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At a meeting of the members of the corps, held by special summons, at the castle of Ballyclogh, June 21, 1825, the following resolutions were agreed to:—

That the restored tranquillity of the country makes it unnecessary for us to assemble, unless on special occasion, and when summoned for the purpose.

That any arms not in here ought to be returned to the stores in Cork, and that our captain be requested to have them returned accordingly.

That we pledge ourselves to keep our arms and accoutrements and uniforms in proper order, and fit for service, and to hold ourselves ready to obey the summons of our officers.

That the sum of 3s. 6d., due for conveying arms to Buttevant, where they now are, be paid out of the balance in the hands of Henry V. Wrixon to Mr. Chester, for the carman.

That the remainder of that balance be applied in payment of Mary Gardiner's bill for refreshments supplied to our drill sergeant, on different occasions.

W. W. BECHER, Captain.

## The Medals and Gorgets of the Irish Volunteers and Militia.

*(Continued from page 45).*

BY ROBERT DAY, F.S.A.



MEDALS that are connected with the Irish Volunteers and Militia of a hundred years ago, when engraved, are always rare and unique. When struck from dies, and chased, they are of different degrees of rarity, but never common. Of the latter are the following:

The Tyrone Fusiliers, from dies by the elder Mossop.

The Limerick Regiment, who, under Colonel Vereker, distinguished themselves at Colloony, county Sligo, in 1798; engraved by "Brush."

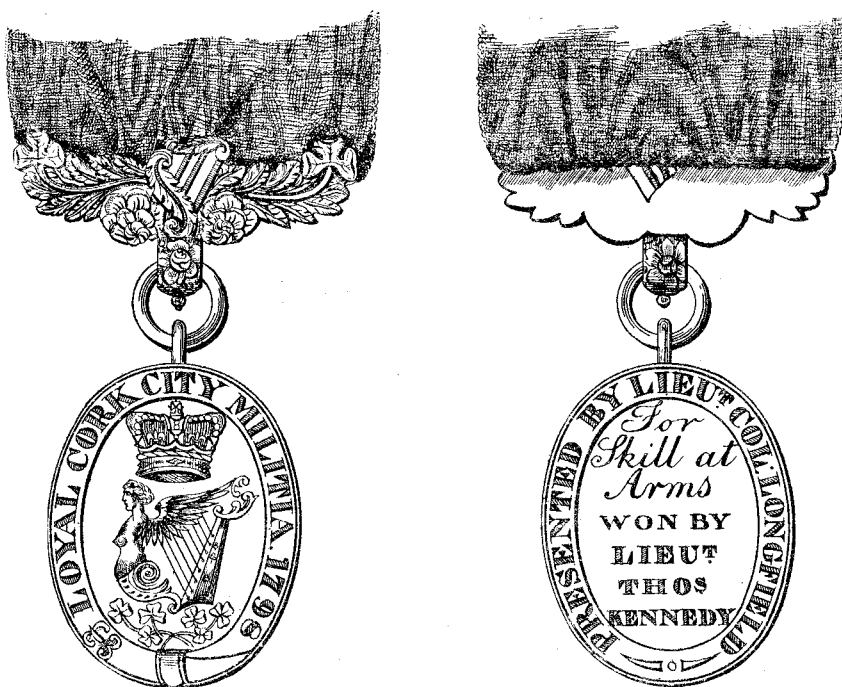
The Galway Militia, a detachment of which garrisoned Bantry when the French made their descent on its romantic bay.

And the medal given by the Westmeath Grand Jury to the Wicklow Regiment.

Among the very few engraved medals that have been preserved are those of the Sligo Militia, which were given by its colonel, the Right Hon. Henry King, to a handful of men who distinguished themselves in the action at Vinegar Hill, June 21st, 1798.

The Wexford Militia, represented by a silver engraved medal, presented to one of its corporals for distinguished conduct at Ballyporeen, in the county Tipperary, 1811.

