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# The Anatomy of the Volunteers In Cork, 1775-82: Part II

By JAMES O'DONOVAN

## THE VOLUNTEER SOCIETIES OF CORK CITY AND COUNTY

The following is a breakdown of the Volunteer movement in Cork, society by society, compiled from a number of sources — the Munster Volunteer Registry (M.V.R.), directories, newspapers, private papers, etc. The number of societies in the county as a whole, I have estimated at fifty-six. I am not however ruling out the possibility of other societies having existed. We know for instance that a Mr. Sorruff raised a society at Buttevant in 1779, but nothing else concerning it. A Mr. Devonshire raised a corps called the Union Society in North Cork in 1779, but it was short-lived. I have come across a reference to a society called the Carbery Rangers, though whether this was a corps in its own right or merely a reference to the Carbery Independents is not clear. The societies listed here are what I would regard as 'legitimate' Volunteer societies, as opposed to those still-born, short-lived, or merely small armed groups raised by the local landlord. The very nature of the Volunteers and the background against which they emerged was often hazy and multifarious and a definition and description of the anatomy of the movement is difficult. Nonetheless what follows is such an attempt, however inadequate.

I have divided the list of societies into two: firstly the cavalry troops of the city and county and secondly the infantry and artillery corps. I have attempted to give a succinct description of each society, when it was enrolled, its uniform, a list of its officers, etc. With regard to those societies formed in the city, it has been my intention to set forth, where possible, the occupations and professions of the officers

(the main source I have used here is the Cork Directory of 1787). Unfortunately I have not had the time to attempt the same for the county, which requires greater research.

I have divided Volunteer activity under three headings — military (i.e. primarily engaged in policing and the defence of the country), political (i.e. discussing, passing resolutions and making their voice felt on the political issues of the day) and social (attending at parades, days of celebration, festivities etc.). In a sense all Volunteer societies were 'active' in that they shared common traits, principles, aspirations and activities, to a greater or a lesser extent. The minute book of the Doneraile Rangers, in this respect, probably adequately reflects the 'activities' of the Volunteer societies as a whole throughout Munster (something which is further borne out when it is compared with the minute book of the Ennis Volunteers). Support for the Dungannon resolutions was widespread among the Cork societies, city, town and country.

Other prominent features of the Volunteer movement are also evident in this survey. The strong 'family influence' on the movement is conspicuous, on occasion a family or two providing the entire officer list as in the case of the Hanover Society of Clonakilty and the Loyal Newberry Musqueteers. The prominence of the gentry in the movement is also noticeable, as evidenced by the Uniack Fitzgeralds in east Cork and the Hungerfords in west Cork. Among the most active societies were those who combined a troop of cavalry and corps of

infantry and on occasion artillery as at Youghal, Bandon and Imokilly, officers often overlapping on such occasions. The influence of older clubs and societies, particularly masonic lodges, is also evident.

I have also included part of a government report of 1784 which puts the total number of volunteers in the country at 18,471 (4,442 in Munster). It gives a list of all the existing corps in each county along with their commanders and the reputed strength of each corps (the Cork list is incomplete). Brief remarks are also made on the general condition of the movement in most of the counties. There are no returns for Monaghan, Fermanagh and Mayo. The only surviving copy of this report known to me is now in the National Museum.

The returns for Munster show a number of interesting features. According to the report the movement by 1784 was in serious decline in every county in Munster. There are no 'remarks' concerning the state of the Volunteers in Cork however, and the number of Volunteers in the county at the time was almost as great as in the rest of the province. The number of men could vary drastically, by all accounts, from corps to corps, the Waterford Union having 16 men and the Waterford Independents some 200. The strong Catholic involvement in the Volunteers by 1784 is also noticeable in the returns made for Limerick, Kerry and Clare, which would again tend to suggest that Catholic involvement in the Volunteers in Munster was greater than has been thought hitherto.

#### CAVALRY OF THE COUNTY OF CORK

**True Blue of Cork:** Enrolled 1745. One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Richard, Earl of Shannon, and Captain Shaw. One of the most active societies in Cork, militarily, politically and socially. Although Shannon was a strong supporter of the government, the society favoured Renunciation and opposed the Fencibles. One of the oldest volunteer

societies in the country.

