

IRISH VOLUNTEERS

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 11th, 1916.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

The Home Rule cheque was signed a year and a half ago. The story of what went on about it between the outbreak of the war and the signing of the cheque has not been revealed to the people of Ireland by those who took upon themselves to act as Ireland's plenipotentiaries—a power which was never conferred on them. There were private meetings and Cabinet meetings. The opponents of Home Rule carried the day, except in so far as the Home Rule Bill was not completely abandoned. The cheque was signed and postdated for twelve months. Then the self-constituted plenipotentiaries, having been forced to yield because they took it on themselves to put their cause at the mercy of secret negotiations and kept the knowledge of what was going on from the people of Ireland, were forced to come out in public and declare that their demands had been conceded—when they had not been conceded. Ireland, they declared, must now pay the price, a price that Ireland had never before heard of, for that which was hers by right, and which these same men had always claimed as a national right and a measure of justice.

"Justice shall not be denied or sold or delayed." The chief offenders are those British Ministers who had pledged their honour to carry through this measure of justice, and had already accepted on that faith the support of the Irish Party and of the electorate behind the Irish Party. Already they had partly gone back on their pledges, and their success in forcing a partial surrender on their Irish allies encouraged them to go farther in the same path of dishonour. It was these men, Mr. Birrell and his colleagues, that delayed justice and held it up for sale.

What, let us ask, would have happened if, within the first two months of the war, Mr. Asquith, Mr. Birrell, and the other Liberal Ministers who were not secretly opposed to Home Rule, had said: "Our honour is pledged to Mr. Redmond, our terms of agreement are public, they are embodied in the Home Rule Bill, they are not a hypocritical sham, the British Democracy supports them; and now in this unparalleled Imperial crisis we, who claim to be devoted not only to the British Empire but also to the cause of European liberty and of the smaller nations, insist on the fulfilment of our contract without further conditions and without further delay?" Who could have prevented them? Would the Unionists have ventured either to renew the conflict in Great Britain or to have carried out their threat of violence in Ireland, in the midst of the Imperial crisis? Could they have denounced Mr. Redmond for claiming at least the immediate fulfilment of the agreement by compromise embodied in the Home Rule Bill?

What these men did, who talk to us of honour and loyalty, was to make a compact with the enemies of Home Rule, and to force that compact upon Mr. Redmond. They said in effect to Mr. Redmond, "We will not fulfil our agreement with you. You are powerless to insist upon it. In three months' time, or six months, or nine months at the outside, we shall be sitting in Berlin dictating our will to the world. You and your puny nation are in no position to demand anything, even though it has been already agreed upon. That agreement no longer holds. The conditions we now offer you are these: the Home Rule Bill will receive the royal assent, but its operation will be suspended until we come back from Berlin. Before it can come into effect, your opponents, the Unionists, will have full opportunity of altering the terms of the Act by means of an amending Act. In the meantime, you shall assist us to the utmost in the prosecution of the war. You shall do your utmost to raise an army for us in Ireland, to stifle the discontent that these terms will naturally arouse in Ireland, and to aid us in imposing fresh taxes upon Ireland for the purpose of the war. Otherwise, you must plainly understand that the Home Rule Bill will have to be abandoned."

Mr. Redmond yielded to the defenders of treaty obligations and of small nationalities. Having yielded, he tried to make the case that he was bound and that the Irish electorate were bound by some previous understanding to accept

these terms. He has never been able to state on what occasion any body of Irishmen bound themselves by any such understanding. He has since been forced to go farther and to lay down that Ireland is bound by an honourable understanding to send every available man to fight for the Empire, because Home Rule has reached its present position. The truth is that not even the English people understood, until the war was upon them, that they would be asked to raise an army on a continental scale in order that they might satisfy the expectations of their allies and still keep their naval strength unimpaired. Therefore it is untrue to everybody's knowledge and cannot possibly be true that Ireland understood any such obligation, express or implied, even upon the full concession of her national rights, not to speak of the present ignominious position of the Home Rule Act.

