

SCISSORS AND PASTE

Vol. I. No. 8.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1915.

ONE HALFPENNY.

CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP SENT TO SIBERIA.

His Excellency Monsignor Count Szeptickyi, Primate of the Ruthenian Church, has been sent as a convict to Siberia by the Russians who captured Lemberg. If you have not the data about this I will send you my notes.—**Miss Boyle O'Reilly** in "The Missionary Record of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate" (January).

ARCHDIOCESE OF LEMBERG-HALICZ. (Rite—Greek-Ruthenian.)

Most Rev. Andreas Alexander V. Szeptycki, D.D., Bishop of Stanislaus. Consecrated Sept. 17, 1899; promoted, 1900.

Statistics:—Deaneries, 30; secular priests, 9556; priests of religious orders, 22; secular seminary, 1; parishes 751; vicarships and curateships, 65; Catholic population (Greek-Ruthenian Rite), 1,179,621.—"The Official Catholic Directory," New York.

CARDINAL MERCIER.

A Berlin telegram received at Amsterdam reports that according to intelligence received there from Brussels the report that Cardinal Mercier has been arrested and is guarded in his palace is entirely false, as is also the statement that Belgian priests have been arrested for reading the Cardinal's pastoral letter.—London "Times."

THE "THUNDERER."

We understand that there is no truth in a report published in an Amsterdam newspaper that the British Dreadnought "Thunderer" was sunk in the North Sea on November 7th by coming into contact with a mine or being hit by a torpedo.

[The Press Bureau, in passing the above for publication, stated they had no information on the subject.]—"Irish Times."

"Thunderer," "Orion" class; tonnage, 22,500; speed (knots), 21; complement, 800; completed, 1912. Armour: belt, 12-in.; P.D. 2½-in.; barbette, 10-in. Armament: 13.5-in. (guns), 10; 4-in., 16; 3-pr., 4; torpedo tubes, 3.—"The Fleets at War."

EMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY.

The throwing out of employment of hundreds of thousands due to the war is being met by the merging of the provincial employment bureaux into an imperial employment bureau, and representatives of capital and labour are sincerely co-operating. As a result only about 6 per cent. of the country's workingmen are now unemployed, the crops are promptly harvested, mining, shipbuilding, and the textile industries are running almost in their normal state. As Germany produces all her own foodstuffs and meats little fear is felt that the country will know the pinch of hunger. The problem of what to do with the 250,000 prisoners of war on her hands is being solved by having them build roads and reclaim marsh lands.—"Benziger's Magazine" (New York), December number.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

The Exchange Telegraph Company states: It is reported that the Turks are concentrating at Jerusalem for an attack upon Egypt. The Turkish force exceeds 190,000 men.—Dublin "Evening Mail."

HUNGARY AND ENGLAND.

"Hungarians are with All Their Hearts in this War."

A Hungarian correspondent who for many years held a position of influence in Budapest and is now residing in a neutral country, writes, in regard to the article on Count Tisza's mission published in "The Times" of December 28:—

I have now ample means of gauging the real state of mind in Hungary, and all my information leads to the conclusion that neither the Government nor the Opposition nor the people have the slightest wish to appeal to English sympathy. There is not a single individual in Hungary who would wish to show disaffection to the established order of things. On the contrary, everybody is keen to fight the battle through. I should say that Hungarians are more enthusiastic than any other people in the Monarchy. If there are persons in London or elsewhere who pretend to act in the name of the Hungarian people, be sure they represent nothing but their own spirit of adventure. It may seem impossible, but it is nevertheless a fact, that Hungarians are with all their hearts in this war, that they are sincerely and frankly loyal to Austria, and that they regard their alliance with Germany not as a diplomatic and political arrangement, but as the most valuable asset of their existence. This war has corrected many psychological fallacies, and among them the erroneous belief that Hungary would desert her Allies at the first signs of danger. The truth is this: Hungary does her best to show that she is an enemy, and as such she wishes to be considered.

Articles that have appeared in an English newspaper, ostensibly from a Hungarian source, seem, indeed, to give some substance to the opinion that Hungary may be disposed to break away from Austria. They may, however, consist of fiction. The newspapers mentioned—the "Magyarország" and "A Nap"—have published declarations to the effect that they have never printed passages such as were attributed to them. The amusing reports of events in Parliament were mere hoaxes, Parliament not having met for months; and the proclamation signed by Justh and other political leaders is a document which no living soul has ever seen.