Uniform: Blue, laced silver, epaulets, white buttons.

Furniture: goat-skin.

**Mitchelstown Light Dragoons:** Enrolled July 1774. One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Viscount Kingsborough; Lieut.-Colonel, Henry Cole Bowen; Major, Badham Thornhill; Captain, Harmer Spratt; Lieutenant, William Raymond. Though this society does not appear to have been a particularly active one, Kingsborough was, with Longfield and John Colthurst, the figurehead of the 'independent' interest in Cork.

Uniform: scarlet, faced black, epaulets, yellow helmets, white buttons.

Furniture: goat-skin, edged black.

**Blackpool Horse:** Enrolled 1776. One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, John Harding (probably a merchant), Lieut.-Colonel, Thomas Barry (malster and tanner); Major, William Alexander (shoe-maker); Lieutenant, Bradshaw Popham (probably a cotton manufacturer). A reasonably active society among those of the city. The occupations of its officers gives us an indication as to the strata of society from which the Volunteers were drawn.

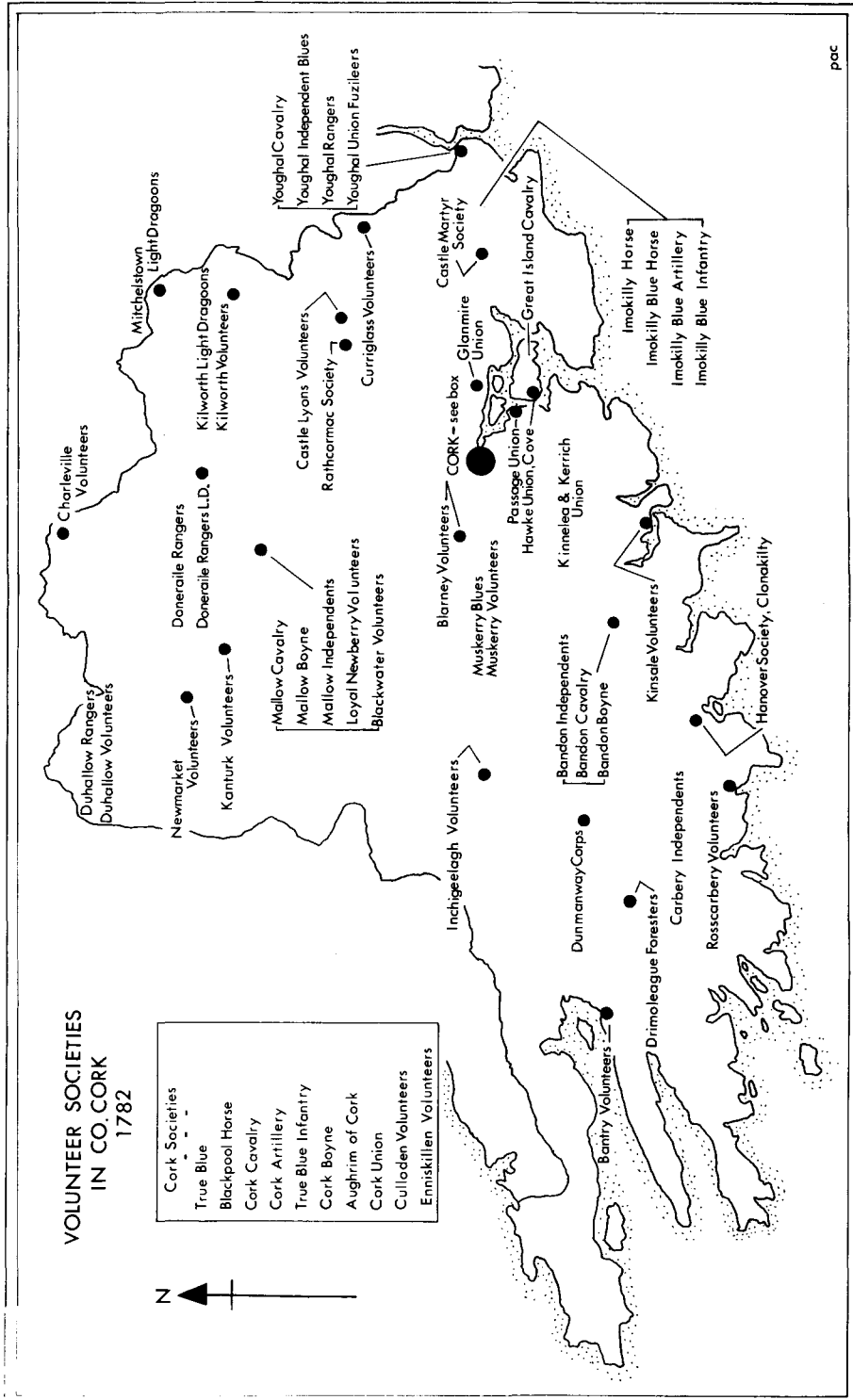
Uniform: green, laced gold, ditto epaulets, buff waistcoats and breeches.