The cheque for Home Rule was post-dated to September 17th, 1915—and the new terms were forced upon Mr. Redmond. In September, 1915, Mr. Asquith had not yet reached Berlin, and the cheque was again post-dated to St. Patrick's Day, 1916. St. Patrick's Day is coming, and Mr. Asquith does not expect to be in Berlin by then. So the English Privy Council met some days ago, King George presided, and the Home Rule cheque was post-dated to September, 1916. But the day of our National Apostle is to be celebrated in Dublin by an Imperial flag collection, and by that day twelvemonth the Imperial tribute collectors in Ireland will be expected to have raked in an additional Eight Millions of war taxes. They will also have to rake in whatever fresh taxes will be imposed under the Budget now in preparation. It looks as if the principal duty of an Irish Government under the Home Rule Act is to be the collection of Imperial taxes. Never was such a legislative mea contrivis as the present position of Home Rule.

A crowded meeting held last week in the Dublin Mansion House to protest against the plunder of Ireland was practically boycotted by the "Irish" daily papers, which make a harvest out of war advertisements. The state of funk to which the Unionist Press is reduced on the taxation question is attested by the "Irish Times," which was afraid to tell its readers that such a meeting was held. The Unionists have managed to hold an extra big share of all the good things that Imperial government has left us, and it is a slight offset to the robbery of the nation to know that the hangmen-on of predominant Party stand in danger of being the most severely flogged. The big whigs that pretend to be Nationalists of a sort are in the same case. If it was not for the Nation's loss, we might say "Devil's cure to them."

"Can the Empire spare this man to the parish pump politics of a single nation? Why narrow his mind, and to Ireland give up what was meant for mankind?" These are the words of the Home Rule Liberal "Review of Reviews" for March, 1911. They represent the sympathy of the English Liberals for Irish nationality and for Irish self-government. They are the last words of a long and highly eulogistic "character sketch" of an Irish politician. The Empire is for mankind. Ireland for the parish pump. Remark the flattery and the well-laid temptation. "This man" then seemed a danger, he was an unknown quantity. Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon are handled in the same article, but the Liberals knew all about them. They are no longer anxious about Mr. Devlin, for he is the man whom in 1911 they were trying to secure for the Empire and to inspire with contempt for the parish pump politics of Irish Nationality. They now have him, and Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon with him, helping them to plunder, ruin and depopulate Ireland for the benefit of mankind!

I pointed out recently that, since "Ireland will be eternally disgraced" and will be "unworthy of Home Rule" and double taxation "unless the gaps in Irish regimental ranks are filled up by Irishmen," then the bigger the gaps are made the greater will be Ireland's disgrace and her unworthiness for Home Rule. At a recruiting meeting the other day the Earl of Fingall quoted a letter he had received from an Irish officer, who said that of 1,000 men he took out to the war there were only 100 left. The things that Mr. Redmond has to say seem a bit hard on the other 900.

The London "Times" of last Saturday had another inspired article on the Irish Volunteers, who, says the inspired writer, are drawn from three groups: "a small nucleus of letter, sincere, and clever malcontents; a much larger number who say, and perhaps believe, that this is not Ireland's war, because they have been disappointed about Home Rule; and a still larger number who profess the doctrines of Sinn Féin as an excuse for the selfishness or apathy that keeps them from joining the Colours." There were thought to be Irish Volunteers before the war, but that may have been a mistake. "The best Irish opinion," says the inspired writer, "is uneasy about the Government's policy of 'laissez faire.'" The best Irish opinion, then, must be a very hole-and-corner sort of thing with a particular love of anonymity. If it wants the Government to declare war in Ireland, why is the best Irish opinion afraid to put its name to its demand? The "Times" would not refuse its columns to a list of names of those who constitute its best Irish opinion, and would thus relieve them of the stigma cast upon them by its special writer.