This communication bears out the recent Russian telegram to the effect that of all the Austro-Hungarian troops the Magyars were fighting most fiercely. It bears out also the warning given in "The Times" of December 28th, that "until definite proof is forthcoming that the Magyars have dissociated themselves from their Government and from the influence of Germany, little importance is to be attached to accounts of Hungarian weariness of the war and readiness to sue for peace."—London "Times."

BRITISH WAR OFFICE AND THE VOLUNTEERS.

It will be remembered that the War Office early in November issued some regulations for the ruling of Volunteer Defence Corps. One of these regulations gave the War Office power to go to any corps and call upon suitable men to enlist in the Army. Some sensation was caused by this regulation, and an agitation for its withdrawal followed. An alteration was confidently anticipated. The expectation, however, has not been realised, for at a meeting of the Volunteer Training Corps Central Association, held this week, a resolution was passed instructing all affiliated corps to support loyally the War Office regulations. An official of the Association gives as a reason that men who ought to join Kitchener's Army must not be allowed to use the Volunteer Corps as an excuse for not taking their places in the trenches.—"Irish Times" (London Correspondent).

THE "FREEMAN'S JOURNAL" AND THE GERMANS.

To the Editor of the "Freeman's Journal."

Sir,—In your issue of recent date you print a column review of my letter published in the monthly magazine, the "Missionary Record O.M.I." The last paragraph of your review makes me say that I saw three priests shot by the Germans. This is false. The next four lines of your review quote me as saying that all over Belgium and in France it is practically accepted that German commanders turn over every captured city and town to the troops, who are then free to violate the women. My letter, from which this is taken, added explicitly that after considerable investigation I had come to distrust any report of the wholesale violation of Belgian women. That your reviewer should have dropped the second half of my statement is most unfair. I must ask you to publish this note at once, and that you send me three copies of the issue in which the correction appears.—Very truly yours,

MARY BOYLE O'REILLY.

—"Freeman's Journal."

LADY ABERDEEN AND THE WAR OFFICE.

We learn that no settlement has yet been reached in the negotiations between the Marchioness of Aberdeen and the other promoters of the recent Civic Exhibition, on the one hand, and the War Office, on the other hand, with regard to the taking over of the Linen Hall Barracks by the latter body. The barracks was formerly a depot of the Dublin Fusiliers, and is owned by the Board of Works under the Linen and Yarn Halls Acts, 1878. The Board lent the premises to Lady Aberdeen for the Civic Exhibition under an agreement that they were to be handed back on November 1st, 1914, in their original condition. On the outbreak of war the military authorities found themselves in need of the premises, and the War Office took possession of them on the 10th October. We understand that the promoters of the Civic Exhibition demand as compensation the cost of the Exhibition buildings, and a sum for losses said to have been incurred by the premature resumption of the barracks.—"Irish Times."

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A MITCHEL PROPHECY.

By terrible signs and wonders it shall be made known that comfort is not the chief end of man. I do affirm—that Capital is not the ruler of the world—that the Almighty has no pecuniary interest in the stability of the Funds or the European Balance of Power—finally that no engineering, civil or military, can raise man above the heavens or shake the throne of God. On that day some nations that do now bestride the narrow world will learn lessons of true philosophy, but not new philosophy, in sackcloth and ashes. And other nations, low enough in the dust now, will arise from their sackcloth and begin a new national life.—"Jail Journal" (1849).

THE WEST BRITON.

An Irishman I—such, alas, is my name;
A name that, however, is easily glossable—
If a man seriously smothers its shame,
By appearing through life as imperial as possible.

Others—mere Celts—may continue to feel
An interest and pride in the fate of the nation.
What writers call "Snobism," but I, the Genteel,
Is the object and end of my soul's aspiration.

Yes—though an Irishman, still be it mine
To foster the flame of provincial humility.
Humbly content if through life I may shine
In the twopenny splendour of Dublin gentility.

I'm of a "class" 'tis easy to meet,
(Some naturalists say there's no creatures below us);

Impoverished by England, we fawn at her feet,
For whate'er gilded garbage her pity may throw us:

Delighted we bend to the rod of her will—
Though, I promise you, we have some hours of dejection—

Trade lost, and so on but our glory is still
To appear even a slave of the British connection.