Furniture: goat-skin.

**Youghal Cavalry:** Enrolled 1776. One troop. Officers in 1782: Captain Commandant, Robert Ball; Lieutenant, John Smith. One of several corps raised in and around Youghal, though not among the most active.

Uniform: scarlet, faced white.

**Bandon Cavalry:** Enrolled 6 May 1778. One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Sampson Stawell; Major, John Moore Travers; Captains, Robert Waterhouse, Simon T. Davies. A very active society both militarily and politically, along with her sister infantry corps the Bandon Boyne and Independents. The south western area of County Cork was in general a hive of



Volunteer activity. The society was a strong supporter of parliamentary reform, non-importation, and was one of the first to officially invite Catholics into the ranks in 1782. Uniform: dark olive, green jacket, half-lapelled, crimson velvet cuffs and collar, silver epaulets.

Furniture: white cloth, hosing and holster caps, embroidered.

**Muskerry Blue Light Dragoons:** Enrolled 1 June 1778. One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Robert Warren; Lieut.-Colonel, Robert Hutchinson; Major, Samuel Sweete; Lieutenant, Thomas Coppinger. Although in close proximity to the city, this society does not appear to have been particularly active.

Uniform: blue, lapelled, edged white, silver epaulets, white jackets, edged blue.

Furniture: goat-skin.

**Duhallow Rangers:** Enrolled 1778. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Hon. Charles Percival; Lieut.-Colonel, William Wrixon; Captain, John Crofts. One of the more remote corps. Does not appear to have been very active, probably confined to local policing and military activities.

**Imokilly Horse:** Enrolled September 1778. One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Edward Roche; Lieut.-Colonel, Robert McCarthy; Captain, John Ball. Like the area around Bandon, Youghal and its hinterland, the barony of Imokilly, were fertile in Volunteer corps. This society was an active one, their liberal sentiments shown by support for the Genovese and 'non-importation' and their opposition to the Fencibles.

Uniform: scarlet, faced black, yellow buttons, gold epaulets, yellow helmets, white jackets, edged red.

Furniture: goat-skin, trimmed red.

**Kilworth Light Dragoons:** Enrolled July 1779. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Earl of Mountcashel; Lieut.-Colonel, Arthur Hyde; Captain, William Newenham; Lieutenant,

Thomas Power. Like many of the more isolated units it was probably confined to local policing and military activities.

Uniform: scarlet, faced green, gold epaulets, yellow buttons, and helmets.

Furniture: goat-skin, trimmed green.

**Imokilly Blue Horse:** Enrolled 1779. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Robert Uniack Fitzgerald; Major, Thomas Fitzgerald; Captain Travers; Lieutenant Uniack. One of the four Imokilly societies, the Uniack Fitzgerald family being involved in all. Robert Uniack Fitzgerald also coloneled the Imokilly Blue Infantry and Artillery.

Uniform: blue, faced red.