Dublin Castle instructed its legal representative in Cork to suggest a charge of inciting to the murder of Mr. Redmond against an Irish Volunteer organiser, but failed to produce any evidence in support of the charge. The game is obvious enough. The Castle wants the Irish question to take the convenient form of a faction fight. It played that game in Limerick, and got a special report for it in the English papers. It played it in Lyons. Its recruiting officers played it all over Kerry, and Sir Morgan O'Connell says that now "every village in Kerry is rotten with Sinn Féin"—the printer will please leave Sir Morgan's German uncorrected. So, in order to blood up Mr. Redmond's supporters, the Castle invents an incitement to murder Mr. Redmond, trusting that they will not notice that no witness could be got to swear to the invention. Mr. Birrell may make up his mind that the Irish Volunteers will not lay a finger on Mr. Redmond. It is the Burglar that they are looking out for. Mr. Redmond may even stand on his masters' platform and insult us to please them, to further their game of faction making, and to encourage their "Defence of the Realm" performances. The Irish Volunteers will not lose sight of their one and only purpose.

The inspired writer in the "Times" does not fail to take a hand in the game. The "Times" gives him a heading in capitals, "FURY WITH MR. REDMOND," and this good Unionist says: "Mr. Redmond's strong hand in favour of recruiting has infuriated the Sinn Féiners." I must admit that I have heard a chorus of youngsters in Dublin publicly singing their intention to "hang John Redmond on a sour apple tree," and that the "infuriated Sinn Féiners," several thousand of them, actually laughed to hear this doom pronounced. "The wrath of the Sinn Féiners is unbounded," says the inspired one, "and he is abused in nearly every issue of their weekly newspapers with all the tropical insinuation of Celtic imagery." The sweet at the Celt shows us in what circle the writer gathers "the best Irish opinion." It follows a sentence in which he praises Mr. Redmond's sincerity and courage. At the same time the Best Irish Opinion is thinking night and day about giving Mr. Redmond Limerick when there is no further use for him, and is counting confidently on the help of the Best English Opinion. Wait and see! There is another issue of the Best Irish Opinion at "the impish tendencies of the Celtic character," and another issue at "the Irish peasant," the farmer's son. Very sincere and courageous is the anonymous admirer of Mr. Redmond's sincerity and courage, as he waits for the time to smother Mr. Redmond.

EOIN MAC NEILL.

THE DUBLIN BRIGADE.

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING 12th MARCH, 1916.

1. The Musketry Class will not be held this week. Other Classes as usual.
2. Lecture for Officers on Saturday, 8 p.m.
3. On St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, there will be a Church Parade and Inspection of Brigade.

E. DE VATER, Brigade Adj.

HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

Tionól do dí ag Comaíle Éireann
fáil ina nDáiread tréonóna D. Céasóin
an lán lá n'fáil m'fó agur Camonn Céann
na dáiread éirí.

Do fopuicéad a lán neide ag baint le
hóruad, le himteacáin na n'fáil, go.

Dáiread na Féinne,
de Cliaí, 1 m'fáil, 1916.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers
met at Headquarters on Wednesday evening, the
1st inst., Mr. E. Kent in the chair.

Various arrangements were made in connection
with organisation, the movements of Organ-
isers, etc.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 1st March, 1916.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

The Brigades and Battalions everywhere have
entered with spirit into the views of Head-
quarters with regard to St. Patrick's Day.
There will be Church Parades on a large or on a
small scale in a great many centres. Manoeuvres
or recruiting marches will occupy the men during
the day, and in the evening there will be
concerts and social rallies of one sort or another.
The Parades ought to be utilised by Commanding
Officers for the inspection of equipment. Each
man (unless otherwise ordered) should turn out
with arms, ammunition pouch or bandolier, and
haversack. Where the men have knapsacks
these also should be carried. The officers should
regard the mobilisation as a test of the men's
readiness, and remember that the readiness of
their equipment requires to be tested as well as
the men's personal readiness. Such important
matters as cleaning apparatus for rifles should
not be lost sight of on an occasion like this.
Officers and men should get into the habit of
turning out with all the essentials of field ser-
vice, apart from the more ponderous impedi-
ments which would need special means of trans-
port. And even the special means of transport
should be tested a few times a year.

