we have had no boys' paper for the boys of Ireland. The want has been keenly felt for a very long time, and even the existence of two monthlies does not mitigate the want to a very considerable extent. What we need most is a good live weekly. Nearly every boy from twelve to sixteen years of age reads at least one boys' paper every week, and until there is one published in Ireland, they will continue to subscribe to those

imported from England. There is no use preaching against them, for preaching against them only acts as an incentive to a wider reading of these papers. That has been the case with me, anyway.

There was a very great improvement in the attendance at the lectures for Fianna Cadets during the past fortnight. The first of a series of lectures from extern instructors was delivered last Friday. The numerous questions put to the lecturer at the end showed the keen interest and intelligent understanding of the subject by the Cadets. Not a few of the officers who could profit much from these lectures still fail to put in an appearance.

I paid a visit to Fianna Headquarters on Saturday last and had a look over the Inspection Book of the Dublin Battalion. I was rather surprised to find that the left-half of Company "B," Inchicore, has practically gone out of business. Capt. Colbert, Commander of Company "B," is also Captain of the local Company of Irish Volunteers. That's all.

Thanks to its earnest and thorough President, the Waterford Sluagh of the Fianna has weathered the storm that has wrecked more than one of our country sluagh during the past six months. Not being satisfied with their efforts to disrupt the adult volunteer organisation, many of the party politicians who pollute the public life of our country showed unusual zeal in attributing Sinn Féin tendencies to the Fianna. A self-governing boys' organisation is inconceivable to the mentality of the machine politician.

WILLIE NELSON.

TO BE SURE that you get the right Fianna Uniform, you must deal with the **OFFICIAL OUTFITTERS,**

WHELAN & SON, 17 Up. Ormond Quay,

Who have been appointed Special Outfitters by the Executive Council. Lists Free.

DRINK KERNAN'S Dry Ginger Ale

1782 **The Volunteer Boots.** 1914

13/6

To Measure

Specially designed for marching, and manufactured in my own factory by Irish Trade Union Labour. Post Orders promptly attended to.

JOHN MALONE, NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

FLASHLIGHT Photographs

Taken of Dances anywhere in Ireland. Secretaries should book dates now.

Keogh Brothers

75 Lr. Dorset St., Dublin.

Successful groups guaranteed.

"An Scéil a Céile 'Seo Maíro na Daoine,'
& Saebéala:—

We appeal to you as a Gael only for a trial order. We are certain to give you satisfaction.

LADIES' AND GENTS' TAILOR,

pádraig ó booleir,

2 LOWER ORMOND QUAY.

BOMBARDMENT

OF FOREIGN-MANUFACTURED GOODS

AT

LOUGHLIN'S HEADQUARTERS

IRISH SHIRTS, HOSIERY, GLOVES, NECKWEAR, UMBRELLAS, HANDKERCHIEFS, HATS, CAPS, BRACES, IRISH GLOVES FOR LADIES' PRESENTS A SPECIALITY.

T. J. Loughlin,

Irish Outfitting Headquarters.

PARLIAMENT STREET, DUBLIN.

TARGET RIFLES

FOR VOLUNTEERS.

B.S.A. Rifles, No. 2 Model, 22 cal. ...	30s.
War Office Miniature Rifles, 22 cal. ...	45s.
B.S.A. Air Rifles, shoots accurately up to 25 yards ...	45s.
Militia Air Rifles, shoots accurately up to 25 yards ...	32s.
Goth, 20th Century Rifles, 22 cal. ...	12s. 6d.
22 Rim Fire Cartridges (various brands).	
Greener Spotshot Target Rifle, Aperture sights, 22 cal. ...	40s.
B.S.A. No. 12 model Target Rifle, 22 cal., with aperture sights, the best Miniature Target Rifle on the market, £4 8s. 6d.	

L. KEEGAN,

Gun and Rifle Maker & Ammunition Merchant

3 INN'S QUAY, DUBLIN.

H. Holohan & Co.,

Importers and Exporters of Malacca, Basket, Toy and Pulp Cane. Bul and White Sticks and Osiers.

Manufacturers of Art Wicker Furniture, Travelling, Laundry and Factory Hampers. Wicker Trucks and Handcarts, etc.

16 USHERS' QUAY, DUBLIN.

G.P.O. CONTRACTORS.

Telephone 2921.

Founded 1895

Printed for the Proprietors by P. MAMON, 3 Yarnall St., Dublin, and published at the Volunteer Headquarters, 41 Kildare St., Dublin.