We worship her power, her rank, and her wealth,
Though competing with any exceeds our ability.

Lord! the noblest proof of our national health
Is our ape imitation of English gentility.

First, there's my good wife—and to her I can find

No beauty of England to stand in comparison,
Pays her best court—from mere passion for mind,

To the rich intellectual—coats of our garrison;

While the sweet pride of my daughters in truth
Is to read in the paper, replete with distresses

Of famine and fever in North, West, and South,

An exciting account of their Drawing-room dresses.

Yet, such is the culture I'm bound to impart,
Though smacking somewhat of provincial debility—

Not very Irish—but then, bless your heart,
Such culture as fits with our Dublin gentility.

Our studies are various; but all of one make—
Well suited to persons of our education.

In books, as in other matters, we take
A one-sided view of all things in creation.
For the Anglicised brain half a truth is enough:

A grave, correct prejudice caught from the model.

Thus—our national hopes are the purest of puff,

And our patriot raptures, the mildest of twaddle.

Yet these, on occasion, we spirt to the air
With the force of our calm Castle chastened ability.

Roaring as loud as such sucking doves dare
For the valorous ears of our Dublin gentility.

Yes, we're patriots, of course—of the right British sort.

Our Church is our code, as we read in the "Warder."

Illegitimate children of England, in short,
We Anglicised Irishmen crouch to her order.
We foster the Poor Law—a plan well-divined,
With that peasant's panacea, swift emigration—

To keep them the basest of all human kind,
Or, happily, lead to their patriation.

And oh, though not born, when we're English made,

Perhaps, by a stretch of her sovereign civility,

Great Britain may still let us live in her shade,
And enjoy (but quite humbly) our Dublin gentility.

Oh, wonderful England, the Queen of the hour—

Oh, race of the just, truly Christianised Saxon—

Still shall I bend to thy sovereign power,
Thou noblest people that ere put a tax on!

To toady thy chiefs be my privilege still,
That I may swagger a funkeyfied vassal;

Where, on the splendid heights of Cork-hill,

Her Majesty's servant holds state in the Castle.

In the dread light of the Viceregal chair
(Mid pomp that awakes not the least risibility)

Life touches zenith—the Court, you're aware,
Being the glorious stage sun of our Dublin gentility.

Such are my principles, aims, and desires,
All of them noble, enlightened, and rational!
Scorned by the Rose, yet we cling to her thorns,

And worship, in fact, any flower but the national.

Others may labour for Ireland alone,
I'd cherish her light for the skies of futurity;
Let us, in the second-rate glare of the Throne,
Still flutter through life in our midge-like obscurity.

Courage and sense, nationality, truth,
Proud independence, desire of utility—
Lights so unloyal as these are, in sooth,

We resign—for the tinsel of Dublin gentility!
—T. C. Irwin, in "The Nation," May 13, 1854.

HOW THE BRITISH POST OFFICE OPENS CORRESPONDENCE.

The public recently learned, in connection with an alleged case of espionage, that certain letters had been secretly opened by the officials of the G.P.O. and their contents photographed before being forwarded to their destination.

It is not generally known that the Post Office possesses the right to open private correspondence. Yet such is the fact; and, moreover, it is a right which is exercised more frequently than most people are aware of.

Not merely are letters addressed to known or suspected spies so treated, but envelopes which are thought to contain lottery tickets, objectionable photographs, or other enclosures of an undesirable or illegal nature are similarly dealt with.

Great secrecy is, of course, maintained in connection with these operations. They are conducted in a closed and locked room, into which none is admitted save only the trained experts who are employed in opening and re-sealing the envelopes, and the photographer whose business it is to photograph the contents when this further operation is deemed advisable.

Ordinary envelopes are opened by being held over a tiny jet of superheated steam. After being refastened the flaps are reburnished by passing the envelopes two or three times backwards and forwards between hot copper rollers.

Some little time back, however, the heads of the German Secret Service in Berlin seem to have suspected that their correspondence with their agents in this country was being tampered with, for they started to use a special kind of thick, roughened paper which would not stand steam.