HEADGEAR.

Our Volunteer cap has certain advantages and
certain disadvantages. As to the advantages,
the chief is that it is smart-looking. As to dis-
advantages, among other obvious ones, it affords
no protection from sun and rain to the back of
the head; it is conspicuous, and therefore not
very good for taking cover; and, if removed from
the head, it is from its shape difficult to stow
anywhere. On the whole, it is believed that a
fairly wide-brimmed felt hat of the type worn
by the Canadians, Australians, and South
Africans is a more serviceable headgear for field
work. Such a hat should, of course, be as nearly
waterproof as possible, and this consideration
bars out the cheaper sorts of soft hats. Head-
quarters would long ago have prescribed an

official hat in substitution for the cap only for
the difficulty of getting a manufacturer to turn
out the article required in sufficient quantities.
In point of fact, no Irish manufacturer seems
willing or able to undertake the thing. It has
therefore been found desirable to issue an Order
merely in general terms, but the order is an im-
portant one and should be obeyed everywhere.
It is to the effect that each Volunteer is to pro-
vide himself with a broad-brimmed felt hat of
a neutral colour (preferably grey-green) and that
this is to be worn for field work or when specially
ordered by a Commanding Officer. In many
cases the hat which the Volunteer wears in
everyday life will do very well.

OTHER THINGS.

There are some other items of personal equip-
ment which Volunteers should look after for
themselves. Good, strong, comfortable boots are
one. Battles have been lost because the soldiers
were not well-shod. A change of shirt and of
socks and a spare handkerchief or two should be
to the marching kit of every Volunteer. A clasp-
knife, a scissors, pins, boot-laces, matches, a
pocket torch or even a stump of candle, a lead-
pencil, a notebook,—not one of these will be in
the way, and every one of these will be useful.
Cyclists should not forget pump and repairing
outfit. And every man should have his First
Field Dressing, and every Company a supply of
splints and larger bandages. The getting of such
things together is as much a part of the training
of Volunteer officers and men as is their foot-
drill or their bayonet exercise.

WINNING OUT.

The Director of Organisation has, within the
past three weeks, visited the Waterford, Limerick,
Tralee, Ennis, and Belfast Battalions
and conferred with the Commanding Officers.
The spirit everywhere is splendid, training pro-
ceeds apace, and equipment is being completed.
In every area visited the local Battalion is
stronger numerically, better trained and armed,
and noticeably more popular and influential in
the community than on the occasion of similar
visits last year. In each of the towns named the
Irish Volunteers have literally won out as far as
Nationalist public opinion is concerned.

A MILITARY CAUSERIE

LA TRIOMPHÉ.

Tired and dirty, Cornelius Cannon stood in a
ditch and shouted directions to the still more
tired and dirty men who constituted his section
and who were busy strengthening and loop-holing
the hedge in front. The men of the supporting
section, having finished their work of preparing
the foreground, were filing through a gap in the
hedge and making for their own hedge in the
rear. Cornelius was annoyed to see that they
had cut down a tree he had hoped to use as a
range-gauge while he had been too busy swear-
ing at his men to notice. In the distance he
could hear sporadic firing, which showed that the
advanced troops were already engaged. The
hedge being now more or less adapted to his
satisfaction, he ordered his men to cease work
and resume their tunics. Each man made him-
self comfortable by his own loophole, and Cor-
nelius sat down to take a well-earned rest. As an
afterthought he detailed a couple of men to heap
up some jagged stones in a convenient place.

