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It is quite an exception to meet anyone travelling by train who knows anything whatever of this ancient landmark. Strangers are, of course, naturally ignorant of such matters, but even many born and bred in the locality appear to be equally incurious and uninformed about it.

A few facts may appropriately be added here concerning Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, as he was a very prominent figure in Irish history. In 1598, the year in which Spenser fled the country, his castle of Kilcolman, near Buttevant, being burned, O'Neill fought and won the "Battle of the Yellow Ford," a few miles from Armagh, in which the English general, Marshal Bagenal, was killed, with more than 2,000 of his troops; this action was described as "the greatest overthrow the English ever suffered since they set foot in Ireland." In January, 1600, O'Neill started for his campaign in Munster; his route lay through Westmeath and Tipperary. While encamped near Bandon a skirmish occurred between some of his scouts under Maguire and a party of horse headed by Sir Warham St. Leger, President of Munster. In this action St. Leger and Maguire were both mortally wounded by each other. At the close of 1601 O'Neill was again in Cork county: in the September of that year Don Juan del Aquila garrisoned Kinsale with 3,000 Spanish soldiers and being besieged there by Mountjoy and Carew, O'Neill proceeded to his relief in December. The result, however, was disastrous to the Irish, who were utterly broken in the battle of Kinsale, losing a thousand men left dead on the field. O'Neill afterwards retired to Innishannon, where he held a council of war, which determined that he and other Northern chiefs should return home.

The O'Neill who fought and won the battle of Benburb, in Tyrone, in 1646, was Owen Roe O'Neill.

## Medals of the Irish Volunteers.

*Continued from page 168.*

By ROBERT DAY, F.S.A., V.P.R.S.A.

### THE MALLOW CAVALRY.



THIS silver, engraved, hall-marked medal has a reeded border, with hoop, and is two inches in diameter.

Obv.—In the upper angle, formed by two banners in saltire, a harp with a wreath of shamrocks; in the lower angle "Unity," and upon the pennons that fill the remaining spaces the words "All," "By" (All by Unity). Around the margin "Mallow Cavalry." Below, "Awarded for skill at arms."

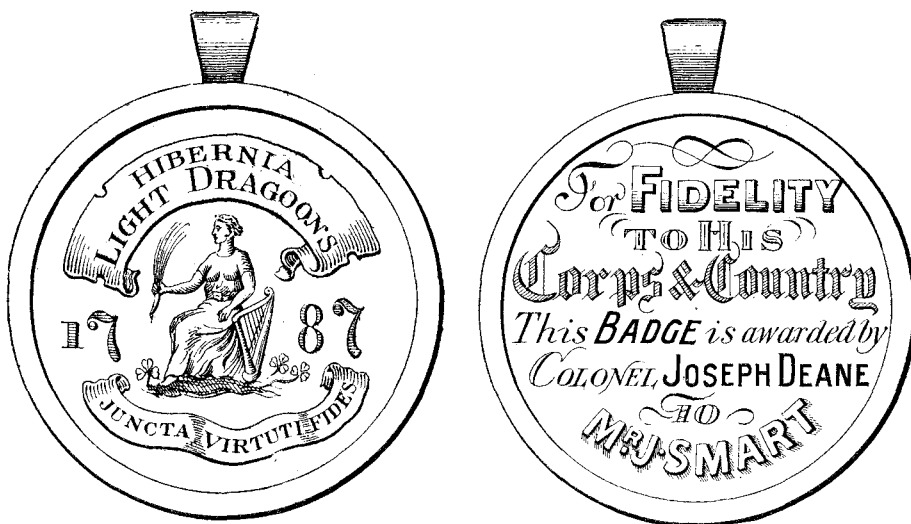
Rev.—“Won by Corporal Denis Leary, 1783.” Irish hall-marked, with the date letter L for 1781.

This was the Mallow Boyne Cavalry, who were commanded by Captain Rogerson Cotter, and were enrolled in 1782. The only portion of



their uniform that is recorded are the jackets, which were green. They were associated with the Mallow Boyne Infantry of 1776, who were commanded by Colonel Sir James Lawrence Cotter, bart., and whose uniform was blue-edged buff, buff waistcoat, and yellow buttons.

