

Castle, Cork

GREAT BARGAINS IN SECOND-HAND

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

MEETING AT BALLYNEALE.

(CO. LIMERICK).

One of the largest meetings held since the formation of the Volunteer movement in Co. Limerick took place on Sunday last at Ballyneale demesne, midway between Granagh, Ballingarry and Castletown-Conyers, at the beautiful residence of Mr. D. Hederman, J.P. All the contingents, comprising the corps of Granagh, Ballingarry and Castletown-Conyers, walked four deep in military form under the command of their different trainers, without a hitch occurring. Arrived at a large field, each and every one was met by the kind-hearted and hospitable owner and his family and his nephew, Doctor Willis Hederman, M.D., Croom, who welcomed all to Ballyneale. Castletown was accompanied by their new pipers' band, which they purchased a few days ago.

On the motion of Mr. T. Mullins, Ballingarry, seconded by Mr. T. Reidy, D.C., Mr. John Power, D.C., Chairman Croom Board of Guardians, and Vice-Chairman of the Granagh Volunteers, presided, and in opening the proceedings said they were all assembled to return a hearty vote of thanks to the worthy proprietor of Ballyneale for the great day's outing he had given them. Each and every one of them would long remember this, and they thanked him very sincerely for the kind and courteous manner in which he welcomed every one and for the hospitable way he entertained them. Mr. Hederman was a Nationalist of the right grade, who took the greatest interest in the welfare of the people. He was leading them in the Volunteer movement in a fearless and undaunted manner, and worthy of the best type of a general (cheers). It was a blessing to have a gentleman like him in their midst who by his wise counsel and able judgment would make the movement one that no power on earth could conquer or pull down (hear, hear). It was spreading with the rapidity of a prairie fire throughout the length and breadth of the land, and he hoped that every parish in Ireland would start a branch of it immediately, and fall into line and become Ireland's soldiers (cheers). When each and every man bore arms they would be able to guarantee the safety and defence of Ireland by a national army (cheers). He thanked their able and brilliant champion, Mr. Hederman, for his kindness and generosity in throwing his beautiful demesne and place open to a whole country-side, and hoped that God would spare him long to guide them on to the goal of victory (cheers).

Mr. Thomas Reidy, D.C., who was received with cheers, also addressed the meeting.

Mr. Timothy Mullins, who was well received, said the work of Ireland was in the hands of everyone of them. Home Rule was won by our Parliamentary Party under the able and distinguished leadership of Mr. John E. Redmond, and the Volunteers would now step into the breach, and would see that our poor down-trodden and persecuted country would get justice and fair play.

Mr. Patrick Morrissey, D.C., Granagh, also addressed the assemblage.

Mr. William Lee, Ballynoe, also addressed the meeting, and said he had the greatest pleasure in proposing that their worthy host, Mr. Daniel Hederman, J.P., be elected Honorary Colonel of the three corps.

Mr. John Power, D.C., seconded the proposition, and the Chairman declared Mr. Hederman elected Honorary Colonel.

Col. Hederman who, on coming forward was received with loud cheers, said before him stood the flower of all the country round, and a more stalwart body of men it would be impossible to find. You are ready and willing, he continued, to face any emergency, and are prepared if necessary to shed the last drop of your blood in defence of Ireland, for no other consideration than the welfare of your fatherland (cheers). I, who was reared amongst you, feel proud of that noble spirit, and I welcome you here with a genuine *cead míle fáilte*. Since last I had the pleasure of speaking a few words to you at our great meeting, on the 5th July last, things have occurred in Europe with which you are all well acquainted, and to which I am not going to refer, except what concerns this great meeting to-day. Not the least remarkable of the passing events is the phenomenal success attendant on the development of the Irish National Volunteers' Organisation. When we started this movement in this district a couple of weeks ago some folks shook their heads and predicted for us a brief and inglorious career; others looked down on us with feelings of pity and compassion and wondered what we ever expected to accomplish with our timber guns and empty pockets. Short as the time is since then, I am proud to say that those wisecrackers have completely changed their views and now look up to us as the protectors of person and property and the defenders of those shores (cheers). I am better pleased still to find out that they are daily throwing in their lot with us, and increasing our roll every day, and most heartily do we welcome them to our ranks. Unexpected events, I must admit, have hastened our advancement; we were plodding along slowly and surely until that statesman of the century, Mr. John Redmond, by his diplomatic move, instantly placed us on the glorious pedestal which we now occupy with pride and confidence—a position from which, with God's help, we will never be forced to quit until the end of time (cheers). When this dreadful war is over I believe there is not a nation on earth who will not have a soft corner in her heart for old Ireland (cheers), and have been in entire sympathy with us in a prolonged struggle for Home Rule, which by the way I am informed we have won outright at last, and very many good judges are of opinion that the finishing touches were considerably hastened by the appearance on the field of the Irish National Volunteers (cheers). I would anxiously impress upon you the absolute necessity to uphold the honour and dignity of this united battalion we have formed to-day, and I hope and trust that there is not one in our ranks who by word or deed shall tarnish the name of this splendid company of Ireland's soldiers. Again I thank you for the high honour you have conferred on me of electing me Honorary Colonel of your splendid battalion (cheers).

Mr. Lysaght, Mr. O'Brien, and Mr. Jeremiah Cahill also addressed the meeting.

A warm vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for presiding, on the motion of Mr.