**Doneraile Rangers Light Dragoons:** Enrolled 12 July 1779. One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Sentleger, Lord Doneraile; Major, Hon. Hayes Sentleger; Captain, Nicholas Green Evans; Lieutenant, John Watkins; Cornet, Nicholas Green Evans, Jun., Chaplain, Hon. James Sentleger. By virtue of its minute book we know more about the internal workings of this corps than of any other in Munster, save the Ennis Volunteers. How far it is representative of the other Volunteer societies in Munster is difficult to tell, but it is probably not un-representative. The influence of the local gentry, in this particular case the Sentlegers, on the movement in Munster as a whole is reflected here. Hayes Sentleger was Doneraile's eldest son and sat for the borough. Lord Doneraile also coloneled the Doneraile Infantry.

Uniform: scarlet, faced green, edged white, gold epaulets, yellow buttons and helmets, green jackets, faced red.

Furniture: goat-skin.

**Glanmire Union:** Enrolled 27 August 1779. One troop. Officers in 1779: Colonel, Henry Mannix (barrister); Captain, Simon Dring; Chaplain, Archdeacon Croker; Secretary, Rev. Chambre Croker (both probably of a merchant family). An active society, on occasion working

in conjunction with corps in Cork. Supported non-importation and opposed the Fencibles. One of the first Volunteer societies in Munster to declare its support for parliamentary reform. Uniform: deep green, faced black. Furniture: goat-skin, trimmed green.

**Cork Cavalry:** One troop. Officers in 1782: Colonel, William Chetwynd; Major, John Gillman; Captain, John Smith (a chandler); Cornet, Paul Piersy (probably of a merchant family). A cavalry society which often acted in conjunction with the Cork Union and Artillery, though not the most politically active. Uniform: scarlet, faced blue, silver laced; silver epaulets, white buttons. Furniture: blue cloth, laced gold.

**Mallow Cavalry:** Enrolled 1782. Officers in 1782: Colonel Cotter. The sister society of the Mallow Boyne, which was also colonelized by Cotter. Probably had its origins in the Mallow Loyal Protestant Society of 1745. Does not appear to have been particularly active, probably engaged primarily in local policing activities. Uniform: green jackets.

**Great Island Cavalry:** Enrolled 24 June 1782. One troop. Officers in 1782: Captain, Wallis Colthurst; Lieutenant, William Colthurst. Not particularly active. The influence of the Colthurst family is reflected here, they being strong supporters of the 'independent' interest. One of two societies raised around Cobh, the other being the Hawke Union. Uniform: scarlet, faced green; gold epaulets, yellow buttons, white jackets edged red. Furniture: goat-skin.

#### INFANTRY OF THE COUNTY OF CORK

**Cork Artillery:** Force: 1 company, 2 four-pounders. Officers in 1782: Captain, Richard Hare (merchant); Lieutenant, Francis Jones. A very active society, politically and militarily. Supported parliamentary reform, non-importation, and opposed the Fencibles. In

December 1783 they attended at Mass in the South Friary.

Uniform: blue, faced scarlet; yellow buttons, gold lace.

**Imokilly Blue Artillery:** Force: 1 company, 2 four-pounders. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Robert Uniack Fitzgerald; Major, Thomas Fitzgerald. The sister corps of the Imokilly Blue Horse, their officers being the same in both cases. The influence of the local gentry, the Uniack Fitzgeralds, is again reflected here. The family were attached to the Shannon interest. Uniform: blue, faced scarlet.

**True Blue of Cork:** Enrolled 1745. Force: 4 companies, 1 gren.; 2 bat.; 1 light. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Earl of Shannon; Lieutenant-Colonels, Godfrey Baker (alderman) and James Morrison (alderman and probably a timber merchant); Major, Michael Roberts Westropp (merchant); Captains, St. Leger Atkins, John Thompson (merchant), Francis Gray (probably a merchant) and Richard Perry; Lieutenants, Jasper Lucas (merchant) and Charles Denroche (merchant). A very active society, sister infantry corps of the above. The officers' list reflects the major role played by the merchants in the Volunteer movement in Cork, as well as elements of 'officialdom' (i.e. aldermen).

Uniform: blue, laced silver; white buttons.

