

## DEATH OF COL. SIR ANTHONY A WELDON, D.S.O.

We deeply regret to record the death of Col Sir Anthony A Weldon, Bart., C.V.O., D.S.O., H.M.L. County Kildare, which took place yesterday at the Military Hospital, Dublin, in his 54th year.

For some time past Sir Anthony had not been in robust health, and the fact that he spent three weeks in France during the wretched weather of January last, tended to undermine his constitution. He was connected with the 4th Batt'n. Prince of Wales Leinster Regt. (formerly Queen's County Rifles) since 1884, and commanded the corps for eight years, up to April last, when he retired, and was succeeded by Colonel Willington. On that occasion Sir Anthony was thanked by the Army Council for his services during a long and brilliant career.

Sir Anthony, 6th Baronet (or 1723), was the eldest son of the late Sir Anthony Crosdill Weldon, Bart., Rahenderry, Co Kildare and Kilmorony, Queen's County, for both of which he held the Commission of the Peace. He was born on the 1st March, 1863, and was educated at Charterhouse and Trinity College, Cambridge, taking his B.A. degree in 1884. He married in 1902 Winifred, daughter of the late Col Vartry Rogers, of Broxmore Park, Romsey, and late of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and H.M. Bodyguard of Gentlemen of Arms. He has three sons, of whom Anthony Edward Wolseley Weldon, succeeds to the Baronetcy.

The late Sir Anthony Weldon acted as an extra Aide-de-Camp on Lord Wolseley's Staff at the Irish Army manoeuvres. He spent a great deal of time at the Royal Hospital on the Headquarters Staff, and in 1895 accompanied Lord Wolseley as A.D.C. to London, being the first Militia officer to be employed by the Commander-in-Chief at the War Office, his appointment lasting until Lord Wolseley's retirement in 1900. He served as special officer with the Natal Field Force under Sir Redvers Buller, and in the South African War in 1899-1900, and was mentioned in despatches, after which he returned to the War Office. He was awarded the D.S.O. in 1900, and C.V.O. in 1911. In 1908 he was appointed State Steward and Chamberlain by the then Viceroy, the Marquis of Aberdeen, an onerous position which he filled with much success, and with Lady Weldon, was a prominent figure in social life especially during the Castle season. In his own district of Kildare he was greatly esteemed by all classes and creeds, and was a member of Athy Board of Guardians.

Colonel Weldon came to Limerick early in 1916 in command of the Leinster Regiment. To say that he was held in the highest respect, affection, and esteem by all ranks in the regiment, but simply and truthfully describes their feelings for one whose premature demise is now so sincerely mourned. In civil life in Limerick Sir Anthony was equally popular, and the excellent tact, discrimination, and courtesy with which he discharged his onerous duties subsequent to the rising of Easter Week, and did so much, in conjunction with the Mayor, to preserve the absolute peace and order that so happily prevailed in Limerick, won for him the high appreciation and esteem of the citizens. In social life he was a host in himself, and contributed on many occasions to concert programmes at the New Barracks.

The Mayor and Town Clerk have sent a telegram of condolence on behalf of themselves and the citizens to Lady Weldon and family in their bereavement.

It is announced that a memorial service will be held in the Chapel Royal next Monday at 3 p.m., and the funeral leaves Dublin Castle at 7.30 a.m. on Tuesday for 9.15 a.m. train from Kingsbridge to Athy.

## Break with Central Powers

A telegram from Athens to the Greek Government announced that the Greek Government had instructed the Greek Minister in London to inform the Legations in Berlin, Vienna, and Constantinople that diplomatic relations with the Central Powers have been broken.

## PREMIER AND THE

### The Only Peace.

The Premier, who yesterday re-visited Freedom of Glasgow, in the course of his speech, dealt with the military and submarine war, the Russian revolution, and peace.

The Russian revolution, he said, was not merely a more complete but a more exalted victory than they in Britain have contemplated before.

Dealing with peace, he said—"In my opinion, this war will come to an end when the Allied Powers reach the ends they set out when they accepted the challenge to throw Germany to civilisation."

## RUINED FRANCE

### Lecture by Pere Gatard

A large audience was present in the Hall of the Royal George Hotel last night when Pere Gatard, O.S.B., lectured on Ruined France in aid of the French Red Cross Society.

Mr P. J. Kelly, R.M., presided, and in the course of the lecture a short concert was given, the programme being Mrs J. Deva Hartigan, Miss Hanrahan, Miss Doyl, Malcolm Shaw, Hubert Spillane, and McLaughlin.

In the course of his lecture, Pere Gatard was very cordially received, described vast areas of France, with the assistance of official slides. He said he was a Celt, and longed to Brittany, and he had come to the country to speak of the work of the French Red Cross Society during almost three years of reference to the ruins along the front. Pere Gatard said that one of the first things the Germans had done before they left a tract of country was to destroy as far as possible all agricultural machinery. The invaders cut down trees. In some parts there was much to say against this operation, as the excuse that the trees would afford cover to the troops that pursued them. But the ingenuity known only to the Germans cut down fruit trees, and left them standing. Where they did not cut down trees they put acid round them to hasten their death. Having touched upon other aspects of the country, such as the desecration of cemeteries and churches, the lecturer said that his audience saw that the French Red Cross Society, and especially the London Committee, whose behalf he spoke now, had done great work indeed to look after and succour wounded soldiers; and not only that, but it thought also of what would take the country when it had been restored. (Applause.) He gave one instance. A great many wounded were either blind or consumptive, and it was terrible to think how many cases of consumption there were in the French Army, not only in the Army, but in the stream of refugees who came from the invaded parts of the country. The Germans wanted the men, young and old, to work for them, and stripped them of their waists, exposing them to wind, rain, and cold, until they became consumptive. This was a really terrible problem for the future of France, and so the wards of the French Red Cross Society

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