The Post Office got over this difficulty by clamping each envelope separately in a flat steel vice, so constructed that the bottom edge projects about one-twentieth of an inch. First this edge is flattened, then roughened, and

afterwards slit by a very fine and exceedingly sharp "ribbon knife," worked by a tiny motor and adjusted to the hundredth part of an inch. After the contents have been abstracted and photographed, they are, of course, returned to the envelope, which is then closed again with a hair-line of very fine gum. It is said to be absolutely impossible for even the sharpest eye to detect anything amiss with a letter so treated.

Contrary to what might be expected, envelopes which are closed with seals made from sealing-wax are the easiest of all to open. All that is necessary is to take an impression of the seals before they are broken. They can then, of course, be easily duplicated when the time comes for the letter to be re-sealed.—"Tit Bits."

THE GERMAN AT HOME.

How often have I not read of the barbarous German—his rough manners, his neglect of wife and family! Why, it is a ridiculous caricature. They are the direct contrary of what is often written of them. Instead of being rough they are an exceedingly polite people, and it is an instruction in courtesy to see the way high and low take off their hats to each other in meeting and parting—no mere lifting the hat from the head in an apologetic sort of way, but with a graceful sweep of the arm and a springing to their feet, if either party happens to be seated, that is quite charming.

In the false pictures of German life which I have just spoken of, there are lofty allusions, as if to prove home the charge, to his fondness for sausages and beer. The German loves his beer, but beer and wonderful sobriety go hand in hand together.

I have seen vast numbers—many thousands at least—in these concert and supper gardens, but not once did I see the slightest sign of a single individual under the influence of drink. Their beer is delicious as a drink on a warm evening, but a child might drink it with impunity. Now this innocent drinking is always associated with pleasant music in cheerful gardens, so deliciously cool; and while the men are there, they are not alone, as is the case with us, when they go from their homes for relaxation. No. The women and children are there as well.

Pass through scores of streets in these German cities, as I have done again and again; look at those acres of tables generally occupied by family groups!

In yonder wander-weeks of foreign travel, no other memories are more sweet and tender than those that give you such an insight into home life in Germany. You may be sure that families which show such union out of doors are closely united within.

Moreover, this outdoor life, besides creating refinement of taste, brings all sorts of people together, and produces the equality, the real fellowship, which so universally prevails through all the south German country.

Now an untravelled reader thinks this Arcadian land could not possibly exist elsewhere. Why, the cost alone would forbid it! Ah, happy German Fatherland! All this delicious beer, this delightful music, these shady groves in the heart of the great cities—a few pence each these fortunate people only have to pay for such an evening out!

Why should not such an ideal state of things be possible nearer home? Well, the Government in Germany is a paternal one, and not a foreign garrison, securing all the milk and honey for their own use, and utterly regardless of the people wallowing in dens which it would be a mockery to call homes.—"Wander-Weeks in Germany," by The Rev. Father Hughes.

SPURCEON AND ENGLAND'S WAR PARTY.

"There is always a War party in England. I fear the Jingo is no foreigner, but the genuine offspring of the British bulldog. An unconverted Britisher is all for blood, and fire, and glory; and as the unconverted are the majority among us, we remain a fighting nation. Fighting, how we delight in it! Down with the Afghans, down with the Zulus! The Boers—destroy them. We cannot get our fill of glory and honour unless we get knee-deep in blood. The policy of Peace is voted dishonourable, so we go from land to land till there is hardly a nation which has not been stained with blood by British hands. How fiercely these English talk; but it is not Christian talk. May the Lord teach us the language of Peace. Be you at peace, whereunto also you were called."—Rev. Mr. Spurgeon (1878).

NEWS FROM BERLIN.

(German Wireless, per the London "Times," "Morning Post," and "Daily Mail.")

RUSSIAN FAILURES.

It is officially stated that the great battle in Western Galicia has again resolved itself into a struggle for certain definite points in which both sides are well entrenched. The Austro-Hungarian troops are fighting excellently in their prepared positions, and it is due to their indomitable courage that the Russian attempts north of Gorlice to push forward in the direction of Cracow on the high road leading to Bosnia and on the south side of Neu Sandec have failed.

THE RUSSIANS IN AUSTRIAN-POLAND.

Information has been received from Lemberg according to which the Russians have made many arrests in the town, and house-to-house searches have been undertaken in various quarters with the view to capturing spies.