A gold medal, preserved in the Corker family, of the "Royal Cork City Militia." Since publishing it, I have acquired for my own collection another gold medal of the same regiment. It has the rare peculiarity of having, after the lapse of one hundred years, the original green watered silk ribbon to which it was attached when worn. The medal is oval, of fine gold, engraved, and measures  $1\frac{3}{4}$  by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches, having a gold ring,



and emblematic gold suspender of oak branches and shamrocks, and a harp in the centre.

Obv.—The crowned harp, with shamrocks, and "Loyal Cork City Militia, 1798."

Rev.—Presented by Lieut.-Col. Longfield for skill at arms. Won by Lieut. Thomas Kennedy.

This regiment, which was numbered "27," was, with the other militia regiments on the Irish establishment, raised in 1793, and was composed of eight companies. Its colonel-in-chief was Richard Viscount Longueville, whose commission dates from its formation.

Lieut. Kennedy was commissioned on October 14th, 1795, and its lieut.-col., who presented the medal, was Mountifort Longfield, Esq., of Castlemary, Cloyne.

With this locally interesting medal is Lieut. Kennedy's silver gorget. It differs from any that I have seen in having a grooved depression dividing the Irish arms from the regimental number and initials, and it has the rare peculiarity of having distinguishing marks that identify it with the "City Cork Militia." Officers' gorgets of the militia and Volunteers may each and all have had the name of their several regiments engraved upon them, but if so, they have not been preserved, and are so seldom met with



that they are extremely rare. The gorget here illustrated is lined with velvet, and has the harp and crown between the initials "G. R." of King George III., and underneath the regimental number, XXVII., and the letters "L. C. C. M." (for Loyal Cork City Militia").<sup>(1)</sup>

(1) In "Anthologia Hibernica" for August, 1793, is the following interesting record of how the various militia regiments received their distinctive numbers:—

"At a ballot held at the Treasury Chambers for settling the precedence of the militia of the several counties and counties of cities in Ireland, the regiments were drawn in the following order, and take rank accordingly:—Monaghan 1, Tyrone 2, Mayo (North) 3, Kildare 4, Louth 5, Westmeath 6, Antrim 7, Armagh 8, Down 9, Leitrim 10, Galway 11, Dublin City 12, Limerick City 13, Kerry, 14, Longford 15, Londonderry 16, Meath 17, Cavan 18, King's County 19, Kilkenny 20, Limerick County 21, Sligo 22, Carlow, 23, Drogheda 24, Queen's County 25,

Why the "Royal" was not used, as on the Corker medal of the same year, is curious and difficult of explanation. The gorget is the older of the two, and would be coeval with the date of Lieut. Kennedy's commission—1795. In the succeeding year, 1796, gorgets of silver were abolished in the regular army, and gilt ones ordered to be the regulation, and so continued until 1830, when they were done away with altogether.

Through the kindness of Robert Dillon Hare, Esq., I am enabled to further illustrate this silver gorget with one gold-plated on copper,



having the royal arms, and on one wing, in a laurel wreath, "City of Cork," upon the other, in a similar wreath, "Militia," both of which are surmounted by a helmet and the flags of the regiment.

While gilt gorgets are comparatively common, they are of extreme rarity when engraved with the name of the regiment, as in this case, and it is singular that within the space of one week two have come to light, one in London, and the other in Mr. Hare's family. There can be no

Clare 26, Cork City 27, Tipperary 28, Fermanagh 29, Mayo (South) 30, Roscommon 31, Cork (South) 32, Waterford 33, Cork (North) 34, Dublin County 35, Donegal 36, Wicklow 37, Wexford 38.

doubt in this case that the silver gorget is the older, but both are of equal historical interest, and serve to illustrate obsolete decorations of the British officer that have been worn in a regiment that was altogether recruited in Cork.

There is a marked difference in the shape of these, the more recent of the two being of the regulation pattern, narrower at the wings, and having a sharper curve upon its outer and inner lines, while the earlier, as already described, is much wider, and has a larger curve. The silver gorget was before the Union, having the harp crowned as its arms. The gold came after 1801, as it bears the arms of England, with the harp in the third quarter of the shield.