**Cork Boyne:** Enrolled 1776. Force: 4 companies; 1 gren., 2 bat., 1 light. Officers in 1782: Colonel, John Bagwell; Lieut.-Colonel, Hugh Lawton (collector of revenue and excise); Major, John Bass (linen-draper); Captains, Arthur Connell, Thomas Chatterton (attorney, and clerk of the crown and peace of the county of Cork); James Chatterton (barrister); and Daniel McCarthy (probably a woollen-draper or glass warehouse owner); Lieutenants, — Kearns (probably a carpenter); Robert Travers (attorney); James Chatterton, Jun. One of the most active societies, militarily, politically and socially in Munster. The military wing of the

Boyne Society of Cork established in 1776. The society is a vivid example of the dramatic metamorphosis which the Volunteers underwent in the years 1776-83. Though the society at its foundation barred all Catholics, and those married to Catholics from membership, by 1782 it was openly inviting Catholics to join its ranks.

*The Munster Military Journal* (March 1890) describes the society as attending a service at Christ Church in February 1776 to 'implore the divine blessing on the British arms and for the termination of the American rebellion', yet they were ultimately to support Free Trade, non-importation, the Dungannon resolutions and oppose the Fencibles. The Society's colonel, John Bagwell, was an unsuccessful candidate in the 1783 election in Cork. The occupations and professions of the officers again reflects the main strata of society from which the Volunteers were taken, the commercial, the legal, and the official.

Uniform: blue, faced blue, yellow buttons, gold epaulets and lace.

**Mallow Boyne:** Enrolled May 1776. Force: 2 companies; 1 gren.; 1 bat. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Sir James Lawrence Cotter, bart.; Captains, William Gallway and Edmund Spenser; Lieutenants, Samuel Lloyd and Robert Kell. Sister infantry society of the Mallow Cavalry.

Uniform: blue, edged buff; buff waistcoat and breeches, yellow buttons.

**Bandon Boyne:** Enrolled 1777. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Ensign, John Loane; Surgeon, Richard Loane. Like her sister societies in Bandon, very active. Probably had its origins in the masonic lodge 'No 84 or the Ancient Boyne' established in 1738.

Uniform: blue, edged buff; yellow buttons, buff waistcoat and gold epaulets.

**Carbery Independents:** Enrolled 20 May 1777. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Captain Commanding, William Beecher; Cap-

tain, John Townshend; Lieutenant, Lionel Fleming; Ensign, Beecher Fleming. Although this is numbered among the first Volunteer societies in Munster it does not seem to have been very active; probably confined to policing activities. Griffith maintains that it included some Catholics among its recruits.

Uniform: scarlet, faced green; yellow buttons.

**Aughrim of Cork:** Enrolled 1777. Force: 3 companies. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Richard Longfield; Lieut.-Colonel, Henry Herbert; Major, Ebenezer Morrison; Captains, Rowland Morrison (common-speaker, timber-merchant) and M. Busted Westropp (barrister). A very active society in the city. Longfield, with Lord Kingsborough, was the foremost advocate of the 'independent' interest in Cork.

Uniform: scarlet, faced scarlet, edged white.

**Loyal Newberry Musqueteers:** Enrolled June 1777. Force: 2 companies; 1 gren., 1 bat. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Adam Newman; Major, John Newman; Captains, Richard Foot and George Foot; Lieutenants, James Lombard and Edmund Lombard; Chaplain, Henry Newman. Does not appear to have been very active, though it did receive a consignment of arms from Cork Corporation in December 1778. The 'family influence' on the Volunteer movement as a whole in Munster is again reflected here.

Uniform: scarlet, faced black.

**Cork Union:** Enrolled March 1776. Force: 4 companies; 1 gren., 2 bat., 1 light. Officers in 1782: Captain Commanding, Henry Hickman (wine merchant and woollen-draper); Captains Benjamin Hayes (attorney), Simon Cooke, James Gregg (attorney) and \_\_\_\_\_ Galway (probably a merchant). Formerly under the command of Lord Shannon but broke with him in January 1780 because of his failure to support a six month money bill. A very active society supporting non-importation and opposing the Fencibles. The cool reaction which the society showed towards parliamentary

reform (March 1783) in effect sounded the death knell of the Volunteers as a political force in Munster.