The sound of firing came nearer, and a stray
bullet broke a branch above a man's head.
"Wish I was in support," muttered the man.
Cornelius was wishing the same, for he put no
great reliance on his section. His best sound
leader—one Muldoon, a hard-chaw—had been
taken away to train recruits, and six of his best
men were acting as Section Commanders in
newly-raised units. Their places had been taken
by raw young Volunteers who had merely been
trained how to sight, the staff not being prepared
to waste ammunition in teaching them to shoot.
He looked anxiously at two conscripts who did
not seem at all comfortable, and thought grudge-
fully of his three good snipers, the only men in his
section who had any sniping rifles, who had been
thrown forward with a thin line of other snipers
to harass the advancing enemy from hedge to
hedge and lure him to his destruction against the
one which Cornelius was swearing.

Nearer came the firing. A running Volunteer
appeared in the foreground and made for the gap
which had been left for the fatigue party and
which Cornelius had forgotten to close. It was
young Kelly, one of the snipers. "Where are
the others?" asked Cornelius. "H—H," said
Kelly between gasps. Cornelius ordered a man
to close the gap. Kelly selected a place for him-

self in the line. "Main attack seems to be
coming this way," he said. "So we've heard,"
said Cornelius, "but I'll pass your information
on to confirm it."

Cornelius looked along the lines of "Y"
Battalion, sizing up the men who were to bear
the brunt of the fight. His own section was a
sample of the whole. He had fourteen men left.
One, Kelly, had a magazine rifle; six had Mar-
tinis; three had Howth guns; the rest had shot
guns. Cornelius issued his orders. "Kelly, you
can start firing at 400 if you have a target; Mar-
tinis, you hold your fire till they reach that bush
at 220; the rest, wait for point blank. Anyone
firing wildly will get the rifle-butt. Murphy,
keep your infernal head down." Somewhere up
the line a few rifles went off. "That's that
weak-kneed idiot Mooney," mused Cornelius.
"He never could keep his men in order." And,
louder, "Let's have none of that in this section!"
The section grinned.

Half an hour later. The line was thin, but
had been thinner, for some of the supports had
been cut up to fill the gaps. There was a pause
in the firing. A firing position to the left had
been fought for and lost. Cornelius had seen a
counter-attack by two companies of pikemen
crumple up. Nobody came back. Now suddenly
right in front of him the enemy broke cover and
came on with a rush. He watched the long dense
something line, fascinated. Kelly, wounded, was
firing slowly. Then came the crack of Martinis
and the boom of Howth guns. One of the shot-
gun men pulled a futile trigger. Cornelius woke
up and cursed furiously. The line came on.
Now, boys. The shot guns joined in the fray.
Next minute the enemy was raging among the
barbed wire and larches.

The wave had gone back, but only temporarily.
Cornelius thanked his stars and the thickness of
the hedge. But in a short time machine-guns
had been turned on that stout defence, and after
a lavish expenditure of ammunition thinned it
out. The firing line of the defenders was also
thinned, and again the enemy came on.

At it, hand-to-hand in the ruins of the hedge.
Some men, having exhausted all their ammuni-
tion, have been throwing stones. Some turn to

run, but are met by Cornelius and his rifle. Some
of the enemy are now through the hedge,
and help does not seem forthcoming. A desper-
ate glance round shows a distant force advanc-
ing. "Can we hold them off till they come?"
Cornelius doesn't know what to do. He looks
round again. The Local Reserve is nearer; it is
hurrying. "Give them something to do while
they're waiting, anyhow," he says. He blows
his whistle. "Come on!" He rushes through
the hedge at the worst of the gaps, and the rest
of "Z" Company rushes in behind him. Best
rifles and twisted shot-guns are whirling desper-
ately. By the time the Company has been
annihilated the counter-attack has come home.

Just an imaginary picture of hedge-fighting
by one who has never seen it. But it might work
out that way—more or less.