#### RIDDELSTOWN HUSSARS.

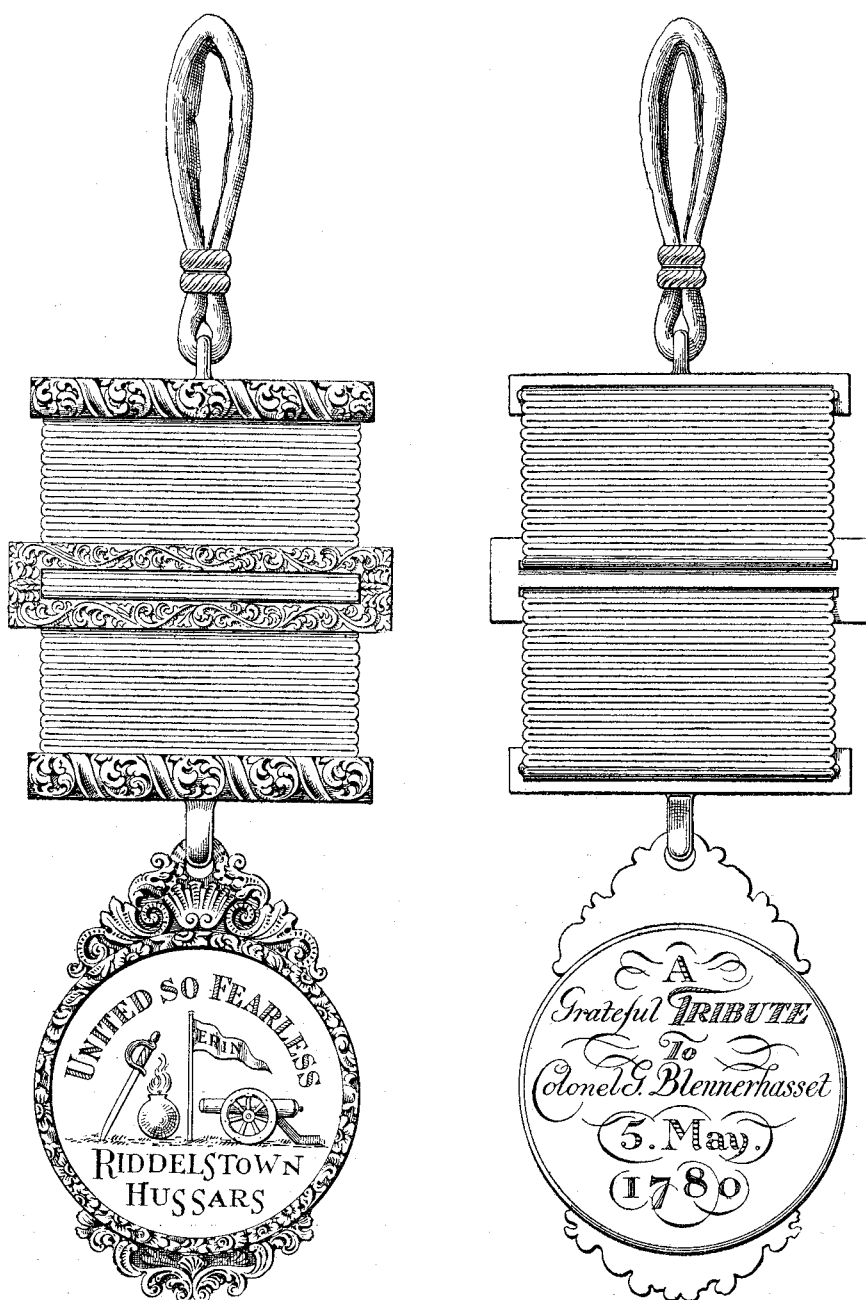
The first grand Volunteer review in Limerick was held on the 12th of October, 1780, the Right Hon. Lord Kingsborough, reviewing general, at which nine cavalry corps and ten infantry attended. In the following August of 1781 fourteen cavalry corps and infantry regiments were brigaded under Lord Muskerry. Among the former of these was the Riddeltown Hussars, commanded by their colonel-in-chief, Lord Muskerry. On the 22nd of September following he was elected general-in-chief of the Volunteer army in the county and city of Limerick, when, presumably, he resigned the colonelcy of the hussars, and was succeeded by Colonel Gerald Blennerhasset, who from the commencement was their acting commandant.