Uniform: scarlet, faced green; yellow buttons.

**Culloden Volunteers of Cork:** Enrolled 23 March 1778. Force: 3 companies, 1 gren., 1 bat., 1 light. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Benjamin Bousfield; Captains, Henry Newsome (barrister), Sampson Jervais and Isaac Jones. A very active society, like most others in Cork City. Bousfield was a strong supporter of the 'independent' interest, represented the city at the Rotunda convention, and spoke in favour of Catholic suffrage.

Uniform: blue, faced scarlet; yellow buttons; gold epaulets.

**Rosscarbery Volunteers:** Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Thomas Hungerford, Captain, Michael Friend; Lieutenants, William Morris and John Hungerford. The most southerly corps in the county; seems to have been confined to policing and military activities.

Uniform: scarlet, faced blue.

**Passage Union:** Enrolled 29 March 1778. Force: 3 companies; 1 gren., 1 bat., 1 light. Officers in 1782: Major Commandant, Michael Parker; Captains, Richard Roberts, Charles Clark, Achilles Daunt. An active society militarily and politically, often in conjunction with societies in the city. One of the first to show a liberal attitude to Catholics by thanking them for their offers of help in the summer of 1779.

Uniform: scarlet, faced deep green; white buttons.

**Bandon Independents:** Enrolled 29 March 1778. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Francis Bernard; Captain, Robert Sealy; Lieutenant, Thomas Child; Chaplain, George Sealy; Surgeon, Richard Loane. Bandon was a hive of Volunteer activity. This society was an active one supporting a short money bill in

1779 and 'non-importation' in 1784. Opposed the Fencibles. Richard Loane also acted as surgeon to the Bandon Blues.

Uniform: scarlet, faced black, gold epaulets, yellow buttons, green jackets, faced black.

**Youghal Independent Blues:** Enrolled 1778. Force: 2 companies, 1 gren., 1 light. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Robert Uniacke, Captain, Richard Uniacke; Lieutenants, Edward Green, Hugh Pollock, Samuel Nealon. One of four corps raised in Youghal, which proved the centre of Volunteer activity in the east of the county as Bandon did in the west.

Uniform: blue, faced scarlet, edged white.

**Youghal Rangers:** Enrolled 19 April 1778. Force: 2 companies, 1 gren., 1 light. Officers in 1782: Lieut. Colonel Commandant, Meade Hobson; Major, John Swayne; Captains, Samuel Hobson and Thomas Browning.

Uniform: grass-green, faced scarlet, gold lace and yellow buttons.

**Kinsale Volunteers:** Enrolled 1 May 1778. Force: 2 companies. Officers in 1782: Colonel, James Kearney; Captains, Edward Leary and John Heard Edward. Not particularly active, probably confined to military activities. Kearney was one of the sitting members for the borough of Kinsale.

**Hanover Society, Clonakilty:** Enrolled 1 May 1778. Force: 2 companies. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Richard Hungerford; Major, Thomas Hungerford; Captains, John Hungerford and Beecher Hungerford. Like many of the societies raised in south-west Cork this society grew out of a traditional tendency to band for purposes of defence. The influence of the local gentry is again reflected here. The Hungerfords were involved in a number of corps in the area and were connected with the Shannon interest.

Uniform: scarlet, faced buff.

**Kanturk Volunteers:** Enrolled 1 May 1778. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel,



Earl of Egmont; Lieut.-Colonel, James Purcell. Not a very active society.

Uniform: scarlet, faced light blue.

**Hawke Union of Cove:** Enrolled 9 May 1778. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Captain Commandant, William Dickson; Captain, John Colthurst; Lieutenants, William King Sliegh, Andrew Bymys and Ralph Sliegh. Though not particularly active this society is an example of how Volunteer corps grew out of older Societies, its uniform being practically identical with the dress worn by the old Water Club and its members composed largely of those of the club.