#### HIBERNIA LIGHT DRAGOONS.



This was one of the many Dublin Volunteer Corps. No particulars are given by McNevin of its uniform, officers, or accoutrements, but the

medal itself bears evidence that the troop flourished in 1787, and was commanded by Colonel Joseph Deane.

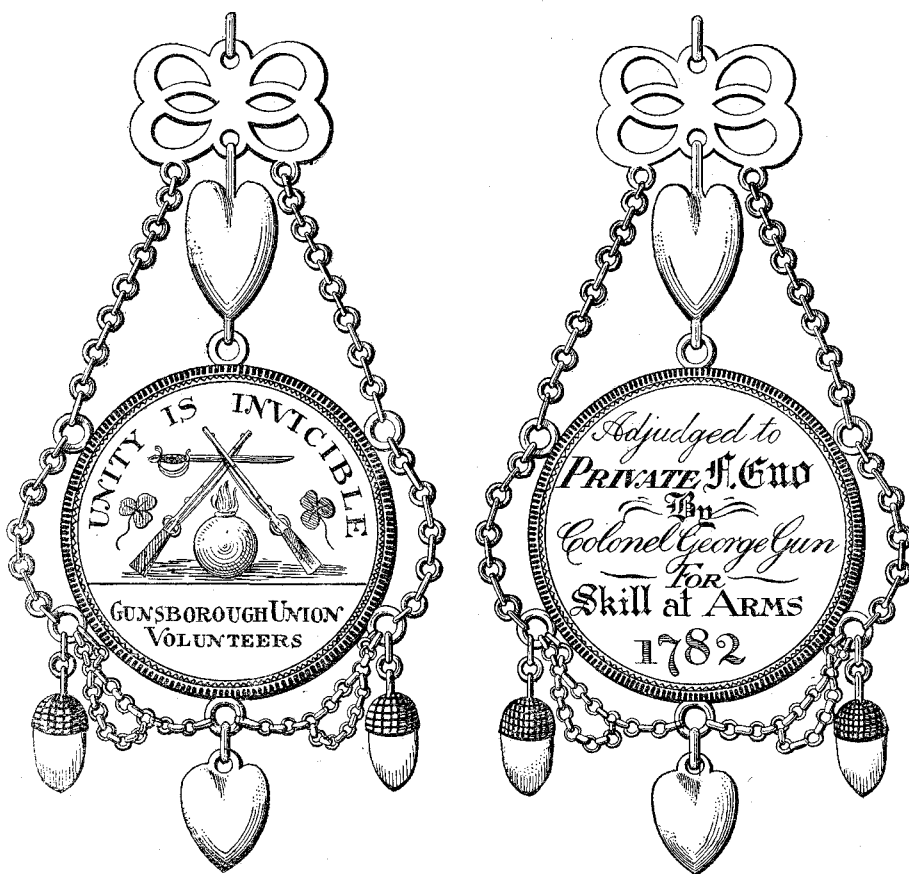
It is of engraved work, and has a suspender loop for attachment.

Obv.—Hibernia seated with harp and palm branch; above, the title and 1787, and below, “*Juncta Virtuti Fides*” (Fidelity joined to Valour).<sup>(4)</sup>

Rev.—“For fidelity to his corps and country this badge is awarded by Colonel Joseph Deane to Mr. J. Smart.”

#### GUNSBOROUGH UNION VOLUNTEERS (County Kerry, 1779).

This is a very quaint and distinctive decoration, and unlike any other that I have seen. The medal is of silver,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter, and



engraved. It is suspended from a pierced quatre-foil by two silver chains and a gold heart, and pendant from three of its six rings are two silver acorns and a second heart of gold with a double festooned chain.

<sup>(4)</sup> In allusion to the fidelity of the recipient.

Obv.—Two muskets in saltire, and a sword in fess. At either side a shamrock, and in the centre a shell with fuse. Below, "Gunsborough Union Volunteers," and above, "Unity is Invincible."

Rev.—"Adjudged to Private F. Eno by Colonel George Gun, for skill at arms, 1782."