A gold medal of this corps from my collection is here engraved. It is oval,  $2\frac{3}{8}$  inches long and  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inch wide, enclosed by a richly chased border that terminates above and below in scroll and shell chased work, and is suspended by a double bar and slide to correspond with the border, all of 22 carat gold. The original ribbon is preserved, and is white watered silk. Attached to the upper bar is a ring with a silk loop, confined by two twisted gold collars, by which it was suspended from the button. The medal is of two convex plates of gold, united at the edge.

Obv.—Engraved upon a field a banner in the centre, inscribed “Erin,” and at the dexter side a sword driven into the ground point down, next it a bomb with ignited fuse, and at the sinister side a field gun. Above, “United so Fearless”; below, “Riddeltown Hussars.”

Rev.—“A grateful tribute to Colonel G. Blennerhasset, 5th May, 1780.”

Again, on the 20th and 21st of August, 1782, the Limerick County and City Volunteers were reviewed at Loughmore by the Earl of Charlemont. On this occasion twenty-six cavalry and infantry regiments joined hands, when the Riddeltown Hussars were under the command of Colonel Blennerhasset.

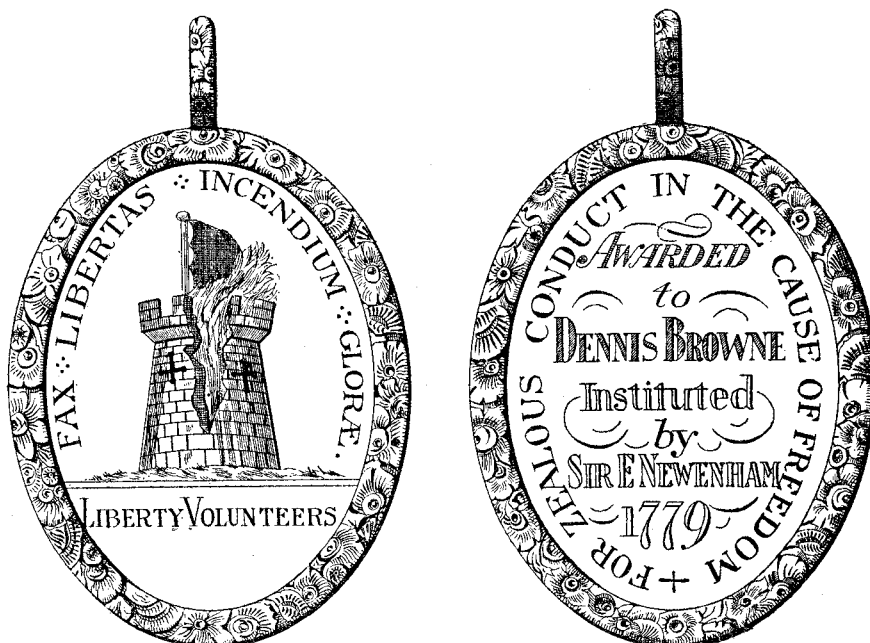


The uniform worn by them was scarlet, faced blue, with silver epaulettes and a green jacket. It had the enviable distinction of being the only hussar regiment among the Volunteer cavalry of the province of Munster.

Riddelstown is the old family mansion of the Blennerhassetts, about two miles north-west of Rathkeale. Richard Blennerhasset was the first of the name who came into Ireland from Cumberland in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Captain Jenkins Conway, from which marriage all the families of this name in the counties of Kerry and Limerick are descended. Conway was an undertaker in the same reign, who had a grant of 5,200 acres, "called Killorglin, in the county Kerry."