Uniform: blue, edged and lined buff, yellow buttons, buff waistcoat and breeches.

**Blackwater Rangers:** Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Richard Aldworth; Lieut.-Colonel, Stanard. Does not appear to have been a very active society, like many others in the northern part of the county.

**Blarney Volunteers:** Enrolled 1778. Force: 4 companies; 1 gren., 2 bat., 1 light. Officers in 1782: Colonel, George Jefferys; Lieut.-Colonel, Daniel Gibbs; Captains, William Willisson, Edward O'Donoghue, Thomas Whaley, and Samuel Townsend. Not very active though it did support a short-money bill and Free Trade and opposed extra taxation in 1779.

Uniform: scarlet, faced black; white buttons.

**Newmarket Rangers:** Enrolled 4 August 1778. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Boyle Aldworth; Major, William Allen; Captain, Sentleger Aldworth. Not very active.

**Curriglass Volunteers:** Enrolled April 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Captain Commandant, Peard Harrison Peard; Lieutenant, Stephen Roleston. Little is known of this east Cork society.

**Inchigeelagh Volunteers:** Enrolled 1 June 1779. Force: 1 light company. Officers in 1782: Captain Commandant, Jasper Masters;

Lieutenant, John Boyle. A somewhat isolated corps, probably engaged primarily in policing activities.

Uniform: blue, edged buff, buff waistcoat and breeches.

**Castle Martyr Society:** Enrolled May 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Captain, William Hallaran, Lieutenant, T.C. Wheble. Not very active.

Uniform: scarlet, faced pale yellow.

**Muskerry Volunteers:** Enrolled 19 June 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Captain Commandant, Thomas Barter; Captain, William Ashe; Lieutenant, John Barter. One of a number of corps raised close to the city but not a very active one. Sister infantry corps of the Muskerry Blue.

Uniform: blue, edged buff; buff waistcoat and breeches.

**Doneraile Rangers:** Enrolled 12 July 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Sentleger, Lord Doneraile; Major, Hon. Hayes Sentleger; Captain, John Welstead; Lieutenant, George Roberts; Chaplain, Hon. James Sentleger. Sister infantry corps of the above.

Uniform: scarlet, faced green; yellow buttons, gold epaulets.

**Bantry Volunteers:** Enrolled 12 July 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Hamilton White; Captain, Richard Blair; Lieutenant, David Melefont. The most westerly based society in the county. Somewhat isolated, probably engaged primarily in military activity.

Uniform: scarlet, faced white.

**Kilworth Volunteers:** Enrolled July 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Earl of Mountcashel; Lieut.-Colonel, Arthur Hyde; Major, John Hyde; Captain, Robert Hendley; Lieutenant, John Drew. One of the not very active north Cork companies.

Uniform: scarlet, faced green, yellow buttons.

**Mallow Independents:** Enrolled 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, John Longfield; Captain, George Stawell; Ensign, Jonas Stawell; Adjutant and Secretary, James Magrath. Does not appear to have been very active despite its location. John was the brother of Richard Longfield and an unsuccessful candidate for Mallow borough in 1781, being defeated by Anthony Jephson whose family was attached to the Shannon interest.

Uniform: scarlet, faced green, yellow buttons.

**Youghal Union Fuzileers:** Enrolled 1779. Force: 2 companies. Officers in 1782: Major Commanding, Thomas Greene; Captains, John Reeves, William Jackson, and Daniel Freeman. One of the four societies raised in Youghal. In June 1783 they were among the first in Co. Cork to officially open their ranks to Catholics.

Uniform: scarlet, faced blue, edged white, white buttons.

**Duhallow Volunteers:** Enrolled October 1779. Force: 1 company. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Broderick Chinery; Captain, William Leader; Lieutenant, Henry Leader. Not very active. Associated with Duhallow Rangers.

**Kinnelea and Kerrech Union:** Enrolled December 1779. Force: 3 companies. Officers in 1782: Colonel, Thomas Roberts; Lieut.-Colonel, Thomas Herrick; Major, John Roberts, Captains, Richard Townsend, Thomas Daunt; Lieutenants, George and William Daunt. Not a well-known society. The 'family influence' on the Volunteers is

again reflected here.

