

the Irish soldiers, for if the Belgians are the bravest of the Gauls they know that the Irish soldiers are the most enduring, the most valorous of the armies of Great Britain. What a beautiful night! I write from my bedroom, sitting before the open window. I see an immense stretch of beautiful Flemish fields, green as any fresh fields, where coils like a serpent the pure water of the Sciuuous Leys. I see the belt of trees that encircle the plains, covered with their milky herbs; I see the sky quite clear, not a cloud, only here and there a streak of gold and octave, and, I think with infinite sorrow of all those of our countrymen who must fight, who must die, on this beautiful summer night. I think of my darling brother at one of the forts, falling into the hands of our enemies, and from whom not a word has been heard since the beginning of the war. I think of our little — who came back to us after 15 months full of joy and life only to leave in a day as volunteer. Oh! the Kaiser! the Kaiser! I wish I had him here at the end of a gun. In history he must be known in future as 'William the Bandit.' Do not, think, however, that I am discouraged. Oh, no; I am proud of having brothers at the front, and that more are helping their country at home, but can one keep the heart from feeling? I have great faith in God, faith that He will preserve all our dear ones and that the terrible trial through which Belgium is passing will make her grand and glorious in the eyes of the whole world. Vive our Belgium! Vive Ireland! Vive England! Vive la France! Vive Russia! and that God may help the Allied Armies. By Him we will have victory and peace."

United Irish League

BRUREE AND ROCKHILL BRANCH

At a meeting of the above Mr. Thomas Potter, Chairman, presided, and there was a large attendance of members.

The Chairman said that this being the first ordinary meeting of the branch since the lamented death of Mrs Fitzgibbon, wife of their esteemed and respected Treasurer, he begged to propose the following resolution:—"That we beg to tender to Mr. Edmond Fitzgibbon and family and also to Mrs Leo (Kilmallock), our sincere sympathy in their very great trouble, and that the meeting stand adjourned as a mark of respect to her memory, and that copies of same be sent to the Press."

Mr. Edward J. Casey seconded the vote of sympathy, which was passed in silence.

A vote of condolence was also passed to Dr. J. J. Byrnes on the untimely death of his son Patrick.

pared to place the Bill on the Statute Book without any further wriggling or huxtering, there is likely to be serious trouble in the near future, and if we are betrayed at last it will be the greatest betrayal since the days of the Siege of Limerick to the present time (hear, hear). We have been frequently assured that the Home Rule Bill would be passed, but when a great war is going on no one knows what may happen to divert attention from the great question—Home Rule. When Russia went to war with Germany the first thing she did was to offer Home Rule to Poland, and if the British Government are wise and consistent they should grant Home Rule at once. It is the only bold and consistent course open to them. They would thus do away effectively with the weak spot in their Empire, and now is the time to do it if it is ever done. I would say for myself, in conclusion, that if Home Rule is not passed within the next few weeks, I shall return from the House of Commons to Ireland and work at home for the salvation of Ireland with the Volunteers (cheers). Let no one imagine that the Volunteers are going to place themselves under the control of the War Office. They will be controlled and directed by a Provisional Government of their own, until we have a Parliament in Dublin. Their sole aim and object is to protect Ireland and secure for it the inalienable right of Self-Government (cheers).

Very Rev. Canon Flannery, who addressed the meeting, said—Fellow-countrymen, I am delighted at the very able speeches that have been made here, especially by your worthy member, Dr. Esmonde. He has opened up this question in a way we did not expect. If it is true that we are going to be disappointed in this matter of Home Rule it will be a terrible thing for them (the Government) and for us, and if we are betrayed we will retaliate in a manner that has never been known before in the history of Ireland (cheers). If they trifle with Home Rule the state of things in Ireland will be worse than ever they were before, and no one can tell the consequences. If Home Rule is ever enacted it will be during the existence of the Irish Volunteers (cheers).