#### THE LIBERTY (DUBLIN) VOLUNTEERS.

Among the medals of the Irish Volunteers in my collection that have already been described in the Journal of our Society are no less than four



of the Dublin Liberty Volunteers, viz. :—The Liberty Rangers, Liberty Artillery, Liberty Volunteers, Liberty Volunteers, 2nd battalion.

I can now add another to the list, namely, an oval silver, engraved medal, with a chased rim and loop,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  by  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches, of "The Liberty Volunteers."



Obv.—A tower in flames (being one of the charges upon the shield of arms borne by the city of Dublin) and the motto “Fax Libertas Incendium Gloræ,” “Liberty Volunteers” <sup>(2)</sup>

Rev.—“For zealous conduct in the cause of freedom. Awarded to Dennis Browne. Instituted by Sir E. Newenham, 1779.”

The uniform of this corps was scarlet, faced pea green. Its colonel, Sir Edward Newenham, and captain, Edward Newenham.

#### STROKESTOWN LIGHT HORSE.

Gold medal, with loop, two inches in diameter, circular, engraved.

Obv.—In a bright cut border the uncrowned harp, with shamrocks, and the motto, “Fortuna Favet Fortibus” (fortune favours the brave), “Strokestown L. H. V.”

Rev.—“The gift of the Earl of Charlemont, Commander-in-Chief, to Sergt. A. More, for swordsmanship, 22nd July, 1781.”



This troop was raised in 1779 by Major Gilbert Conry. Uniform scarlet, faced yellow.

The medal is of fine gold, and having been the personal gift of the Earl of Charlemont, is of more than ordinary interest. Like so many of the engraved medals of the Volunteers, it is historically valuable and unique in itself. Strokestown is in the county Roscommon, about twelve miles from Longford, and seventy-four from Dublin.

<sup>(2)</sup> This inscription is rather obscure, and should possibly read Fax Libertatis Incendium Gloræ (the torch of liberty is the fire of glory, or the effulgence of glory), an allusion to the burning castle upon the obverse, and to the name of the regiment, which had “Liberty” upon its colours.

BALLYROOM CAVALRY.

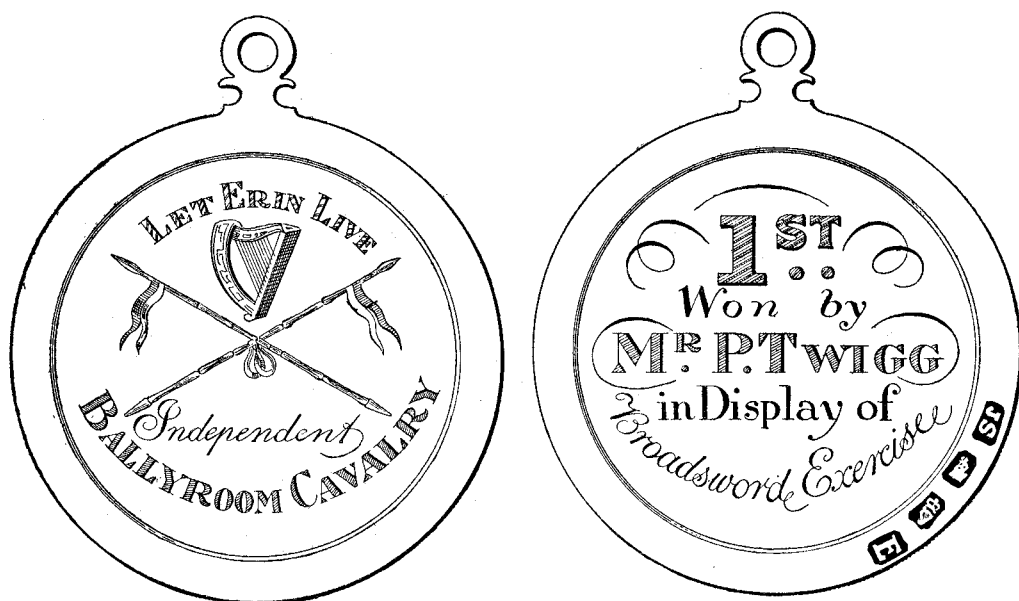
Silver, circular, engraved medal,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter.