Uniform: blue, edged white, white buttons.

**Charleville Volunteers:** Officers in 1782: Colonel, Chidley Coote; Major, St. George Hatfield. The most northern society in the county. Not very active.

**Imokilly Blue Infantry:** Colonel, Robert Uniack Fitzgerald. The infantry wing of four societies raised in the barony of Imokilly, in which the Uniack Fitzgeralds had a strong influence.

**Castle Lyons Volunteers:** Very little is known concerning this society.

**Drimoleague Foresters.** The M.V.R. does not mention this society. It was formed on 11 October 1779 by the Protestant inhabitants of Drimoleague with Captain Tonson as colonel and Mr. Beamish as secretary. Little else however is known of it.

**Enniskillen Volunteers:** This society also is not listed in the M.V.R. Along with other Cork Societies it declared its support for Shannon in January 1780. It may perhaps have been short-lived. At its meeting on 17 January 1780 an address of thanks was forwarded to William Tonson for supporting Free Trade.

**Dunmanway Corps:** This society also is not listed in the M.V.R. Very little is known about it, other than that it was commanded by a Rev. Mr. Evans in 1784.

**Rathcormac Society:** Also not mentioned in the M.V.R. Little is known about it.



To Thomas Cullen  
as Best Shot 1779

From the Boyne Society of Cork  
To their chaplain, Rev. Henry  
Sandiford, A.B., 1780



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APPENDIX A

RETURN OF THE VOLUNTEERS OF IRELAND, 1784\*

CORK DISTRICT

<i>Name of corps</i>	<i>By whom Commanded</i>	<i>Reputed Strength of each corps</i>
Doneraile Corps	Lord Doneraile	40
Duhallow Volunteers	Colonel Chinnery	30
Youghal True Blues	Mr Robert Uniacke	50
Youghal Rangers	Mr Meade Hobson	50
Youghal Union	Mr. Thomas Greene	60
Cove Union	Mr John Colthurst	30
Kinsale Volunteers	Colonel Kearney	50
Charleville Volunteers	Colonel Coote	30
Hanover Society, Clonakilty	Colonel Hungerford	50
Kanturk Volunteers	Earl of Egmont	25
Blackwater Rangers	Colonel Aldworth	25
Blarney Volunteers	Colonel Jeffreys	100
Newmarket Rangers	Colonel Aldworth	25
Curriglass Volunteers	Captain Peard	25
Castle Martyr Society	Captain Hallaran	30
Inchigeela Volunteers	Captain Masters	30
Muskerry Volunteers	Captain Butler	30
Bantry Volunteers	Colonel Hamilton White	30
Kinnelea & Kerrich Union	Colonel Roberts	90
Mallow Cavalry	Sir John Colthurst	30
Dunmanway Corps	The Rev. Mr Evans	20
	<i>Bro. over</i>	1,156
	<i>Total of Cork</i>	2,006

\* Nat. Museum of Ireland, 22A-1938. I wish to thank Pádraig Uas. Ó Snodaigh and the Trustees, N.M.I., for permission to publish.

APPENDIX B

Although many songs and ballads were written in praise of the Volunteers the following ballad is the only one I have come across which relates directly to Cork. The verses appeared in the *Munster Military Journal* of June 1890 (p. 18) and were written by a 'Corcagian bard', though who he was and when the verses date from is unknown. It does however appear to have been a popular ballad.

*Have ye heard o' de new Volunteers,  
Wid dare coats all o'scarlet and blue?  
Faith Pompey an' Casar,*

*An' Nebac'adnazer,  
Had niver so splendid a crew.  
And tho' mighty great ginerals they,  
Yit a fig for the likes o'em both,  
For they might go to school  
To de Horse o' de Pool,  
Or de 'Union' boys wid dare red coat!  
Faith de Frinch min if over dey come,  
Will be smut be great Charlemont's face,  
An' he'll wilcome de cratures  
Wid joy in his fatures,  
As de match to his cannons he'll place!*