Cumann na mBan

There are a few questions I should like to put
before the members of Cumann na mBan and the
other women of Ireland this week. Let them
form the subject of meditation for the next few
days and I am sure they will arrive at the con-
clusions that every Irishwoman at the present
moment should inevitably come to at the present
time—

- (1) Wherefore have we Irish Volunteers?
- (2) Is the present year 1916 going to have any
more significance for the Irish Volunteers than
all the years to follow?
- (3) Is the fate of the Irish Volunteers and the
issue of their achievements a matter of indiffer-
ence to the Cumann na mBan?
- (4) Can the Cumann na mBan do anything to
shape the destinies of the Irish Volunteers?

REPORTS FROM BRANCHES.

A great many of the Branches have decided to
hold a flag-day for Cumann na mBan, and we
except that it ought to serve as splendid propa-
ganda, besides swelling the purse of the or-
ganisation.

As usual, we have received a very satisfactory
report from the Belfast Branch. To add to their
many activities they are now starting a class for
Semaphore Signalling. They are making a
minute study of the rifle, cleaning and using it.
Their First Aid Classes are going on vigorously.
They have just held a Rifle Rally, and the pro-
ceeds are sufficient to purchase an ambulance
outfit. Into the bargain they have kindly been
returned the rifle for the use of the members
of Cumann na mBan. A Cycling Corps is being
formed next month, for First Aid conveniences,
scouting and signalling purposes. The balance of
the Whist Drive held on January 25th went to
the Defence of Ireland Fund.

ST. PATRICK'S NIGHT CONCERT.

The National Festival will be fittingly cele-
brated by the great Irish Concert organised for
the Rotunda Rink. The Committee in charge has
secured the services of some of the best Irish-
land artists, and a highly enjoyable pro-
gramme, including some items not hitherto
heard on the National concert platform, has been
drawn up. The function will be well worth at-
tending if only for the address by a well-known
Irish-Ireland priest, one of the younger men who
may be relied upon to carry on the virile tradition
of the Wexford '98 priests and of the veteran
Father Matt Ryan of our own day. The function
is being organised by the Committee of the Central
Branch, Sinn Féin, who have decided to allot
one-third of the proceeds to the equipment fund
of the Dublin Brigade, Irish Volunteers. The
charges for admission are 3s., 2s., 1s., and 6d.
Tickets for the 3s. and 2s. seats may be secured
in advance at the Sinn Féin Bank, 6 Harcourt
Street. Doors open at 7 p.m.

DEFENCE
OF THE
REALM ACT
in IRELAND

The aim of this Pamphlet
is to show that the REALM
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OF ENGLISH COERCION ACTS.

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(One door from Exchequer Street).

CONVENTIONAL SIGNS (Continued).

The remainder of the signs used in field sketching are printed below. Elementary field sketching should be carried out in conjunction with map-reading. Scouts are not expected to be able to draw perfectly accurate field maps. All that is required of them is to be able to illustrate on paper the position held by an enemy, or to draw a rough sketch of the roads, between one point and another, sufficiently clear that anyone of ordinary intelligence might follow easily. Al-

though, in actual work, it is only necessary to draw your maps roughly to scale, yet, in the initial stages of your practice they should be drawn as accurately as possible. Until you are expert in judging distance you should check your estimates by pacing.

When you are able to draw a sketch-map fairly accurately you should practice field sketching from memory. That is, to be able to draw a map, on your return home, after reconnoitering a piece of country. It requires persistent practice to be able to do this with some degree of accuracy.

CHURCHES or CHAPELS.

It is important for the reconnoiterer to note whether the church has a tower or spire.



TROOPS. The unit and strength must be shown alongside the sign for troops. The sign need not be drawn to scale. The direction which a patrol of scouts takes should be indicated by an arrow.



TRENCHES. The sign shown above is used to indicate artificial entrenchments, and not the natural trench afforded by a bank and hedge, etc.

ABBREVIATIONS.

D. Post Office.
T. Telegraph.
S.R. Sign Post.
W. Well.

CLEARANCE
OR
DEMOLITIONS.



ABBREVIATIONS. In outpost sketches the letters P, S, R may be used for the words picket, support, and reserve.