Obv.—Two lances in saltire, with a harp in the upper angle. “Let Erin live. Independent Ballyroom Cavalry.”

Rev.—First won by Mr. P. Twigg in display of broadsword exercise.

This medal was transferable, and its final recipient had a wide raised protecting rim, and loop for suspension, added to it, and hall marked with the date letter E, for 1800. The field of the medal is more rubbed down and worn than the rim, on which the hall mark is well defined.

McNevin gives no information about this corps, and only records its name, and the other authorities to which I have access are equally silent



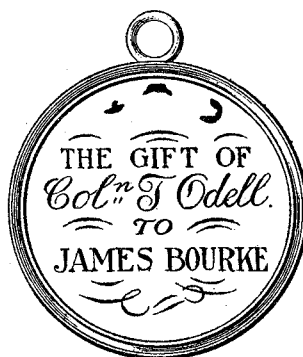
about it. I am, therefore, ignorant so far as to its uniform and the name of its officers, and can only say that it belonged to the Volunteers of 1782. In the “List of the Officers of the several District Corps in Ireland, Dublin Castle, 1797,” the “Ballinakill and Ballyroom Cavalry” is given as one of the corps of Volunteers raised anno 1796 in the Queen’s County. Its captain was Viscount de Vesci; first lieutenant, Charles Doyne; second lieutenant, William Piggott, whose commissions are dated 31st October, 1796. (3)

(3) In a recent letter from Viscount de Vesci he informs me that the only evidence of such a troop that has survived in his home at Abbey Leix are two cavalry sabres and a small stand of arms.

## CONNELLO LIGHT HORSE VOLUNTEERS.

Silver, circular, engraved medal,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, hall marked.

Obv.—The Star of the Garter inscribed “Virtute Non Verbis” (by valour, not by boasting), inclosing a harp. In exergue, “1781.”



Rev.—The gift of Col. T. Odell to James Bourke.

Uniform scarlet, faced goslin green, dark green jackets. Connello is in the county Limerick. Its commanding officer was Colonel Thomas Odell.

## CLANWILLIAM UNION.

Silver, engraved, circular medal, with ring, hall marked,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter.

Obv.—“Clanwilliam Union.” A shield of arms. Earl’s coronet and



crest, and below a ribbon with “Toujours Prest.” The arms are those of Earl Clanwilliam. Azure a chevron ermine between three trefoils slipped.

Rev.—“Reward for skill at arms.” John Ryan.

This corps was commanded by the Earl of Clanwilliam and Captain

Alleyn. Uniform scarlet, faced blue, laced silver, silver epaulettes, white jackets, white buttons, faced blue.

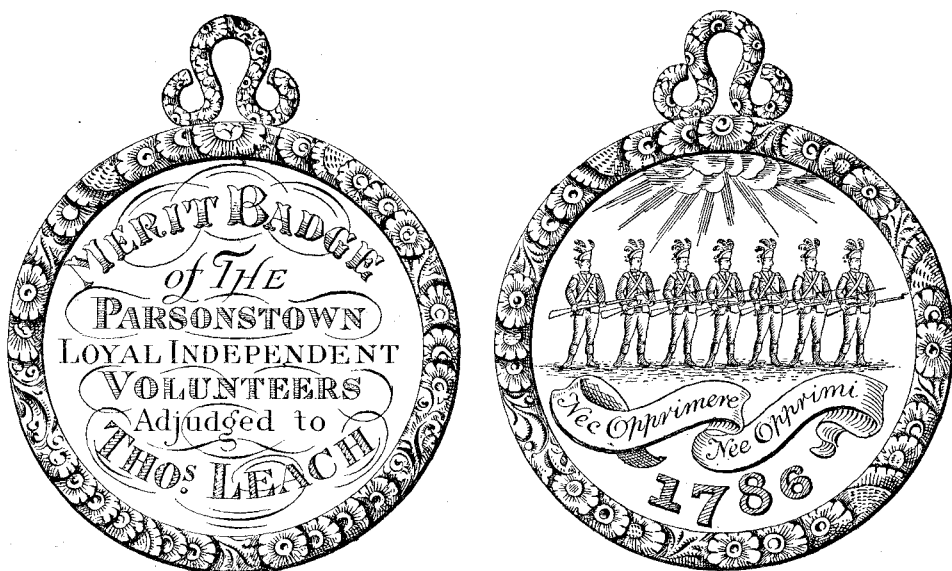
The Clanwilliam Union (county Tipperary) were succeeded in 1796 by the "Barony of Clanwilliam Cavalry," officered by Captain Hon. Francis Matthew and Lieutenants the Hon. Francis Massey and Richard Butler Hamilton Lowe.