THE SERBIAN CLAIM.

The number of prisoners, cannon, and war material reported to have been captured by the Serbians is, to put it mildly, exaggerated threefold. It is an utter impossibility for the Serbians to have captured "hundreds of cannon and thousands of rifles," as the comparatively weak Austrian forces operating against the Serbians rendered such losses impossible.

FRANCE AND PEACE.

The "Echo de Paris" gives publicity to the contents of a pamphlet at present circulating in Paris which advocates peace. The "Echo de Paris" suspects the pamphlet to be of German origin, and the police have taken steps to prevent its further circulation.

FRENCH GENERAL WITH RUSSIANS.

It is understood that General Pau was actually before Warsaw during the latter part of December, the object of his visit being to arrange with the Russian Army Staff regarding the combined control of further operations.

THE BELGIAN ARMY.

The incessant air attacks and the bombardment of Furnes have necessitated the removal of the Belgian Army Headquarters to a point further back. The inhabitants have already left the place, and the gas and water supplies have been curtailed. The church is not damaged. Furnes will be defended on account of its strategic importance.

THE TURKS IN THE CAUCASUS.

In military circles in Berlin the situation of the Turkish Army in the Caucasus is considered to be exceedingly favourable. The increasing number of Caucasian Mahomedans joining the German Army will assist in bringing about Turkish successes.

HUNGARY AND THE RUSSIANS.

The Budapest "Hirlap" learns from a reliable source that there are no longer any Russians in the district of Zemplen. There are sufficient forces at our disposal to check the enemy in this district and drive him out of it.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY'S SUBMARINES.

The activity of the Austro-Hungarian submarines in the Strait of Otranto has apparently compelled the Admiral of the French Fleet in the Adriatic to withdraw his ships from the Strait. The French appear to have postponed their attack on the Bay of Cattaro until the spring.

FRENCH WOUNDED.

The number of wounded soldiers in France is enormous, and it is even stated that in the towns and villages the wounded represent 35 per cent. of the male population. When the hope is expressed that the Allies will soon be in Berlin the answer generally is, "Oh, no, we shall be quite satisfied when the Germans are once out of France."

THE ITALIAN PRESS.

The Italian newspapers are unanimously of opinion that the Government must not allow itself to be moved by the recent incidents in Albania, and even in the case of the most complete anarchy not to extend its action beyond the protection of Valona. There is no necessity for Valona to be seized, not even if the Moslems and Christians and the enemies of Essad's Young Turks and the Albanian Nationalists murder each other.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

Berlin, Jan. 7.

The British continue to destroy French and Belgian places behind our front. North of Arras severe fighting continues for the

trenches we occupied yesterday. In the western part of the Argonne our troops are making progress.

The fighting in the eastern part of the Argonne which began on Tuesday near the Bois Courtel reached our trenches. The French were thrown back with heavy losses from our positions along the entire front. Our losses are relatively small. Yesterday evening, west of Sennheim (Cernay), the French tried to recapture height 425, but failed. The heights remained in our hands.

The situation in the East is unchanged. The operations are suffering from most unfavourable weather.

THE GERMAN PRESS.

Scuffs at the English Fleet.

The German newspapers continue to encourage the public in the belief that Germany will soon punish all her insolent enemies. They announce in large letters that every military effort made by Germany is successful, that failure invariably attends the military efforts attempted by the Allies, and that any statement made to the contrary in English, French, or Russian official communiques or newspapers is a lie. Captain Persius, the naval critic of the Berlin "Tageblatt," declares that English naval warfare has suffered a complete fiasco. The universal astonishment at the methods employed increases, he says, from week to week, and from month to month, and it is impossible to suppress an ironical smile at the prophecies of the English naval strategists. "Five months," he writes, "have passed, and the 'great naval battle' has not yet been fought. The German fleet has twice thrown down the glove, namely, off Yarmouth and off Scarborough, and the English fleet has not accepted the challenge. The opportunity for the battle was offered, for if British squadrons had attacked our cruisers the High Seas fleet would undoubtedly have come to their aid. Why did the great English fighting ships not appear on the scene? Did the Intelligence Department fail, or has the Admiralty definitely decided not to allow the battleship fleet to come out of the safe Irish ports on to the dangerous seas in order to hold it as a trump card when peace is concluded?"