NORTH POINT. The magnetic variation is shown by the sign. The true North line is marked by a star or cross, and the magnetic North line by an arrow.

SETTING A MAP. To set a map simply means to lay it out so that the North line on the map points to the true North. When a map is set, it will correspond exactly with the ground it represents, and is then much easier to identify the various points on the ground shown by the map.

There are many methods by which a map may be set, with or without a compass.

(a) With a compass.—Hold the compass steady and move the map until the magnetic line on the map points exactly in the same direction as the needle of the compass.

(b) Without a compass.—Identify your own position on the map and call it A; also another object which you call B. Draw a pencil line on the map from A to B. Turn the map so that A points towards your position and B directly at the second object.

There are many other ways of setting a map, as for instance, by means of a watch and the sun, the Pole Star, or by comparing outstanding objects on the ground, or the country generally, with the map.

FOR NEW COMPANIES.

LETTER III. HOW TO CARRY OUT THE PROGRAMME OF TRAINING GIVEN LAST WEEK.

A CHAIR.
In my first letter I warned you not to waste time on close order drill. Now this does not mean that drill is to be cut right out; on the contrary, you will see by the programme I suggested last week that I recommended that every night's work should begin with close order drill, lasting about 15 or 20 minutes. This is essential for the proper discipline of the Company; it gives men the habit of obeying orders promptly and accurately, and at the same time gives the commander an opportunity of learning how to handle his men. Without a thorough good course in drill the best and most enthusiastic men in Ireland, or anywhere else, are nothing but a mob. So when I say that your men probably know enough close order drill you will understand that no time is to be wasted in teaching them the beauties of Battalion drill or such like, but neither are they to be allowed to forget the Section and Company drill they know, and forget with it the lessons of discipline it stands for. It is true that close order drill is very little use in face of the enemy, but remember that drill is only a means to an end. The end is Discipline.

EXTENDED ORDER.

Far different from drill is the work I suggested for the third twenty minutes of the first week's training. Extended order is often erroneously called "extended order drill." No greater mistake could be made. Extension is a tactical exercise, an elementary manoeuvre. Drill trains men to obey orders. Extension, as far as it goes, teaches men how to fight. You should explain to your men, tell them that while orders are always to be obeyed promptly, in extension the same precision and regularity of movement is not necessary and should not be aimed at. Your explanation might continue thus—

Extension is necessary on account of the long range of modern firearms. It is used to approach within striking distance of a well armed enemy by day; this is done by sending forward a succession of extended skirmish lines to build up a firing line. Two considerations govern the extension: 1. Enemy's fire; 2. Nature of ground. The usual point about extension is that it enables a force to advance with the minimum loss of men and discipline, while its only drawback is, it weakens control and fire effect. The conclusion from this last consideration is that the extension should be as little as is absolutely necessary.

In training men in extended order they should be accustomed—

1. To work in pairs at any interval.
2. To keep a fairly straight line and not mask one another's fire.

3. To work by sections.
4. To advance by rugged rushes, 2 by 2, creeping or doubling according to the nature of the ground.
5. To keep correct interval, not to crowd or scatter.
6. To take cover, choosing it in advance.
7. To obey promptly the commands of the Section Commander, and, if he is put out of action, to continue the advance.
8. If retirement is necessary, to keep cool and retire by Sections.

In conclusion, I would suggest that before attempting this work with your men, you should study the articles on Field Training in *THE IRISH VOLUNTEER* of April 1st, 17th, 24th, and May 1st and 8th, 1915. Turn them up on your file, or if you haven't got a file, send to Headquarters for back numbers.

Next week I shall explain some other branches of the programme.

A NEW "TRACT FOR THE TIMES."

Mr. P. H. Pearce's "Ghosts" appeared last week as No. 10 of "Tracts for the Times." On sale everywhere at a penny. Wholesale from Whelan & Son, 17 Upper Ormond Quay.

LANGUAGE WEEK.