#### PARSONSTOWN VOLUNTEERS.

This is a silver, circular medal,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, with a raised and chased rim, and trefoil-shaped chased loop.

Obv.—"Merit Badge of the Parsonstown Loyal Independent Volunteers. Adjudged to Thos. Leach."

Rev.—Seven Volunteers in line with fixed bayonets, upon whom the sun from behind a cloud casts its rays, and below, on two ribbons, the



motto of a people struggling for constitutional liberty: "Nec Opprimere Nec Opprimi" (neither to oppress nor be oppressed).

This medal is of unusually fine and artistic work, and well engraved. The regiment was formed on February 15th, 1776, by Sir William Parsons, bart. Its major was Laurence Parsons; captain, B. B. Warburton; and lieutenant, Edward Tracey. The uniform, which is well represented on the medal, was scarlet, faced black, with silver lace, and is identical with that upon the right-hand figure on the Wedgwood jug, vol. iv., p. 325.

It illustrates the Wedgwood pottery at Birr Castle, which has been described and figured in the December number of our "Journal," and both are very interesting historical memorials of the Birr Volunteers.

#### MOTTOES.

Mountgarret Volunteers—"Liberty or Death."  
 Shannon Sea Fencibles—"I have striven and I have conquered."  
 Limerick Fencibles—"Free from all fear. Ready for the combat."  
 Ballina and Ardnaree Volunteers—"United."  
 Liberty Volunteers—"The torch of liberty is the fire of glory."  
 Strokestown Light Infantry—"Fortune favours the brave."  
 Ballyroom Cavalry—"Let Erin live independent."  
 Connello Light Horse—"By valour, not by boasting."  
 Waterford Artillery—"In this is my hope."  
 Parsonstown Volunteers—"Neither to oppress nor be oppressed."  
 Riddelstown Hussars—"United so Fearless."

## Notes and Queries.

### LOCAL HISTORY, ANTIQUITIES, FOLK-LORE, ETC.

*Contributed by J. Buckley:* CLAYTON FAMILY, CO. CORK; REV. TIMOTHY O'BRIEN, D.D.

*Cn.:* SOME WRITERS CONNECTED WITH COVE, NOW QUEENSTOWN.

*Robert Day:* BRONZE SPEAR HEAD.

*Robert Bickersteth:* THE GARDE FAMILY.

**Clayton Family, Co. Cork.**—In reply to Mrs. Townshend's inquiries in the "Journal," vol. iv., No. 39, relating to this family, the following particulars may be of some service to her. They are principally abridged from a very valuable and interesting account of the family compiled by Mr. J. P. Rylands, F.S.A., entitled "Some Account of the Clayton Family, of Thelwall, Co. Chester: afterwards of St. Dominick's Abbey, Doneraile and Mallow, Co. Cork," which was read before the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, in April, 1880, and privately printed the same year at Liverpool.

Thelwall is a township in Bucklow Hundred, county Chester, about four miles south-east of Warrington. In the reign of Henry III. it was granted to one de Dutton, in whose family it remained until the end of the thirteenth or the beginning of the fourteenth century. The next in possession seem to have been the de Claytons. Randal de Clayton, son of Adam de Clayton, probably became seized thereof by his own or his father's marriage with the heiress of the preceding owner.

That the Clayton family is an ancient one can be seen by the following pedigree, in which the descent is traced from