#### THE KERRY LEGION.

This Volunteer regiment was embodied in the January of 1779, and was commanded by Colonel Arthur Blennerhasset. The uniform was scarlet, faced black, edged white, white buttons.

The medal is of silver, engraved, two inches in diameter, with loop for suspension.



Obv.—A lion passant guardant supporting a harp, and issuing from the clouds a naked arm with dagger that strikes at the lion's head. Motto—"Ducit Amor Patriae" (Patriotism leads me), and below, "Strike hard and true, men of the Kerry Legion."

Rev.—"This prize medal was won by Michl. Fitzgerald of the Kerry Legion, October, 1782."

There was also formed at the same time the Kerry Legion Cavalry, wearing the same uniform, but with silver epaulettes. Its Major Commandant was Rowland Bateman.

#### SMALL COUNTY UNION LIGHT DRAGOONS.

This medal is of bronze, engraved, 2 1/2 inches in diameter, with raised rim and loop.

Obv.—Upon two banners in saltire a laurel wreath enclosing a garter with the motto that was afterwards adopted for the order of St. Patrick, “*Quis Separabit*” (who shall separate us). “Small County Union Light Dragoons, 1780.”

Rev.—“An award of merit for skill. Broadsword. F. Hogan, 2nd.”



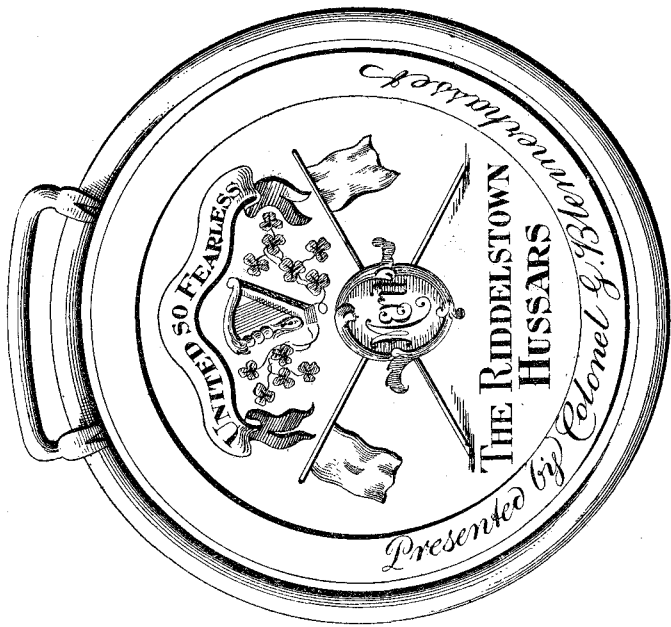
This was one of the Volunteer troops of the county Limerick, and was commanded by Colonel John Grady. Its uniform was scarlet, faced green.

Bronze medals connected with the Volunteers are of comparatively rare occurrence, and are even of more rarity than those of gold. In 1803 another cavalry troop was raised bearing the same title. Their Captain Commandant was De Courcy O'Grady, and the lieutenants were R. Hungerford and Joseph Gubbins.

#### RIDDELSTOWN HUSSARS.<sup>(5)</sup>

In the volume of this “Journal” for 1899, p. 188, a gold medal of this regiment is engraved, which was presented by it to its commandant, Colonel G. B. Blennerhasset. I have since then acquired a silver, en-

<sup>(5)</sup> There is yet another medal of the Riddelstown Hussars in the collection of Lt.-Col. J. B. Gaskell; it is hall-marked, and has engraved upon it—“James Butler, a token of regard from Colonel Blennerhasset.”



graved circular medallion of the same corps, that he on his part gave as a reward for skill at arms. It is three one-sixteenth inches in diameter, and weighs 5 ozs., with a square loop for suspension. The centre is sunk, and the broad flat rim has a plain circular double raised border.

Obv.—On an oval escutcheon, supported by two banners in saltire, the word “Merit.” Below, “The Riddelstown Hussars.” Above, a harp with shamrocks, and on a ribbon the motto of the corps; and on the flat rim, “Presented by Colonel G. B. Blennerhasset.”

Rev.—Within a Chippendale border, “The award for skill at arms, won by Mr. Jh. McKinry, 1783.”