A Conference of Workers in the Gaelic League of Dublin will be held in the Oak Room, Mansion House, on Friday, March 10th, at 8 p.m. The Coiste Comhairle asks all city crabbachs to be well represented at the meeting; and it invites friendly organisations to send as many of their members as may be willing and able to give us active assistance in the Language Campaign.

SEAN MAH GOILLINATHA, Secretary.

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IV.—THE DISGRACEFUL SCENES AT SCHWEGHAT.

The following describes a grievous blunder by the raw Hungarian Staff on the eve of the battle of Schwechat, which had far-reaching results:—

"Scarcely had darkness quite set in, when the officer of the General's Staff, Nemegyei, present with our left wing, saw visions which, with a rare scrupulousness and to our little trouble, he committed to paper, 'that we had already been turned.' The Raab scythe-bearers, consisting of several thousands, were immediately sent thither from the reserve for the security of the left wing. They reached the camp of my brigade without accident. From us they had, perhaps, still half an hour's march to the ideally-menaced point, but the ordnance officer of the left wing, who had been appointed to conduct them thither, lost the direction, and led them circuitously about during several hours, till at last they stopped from sheer exhaustion, and left to Nemegyei alone the unequal combat with the spectral turning-column of the enemy.

"Insignificant as this incident seemed to be, it actually exerted an important influence on the disgraceful issue of the approaching battle. The troops of almost the whole centre, but especially those of its left wing—my brigade—were already, early in the morning of the 8th, physically exhausted, morally shaken. They had had no rest, and were quite unable to resist the fatal effects of the terrible runnours of the preceding night. As I had foretold, I saw the enthusiasm, which had really been very vividly kindled by the President's fine speeches in the Parendorf Camp, already on the point of extinction. We had lost the battle before it had begun."

In the battle some Hungarian battalions came unexpectedly under fire. By his first shots he at once threw my battalions into irremediable confusion. The Gömör National Guards ran away first. These were followed by the Honvéd Volunteers, after they had overturned their commander, horse and all, in his endeavours to stop them. I had not observed what was taking place in the first Pesth battalion. I now found it also already in confusion; and its commander, the National Guard Major, Count Ernest Almásy, almost beside himself with exhaustion, in consequence of his strenuous efforts to keep his men together. . . . Captain Gömör, of the battalion, seized the banner, ran ahead with it more than fifty paces towards the enemy, planted it in the ground, and cried in Hungarian, 'Hither, Magyar! here waves thy banner!'

"From thirty to forty of the most courageous followed the intrepid man. But while the foremost rank joined them only laggardly, those behind deserted more and more; and after a few minutes the battalion resembled a mis-shapen elongated reptile, for the greater number crawled away on all fours, while those who fled erect tumbled over them. In vain did Captain Gömör again hold up the banner, wave it high in the air, and exhaust himself with inspiring shouts; in vain did the commander of the battalion, with his adjutant, at last fall on the fugitives—they were no longer to be stopped. And even those few who had advanced at Gömör's first call, quickly deserted him again one after the other; and he soon stood there alone with the banner."

Of the Nograd Volunteer battalion only one man remained out of the general flight. "Thus out of nearly 5,000 of those National Guards and Volunteers, about whose valor I had already heard so many times, who, as they themselves had repeatedly asserted, were burning with desire to measure themselves with an enemy whom they never mentioned but with the greatest contempt—there remained to me after a short hostile cannonade a single man. . . . The other brigades were said—credible as it seems—to have taken to their heels even before mine. . . . The firmness with which at Nikelburg I had opposed the President's urging to the offensive, proved, I should think, clearly enough that I was perfectly prepared for an unfortunate defeat of these 'inspired legions'; but what I had just experienced far exceeded my worst apprehensions."

Görgei now sent his staff "after the fugitives, to stop and assemble as many as they possibly could," as to put some kind of a rearguard between the flying army and the Austrians. "The result of their exertions was hopelessly small, about 1,000 men in all, and even these were continually on the point of running away again." Fortunately the Austrians did not pursue.

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