German's Overseas Trade.

Captain Persius says that the blockade of the German coasts is accomplished in a different manner than was anticipated, but that as the German overseas trade has ceased to exist the method employed by the blockading fleet is immaterial. It is, however, noteworthy, he remarks, that the enemy is endeavouring to destroy the German maritime trade and to blockade her coasts before he attempts to conquer the German naval force. Hitherto, he adds, the winning of the supremacy on the seas by a decisive blow struck at the weaker fleet has been considered to be the highest task of the stronger fleet. This task, Captain Persius says, has not yet been fulfilled, and he expresses the opinion that it is no longer right to speak of a British supremacy on the seas.

The "Frankfurter Zeitung," in a New Year's article on the war, also declares that the English Fleet has avoided a fight with German battleships. Twice, it says, have the guns of the German battleships thundered on England's shores, and the world now knows, had it so wished, the English Fleet could have turned the one-sided German action to a great battle. Mr. Churchill, however, Germany's leading commercial newspaper adds, wishes to have no naval battle, for he has a presentiment of what the issue would be. Were the English Fleet defeated, it continues, and it would be defeated if it were hurled by serious losses from the costly pedestal of its "standard," the war with England would be definitely decided, and all further appeals for recruits would be in vain. "England's only hope," it continues, "is that the war may last a long time, and if the Fleet were defeated this hope would be shattered." "Therefore," it says, "a little scorn and shame on account of stupid speeches about German mouse-holes, and vexation at having to appear to be powerless are preferable in England's eyes to the catastrophe of a naval battle. The senselessness of the English calculation lies in the fact that a great naval battle—however it may end for Germany—must destroy the numerical superiority of the English Navy on the seas." "Our magnificent fleet has, the journal asserts, admirably utilised this situation, so that we can look with confidence to the New Year to bring us fresh victories."—London "Morning Post."

THE RAID ON CUXHAVEN.

German Comments.

After a week's consideration the German naval authorities issued on January 2 a statement about the raid on Cuxhaven, which is published in various forms in most of the German newspapers. It runs:—

The attempt of the English to sing a song of praise about their penetration of the German bight causes no surprise, but does not alter the fact that nothing is known in Germany about the depression supposed to have been caused by this attempted attack, and that actually the English achieved nothing at all. They cannot themselves report anything definite about the success of their bombs, nor is that indeed possible, as all the bombs missed their mark. Not a single one of the seaplanes that are so highly praised was able to hit anything.

On the other hand, it is certain that several of the British seaplanes were lost and that in a number of cases our bombs found their mark. An English ship was set on fire and—to mention a name—the cruiser "Arethusa" was hit three times by German bombs. It may also be presumed that two English destroyers made the same unpleasant acquaintance. What then was the result? On the English side a complete failure.

The German naval Press Bureau has also issued another long article about the attack on the English coast and the "defences" of Scarborough, which, it says, are proved by a study of the Army and Navy List. The following invention of Grand Admiral von Tirpitz's department seems new:—

If the English did not fire all their guns, or if all the guns were not manned by gunners—perhaps because these guns were partly of an obsolete type, or for reasons of economy had not been kept ready for war—this state of things would not justify the charge that the enemy had bombarded unfortified places, any more than would the fact, which has reached us from a trustworthy neutral source, that the defenders ran away from their guns when the German ships opened their well-aimed fire.—London "Times."