The motto upon this is the same as on the gold medal referred to above, and finding it on both proves conclusively that “United so fearless” was the established watchword of the corps.

#### THE WATERFORD INDEPENDENT VOLUNTEERS.

Silver medal, engraved,  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter, with the circular edge serrated, and a grooved rim.



Obv.—On a tented field a Volunteer fully accoutred at attention, in the background a flagstaff and pennant inscribed “Reform, or—,” <sup>(6)</sup> and upon the lower rim “Sixth Company.”

Rev.—“Mr. Daniel Redditch, best shot in the Company, won May 12th, 1780.”

<sup>(6)</sup> See Vol. iv. p. 47, 1898.



Upon the rim, "H. W. Dobbyn, Esquire, Captain. This was Captain Hannibal William Dobbyn, who was one of the chosen delegates that composed the Grand National Convention.

On their formation in 1778 the Waterford Independents were formed into six companies or battalions, each distinguished by a difference of uniform. Numbers one and six had scarlet, faced black, white buttons, and silver-laced hats. No. 1 had as its commandant Captain Henry Alcock. No. 2 was differenced by having silver-laced wings. Its captain was Robert Shapland Carew. The uniform of No. 3 was scarlet, faced green; and Nos. 4 and 5 were the "Royal Oaks or Waterford Independents," with scarlet uniform, faced blue. These last are also represented in my collection by a silver, engraved medal, 2 inches in diameter, with loop.



Obv.—Beneath a scroll inscribed "Securior quo paratio" (the better prepared, the more secured), the harp crowned, and "Royal Oak Independent Company."

Rev.—"The gift of Colonel Cornelius Bolton to James Hennessy for services in the light company of the Royal Oak Independent Volunteers, 3rd April, 1781."

The motto upon this, like that adopted upon another medal of the Volunteers, conveyed an implied threat. On one is "Reform, or else—," upon the other, "Reform, or——." (7)

While primarily the Volunteers took up arms to defend their homes from foreign invasion, later on, when as a drilled, armed, and united body

(7) The Dublin Volunteer Artillery when they appeared on parade commanded by James Napper Tandy had labels upon their cannon mouths that completed the sentence, "A Free Trade or speedy Revolution."

they became a power in the country, they were enabled to bring so great a pressure to bear upon the unwilling Parliament that, in 1782, they wrung from it a measure of free trade, and succeeded in removing some of the restrictions that had so long and so unjustly weighed upon and hampered the industries and commercial interests of the country.

In 1782 a No. 7 Company was formed called the "Waterford Grenadiers." They were commanded by Captain David Wilson, and had yellow facings.

Later on, in 1796 and 1803, when the Volunteers of 1782 had disappeared, two troops of cavalry and two regiments of infantry were raised in Waterford as a paid Volunteer force. One of the latter was the "Waterford Merchants' Corps," captain commanding, William C. Alcock, 26th October, 1803.

For the medal of the Waterford Artillery, vide p. 38, vol. v., 1899.

#### GOLD MEDAL OF THE ROYAL CORK CITY MILITIA.

Two gold medals to officers of this regiment have already appeared in the pages of our "Journal." One was presented by Colonel Lord Longueville to Captain Lieut. John Corker, 26th June, 1799.<sup>(8)</sup> The other was a prize won by Lieutenant Thos. Kennedy, and given by Lieut-Colonel Longfield, anno 1798.<sup>(9)</sup>



I am now enabled to illustrate a third, of equal interest. It also is of fine gold, and weighs 1 oz. 8 dwts. It is engraved, and has all the

Vol. v. p. 45.

<sup>(9)</sup> Vol. v. p. 84.

character of Cork workmanship, oval in form, and measuring  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with the bright cut border of the period.

Obv.—The arms of Cork and motto, enclosed by a garter inscribed “Royal Cork City Militia,” and in exergue “27” (the number of the regiment).

Rev.—“From Colonel Lord Longueville and the Officers of the Cork Militia to their Chaplain, the Rev. John Sealy, 3rd July, 1799.”

It is suspended with a loop that corresponds with the border, by a green watered silk ribbon.