Mr. M. Walshe, N.T., said—Fellow-Volunteers of Tipperary and Clare, I am very happy to deliver a few words to you to-day. Whether Home Rule is passed or not next week, or the week after, you will be wanted to work for your country, whether guarding the streets of Dublin when the Irish Parliament is established, or you might have to fight on a little further for the freedom of Ireland. The speaker referred to the Volunteer Movement of 1782, and thought we should profit at the present from its successes and its failures. He earnestly appealed to the young men in the country to join the Volunteers, and the older men to aid by sage advice and financial assistance (hear, hear, and applause).

The meeting was also addressed by Messrs R P Gill, Nenagh; M Guilfoyle, Chairman Nenagh Urban Council; E Brown, J P; H Lefroy, J P; Patrick Rohan, J P.

Quite a number of the Nenagh Volunteers were armed with rifles recently distributed by Dr. Esmonde, M. P.

In proposing a vote of thanks to Father Ryan, P.P., for so ably presiding, Dr Esmonde paid a high tribute to this clergyman in particular and to the Irish clergy generally, for their support and encouragement for every movement got up for the betterment of Ireland in the past, and this was the case especially with the Volunteer movement.

Father Ryan, P.P., having suitably replied, the meeting terminated.

County Lady's Death

SYMPATHY OF CROOM BODIES

At the last meeting of the Croom District Council, Mr. John Coleman, J.P. (chairman), presiding, the following resolution was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. John Power, and passed unanimously:—"Resolved —"That we, the members of the Croom District Council and Board of Guardians, have heard with regret of the death of Miss Nora Toomey, Donoman, aunt of our respected colleague, Mr. P J. Lane, D.C., and also our much esteemed matron, Miss Gleeson, and we hereby tender to them and the other members of their families, the expressions of our heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement."

ence should have the sanction of the County Board. Another point arose in connection with the Volunteers, and that was, that they should become an adjunct of the British army. That was absolutely impossible at the present time. The granting of Home Rule was the basis of any steps that might be taken hereafter. They must have Home Rule the law of the land before the Volunteers could give any support whatever to the British army. Of course they knew that Volunteers had already gone to the front in large numbers, and Munster had reason to be proud of itself owing to the bravery and pluck of the Munster Fusiliers. They all knew that the principal forces of the Volunteers were drawn from the agricultural and labouring classes, and he did not see why the County Board would not look after these men. They should make their organisation the most important in the county, and he thought it would be their duty to see that the labourers got good conditions and fair wages, and as regards the agricultural classes, that the old cry, "the land for the people," should be still in existence (applause). These were, perhaps, matters that might be foreign to their movement, but he brought them forward, and it would be well for them to discuss them. Whilst maintaining their own principles they should be considerate towards the principles and politics of others who differed from them. They should extend the hand of friendship to anyone who would come into their ranks on signing the enrolment form, but no one could be accepted by them until he did that and join the rank and file. The Chairman also appealed to have the Volunteers a respectable body by having a temperate organisation. There was no room in their organisation for drunkards. He did not mean that they should be total abstainers, but that they should be a temperate body. If they were that it was certain that they should soon see the day when, in the words of the poet, they would be a nation once again (loud applause).

A long discussion then took place regarding the attitude of the Provisional Committee in changing the name of the Irish National Volunteers to the Irish Volunteers.

The Chairman said he did not know what was in the minds of the Provisional Committee, but he was sure they did not make the change without having some good motive for it. Of course they were their headquarters and should be obeyed.

Mr. Hunt asked was the word National ever there. He had correspondence with headquarters and it was always "Irish Volunteers" that was used.

Mr. M'Namara said he had a badge and it was "Irish National Volunteers" was on it. Continuing, he said the headquarters were their authorities, and they should be obeyed, and it would not be to the advantage of the Volunteers to be quarrelling over such matters. Mr. Walsh thought they should not descend

GOLDEN
ANGLED

STANGLED
VIRGINIA
PENCE FOR TEN
RETIES

TINORI

OR BY POST 1/1 FROM THE
E. MAC SWEENEY, PH. SPECIALIST