MR. CINNELL AND THE WAR.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Westmeath Independent Nationalist Executive, United Irish League, in Mullingar, Mr. Laurence Ginnell, M.P., who presided, and who was unanimously re-elected President of the Executive, referring to the war, said it was a war disgraceful to all the Great Powers involved, exposing as it did the hollowness of their boasted civilisation when they could find no better method of settling their commercial rivalry than the savage method of putting millions of human beings to kill each other, destroying each other's property, and using Press and platform on both sides, without scruple, to blacken each other's characters like tinkers. As all the daily, and most of the weekly, Press of the British Islands, like all party leaders, had been commandeered into a solid league for misleading the public in every way about the war, a few independent remarks would be new to most people, and might be useful. Proceeding, Mr. Ginnell gave a description of the condition of the Prussians, the character of their country, and how they lived, and continued—When the newspapers in England's service tell you that those people have suddenly become Huns and destroyers, remember that the English have for centuries boastfully called themselves Anglo-Saxons—that is, belonging to the same Teutonic race as the Prussians; that their present quarrel is a quarrel among cousins, and that not many years ago Lord Salisbury referred contemptuously to the rest of us as a mere "Celtic fringe," and we may not have to live very long to witness the cousins reunited, and English and Prussians together fighting the French as they have often done before. (Hear hear.) We Irish, at all events, cannot forget their kinship, because there is a strong family resemblance between atrocities now attributed, rightly or wrongly, to the Germans, and the policy of extermination steadily carried on by the English in Ireland under Queen Elizabeth, under Oliver Cromwell, under William of Orange throughout the two hundred years of the Penal Laws. Mr. Ginnell, continuing, said all was were atrocious on all sides. They were allowed to hear only one side of the present war. Of course they sympathised with Belgians and all other sufferers, but it was not on Ireland's advice or for Ireland's benefit that Belgium brought her present woes upon herself by resisting the march of the German Army, when they were

Keep this before your mind: "Everything that is not Irish must be Foreign"

You who refuse to buy foreign goods. We who sell Irish Goods only.

GLEESON & CO.,

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willing to pass through without doing any harm, as they had been allowed to pass through Luxembourg without doing any harm. He (Mr. Ginnell) expressed no opinion on the right or the wrong of what Belgium did. It was Belgium's business, and she made her choice and took the consequences. Now they wanted Irishmen, the heirs of England's victims, the remnant of the "Celtic fringe," "the Hottentots," to go and fight this commercial war for England, and the trap they used for this new method of exterminating the Irish was the false pretence that Ireland was bound to fight for a small nation which the large nations had brought to destruction. Holland, Denmark, Sweden, and Switzerland were small nations nearer to Belgium than they were. Each of them was free mistress of its own affairs and conduct, each intelligent enough to know and honourable enough to do its duty, and friendly to Belgium. Yet each of these countries had declared and was maintaining strict neutrality in the present war, and was respected by the world for so doing. Every reason that justified the neutrality of those free countries and made it honourable was one hundredfold more binding on Ireland, which was not free mistress of her own affairs. Ireland was bound to be neutral, and was neutral so far as allowed to express a free opinion. (Applause.)—"Irish Times."

KUNO MEYER AND THE LONDON "TIMES."

To the Editor of "The Times."

Sir.—Your censure of my present attitude towards England in your issue of December 24 has been cabled across here to your namesake in this city. Allow me to reply briefly to it.

I regard all you say as another indication that England has not even yet realised what this war means to her and to Germany. You talk cheap sentiment and false morality while two mighty Empires are engaged in a life-and-death struggle. In this struggle it behoves every member of the two nations to take an honourable part to the best of his ability. But you say that my indebtedness to England should prevent me from doing so. My answer is that we Germans are not fighting that England which many thousands of us, from the Emperor downwards, have loved truly and well, but a misguided, iniquitous England bent upon the destruction of an inconvenient rival. As for myself, I am but continuing what I did while I lived among you, when I fought by the side of some of England's noblest and to me ever-dear sons and daughters for freedom, truth, and justice against oppression, falsehood and wrong wherever we encountered it. That is how I have served England while eating her bread.

As sure as I write these lines, the time will come when all honest Englishmen will feel ashamed of this war and abominate it as much as ever they did the Crimean, the Opium, and the Boer Wars.

As for Ireland, Germany is but holding out a friendly hand to a nation betrayed by her leaders and naturally unwilling to shed its blood for those who have oppressed its liberty as they are now trying to deprive us of ours. That constitutes our common cause; and you cannot, after all I have said, blame me for endeavouring to help this cause to victory.

KUNO MEYER.

The City Club of New York, Dec. 27.

—London "Times."

THE "FORMIDABLE."
German Submarine's Claim.

The latest German newspapers to reach London publish an official statement announcing that a German submarine has reported by wireless that at 3 a.m. on January 1 it torpedoed and sank the British battleship "Formidable" in the Channel, not far from Plymouth. The submarine was pursued by destroyers, but was not damaged. In announcing on Friday

last the loss of the "Formidable" the Admiralty stated, "Whether by mine or submarine is not yet certain."—London "Daily Mail."