This gentleman's name does not occur either in Cotton's “Fasti,” or Brady's “Records of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross,” so that it is probable he acted as chaplain to the regiment from the 18th of May, 1793, which is the date of his commission, until his death, whenever that occurred.

The artistic treatment of the City Arms upon the medal are identical with those on the contemporary cross belt plate, which is figured and described in vol. iv., and page 337, and was the regimental badge of the old “27th.” Here, and upon the Corker medal, we have the regiment described under its present appellation after it had become a Royal Militia Corps, while upon the Kennedy medal it is called the “Loyal Cork City Militia.” It has been suggested that this may have been an error of the engraver that would have been afterwards difficult to rectify without marring the inscription, but if so, why has the silver gorget that accompanies it the initials “L.C.C.M.,” which exactly corresponds with the medal. As the date of the gorget preceded by eight years that of the medal, there can be no doubt but the original title of the “27th” was the “Loyal Cork City,” and so continued until 1798, when, after the battle of Vinegar Hill and the rebellion of that year, in which it was engaged, its title was changed, and it became a royal regiment.

The dual evidence of the medals of 1799 and that of the medal and gorget of 1788 fully establishes this, and is another example of the value of these enduring memorials, not alone as historical landmarks, but as also containing in themselves information not to be readily found elsewhere.

To summarise the mottoes on the medals in this and the preceding paper, they are:—

Royal Oak Independents. “Securior qua paratior” (the better prepared, the more secured).

Kerry Legion. “Ducit Amor Patriae” (Patriotism leads me), and “Strike hard and true, men of the Kerry Legion.”

Thurles Union. “Semper Paratus” (always prepared).

Cloghan and Garrycastle. “Pro bello vil Pace” (For war or peace).

Waterford Independents. "Reform, or——."

Nenagh Volunteers. "Perimus Licitis" (We perish in a righteous cause).

Small County Union. "Quis Separabit" (Who shall separate us).

Hibernia Light Dragoons. "Juncta Virtuti Fides" (Fidelity joined to Valour).

Gunsborough Union Volunteers. "Unity is Invincible."

Adare Regiment. "Tyranny Defied."

Mallow Cavalry. "All by Unity."

Birr Volunteers. "Dulce pro patria periculum" (Danger is sweet for one's country).

## The First Cork Exhibition.



WELL nigh half a century having elapsed since this notable item in Cork's later history took place, there are not now many Corkmen who can remember having seen the First Cork Exhibition; whilst to the great majority of present-day Cork citizens it is consequently nothing more than a name. Maguire's "Irish Industrial Movement," in which its history is exhaustively narrated, has become an exceedingly rare work too, so that the following summary account of this Exhibition, the first in the United Kingdom to follow in the wake of that held in the Crystal Palace, London, in 1851, extracted from Maguire's book will, it is to be hoped, find a fitting niche in the "Cork Journal."

To a now long-deceased Cork citizen, Mr. Daniel Corbett, belongs the merit of the inception of the First Cork Exhibition of 1852. He first spoke to a few friends on the matter in November, 1851; on the 1st December he convened a private meeting in the Mayor's Office; and from this resulted an important public assembly at the City Courthouse, on the 15th of the same month. It was Mr. Corbett's idea that much good might be effected by a local Exhibition of Industry, for which he had personally satisfied himself that there were ample materials in the city and county of Cork. The other citizens of Cork cordially co-operated in forwarding the movement, prominent amongst whom were the then Mayor, Mr. James Lambkin, and his successor, Sir William Hackett, Sir Thomas Deane, Colonel North Ludlow Beamish, Mr. John Shea, and Mr. John Francis Maguire, who, with Professor Shaw, of the Cork Queen's College, visited the chief towns of Munster, in order to ensure their support. Day by day and week by week the undertaking became enlarged in its proportions and extended its aim, till from a mere city and county display, it grew into a provincial, and eventually into a National Exhibition.

Suitable additional buildings having been designed and erected for the purpose by Mr. (afterwards Sir) John Benson at the Corn Exchange, Albert Quay, the First Cork Exhibition—in furtherance of which Prince Albert contributed £100—was there opened with much state and ceremony on the 10th June, 1852, by the then Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the Earl of Eglinton, attended by all the rank