IRISH VOLUNTEER CONCERT.

A musical treat, in aid of the Irish Volunteer Equipment Fund, to take place in the Banba Hall on Saturday, the 9th inst., commencing at 8 o'clock, has been arranged by a distinguished Volunteer vocalist, Lieut. E. O'Connor Cox (Feis Ceoil Gold Medallist and winner of the Denis O'Sullivan Memorial Medal, Feis Ceoil), who will be assisted by such well-known artistes as Mr. Vincent O'Brien, Mr. Patrick Delaney, Mrs. O'Moore and Miss Mary Delany (Feis Ceoil Gold Medallists), Miss Eileen Hayden, Miss Maire Hughes, Messrs. T. Kennedy, J. O'Beirne, and Cathal MacDubbhghaill, Miss Una O'Donnell, Mr. M. Whelan, and The Celtic Trio (Irish Dancers).

A programme of specially selected Irish music has been arranged, and all Volunteers should attend and see for themselves that the "Cranks" lead in music as well as in everything else. Prices of admission, 2/- (reserved), 1/-, and 6d.—"Irish Volunteer."

GAELIC LEAGUE CHRISTMAS REUNION

Every year the Central Branch of the Gaelic League organise a great social reunion of Dublin Gaels at Christmas. This function is known as "Fleadh na Nodlag" and has become one of the most popular institutions in the Gaelic League. As will be seen from our advertisement columns Fleadh na Nodlag will be held this year in the Mansion House (by kind permission of the Lord Mayor) on Saturday next, the 9th inst. A host of far-famed Irish Artistes have kindly promised to assist, including Miss Mary Delaney, Maire Ni Shuibhlaigh, Gerald Crofts, Seamus Crofts, Seamus O'hAodha, Miss Mina O'Donnell, Charles E. Kenny, Tomas MacDomhnaill, and many others. A very pleasant night's enjoyment is assured to all who attend the Fleadh on this occasion, and the opportunity of seeing new friends and renewing old acquaintances will not be missed by many Gaels. So Tagaidh a Ghaedheala.—Dublin "Evening Telegraph."

Fleadh na Nodlag

WILL BE HELD IN

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To-Night**

Tickets 5/- & 3/- Commencing at 8 p.m.

C COMPANY, 4th BATT. IRISH VOLUNTEERS, LARKFIELD.

All members of the above Company are requested to attend Larkfield next Sunday at 10.30 for march out to Scalp. Members of other Companies are cordially invited to participate.

T MACCARTHY, Captain.

"IRELAND IN THE NEW YEAR."

The weekly meetings of the Central Branch, Sinn Fein, will be resumed on Wednesday night next, when Mr. A. Griffith will give an address on "Ireland in the New Year."

IRISH CITIZEN ARMY.

A General Meeting of all members will be held on Sunday next, 11th January, at 1 o'clock sharp. All members are requested to attend, as some very important business has to be discussed.



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Cumann na mBan.

CENTRAL BRANCH.

Members of above Branch are urgently requested to be present at next meeting at 25 Parnell Square, on Tuesday next, 12th inst., at 8 o'clock.

Chief business will be arranging the programme of work for ensuing year.

The Drawing for "Lee-Enfield" took place on 5th inst.—winning ticket 359. Holder will please communicate with Secretary, Central Branch, Cumann na mBan, 25 Parnell Square, Dublin.

RIFLES.

American .22 Target Rifles, from 10/- upwards. Rifle Slings, Pull-thros, Oil, Bayonets, Sight Protectors. Rubber Ground Sheets, 2/-. Rubber Overall Coats, 7/6. Blue or Khaki Puttees, 1/6, 2/6, 6/6. Sailors' Canvas Leggings, 1/6. Large Stock of .22 Ammunition, lowest prices.

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POSTPONEMENT OF RAFFLE.—The Christmas holidays having interrupted the sale of tickets for the Raffle of Revolver as announced by Company E, Batt. II., I.V., for January 11th, it has been decided to postpone the Raffle till Monday, 25th January. Result will be announced in "Irish Volunteer" of 28th inst.

ABOUT CAHILL'S COD LIVER OIL and Malt Extract; now is the time to start taking it; nourishing and strengthening; 1/- and 1/9 bottles.—Cahill, Chemist, Lower Dorset Street.

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