

g) July 29, The Howth Gun-running and the killings on Bachelor's Walk in Dublin three days before.

The following news item appeared in the Kilkenny Journal on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1914, after the Volunteers landed a cargo of rifles at Howth, and after the King's Own Scottish Borderers opened fire on a crowd of civilians at Bachelor's Walk in Dublin. Note that the word **Pogrom** is wrongly spelled. The word comes from Russian and was used to describe violent attacks on Jewish communities.

**THE MILITARY PROGRAM**  
UNPARALLELED OUTRAGE IN DUBLIN

Intense feeling has been aroused throughout Great Britain and Ireland as the result of the unparalleled outrage committed by British soldiers in the streets of the Irish capital on Sunday last.

The gross partiality and blundering incapacity of the Dublin Castle authorities were never more manifest than in Sunday's proceedings in connection with the abortive effort to deprive the Volunteers of their rifles.

The Volunteers, to the number of 3,000 or 4,000, having been served with the imported rifles at Howth, marched citywards in the belief that they could do as had been done by the Ulster Volunteers, who parade openly in the streets of Belfast with machine guns and rifles.

When, however, the Volunteers arrived at the City end of Howth road they found their further progress barred by cordons of police and two companies of the King's Own Scottish Borderers armed to the teeth, who had been rushed to the scene by motor wag-gons, trams, and hackney cars.

Mr. Harrel, Assistant Commissioner of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, ordered the front police cordon to disarm the Volunteers as they advanced, and this led to a scuffle, in which a number of revolver shots were fired.

The police used their batons and the soldiers charged with fixed bayonets. Some of the second line of police caused a sensation by refusing to advance, and remaining stolidly by the wall.

In the fighting a couple of soldiers and police and two or three of the Volunteers received wounds, but only less than a score of the rifles were captured by the forces of the Crown.

Practically the whole body of the Volunteers dispersed, carrying their rifles across the country.

On the return of the soldiers they were followed through the streets by a hostile crowd, who groaned them and occasionally threw missiles.

At Bachelor's Walk the soldiers suddenly charged with fixed bayonets, and afterwards fired two volleys with deadly effect.

Practically every bullet fired found a billet, and the pavement was reddened with the blood of men and women and children.

Three lives were lost and some fifty persons were treated for bullet and bayonet wounds in Jervis Street Hospital. It is stated that there are thirty serious cases.

It is rumoured that on Sunday night the 5th Royal Irish Lancers were called on for duty and refused to obey orders.

Another rumour regarding the Lancers is to the effect that on Sunday night, armed with sabres, they made an attack on the guardroom of the King's Own Scottish Borderers.

**The Dublin Outrage.**

Mr. Harrington said he supposed they were all aware of the occurrence which took place in Dublin on Sunday, and he thought that as a public body they should not depart from the meeting without expressing their indignation at the action of the officers in charge of the military in ordering the troops to fire on a defenceless lot of people, shooting down over twenty and taking the lives of three people. It was a very deplorable occurrence. The people of the south were treated differently from the

Orangemen in the north, and it was time to protest. They all lamented that such an occurrence should take place in the streets of Dublin at a time when they were on the eve of Home Rule.

Chairman: If I might be permitted to interrupt for a moment, I should not like to go into any controversial matter, but it is quite open to us to express our surprise and indignation, and call for a close inquiry into the circumstances connected with the outbreak in Dublin. We ought to leave it at that and not enter into any discussion. As a public authority we can express our indignation at the outrage which appears to have been committed in Dublin, and call on the Government for a strict inquiry into the circumstances.

Mr. Harrington then proposed the following resolution:—

"That we condemn the action of the officers in charge of the military in Dublin yesterday, as reported in the Press, in ordering his Majesty's troops to fire on a defenceless crowd of people, shooting down a large number and taking the lives of three persons; and that we call for a close investigation and inquiry into the sad and deplorable circumstances of the case."

Mr. Wandesforde: Is it certain that the order was given to fire, or was it some individual soldiers fired? I think we ought to word our resolution carefully.

Mr. Harrington: According to the newspaper reports the soldiers got the order.

Mr. Wandesforde: We all condemn the military firing on the people, but we are not in possession of the full facts just now.

Mr. Harrington: According to the newspaper reports the order was given.

Chairman: You have the outrage; that is a fact; and you have the report of the newspapers as to the other part of it. I would not take the report of any paper to ground a public resolution from a body like this. We deplore the outrage, and we call on the Government to inquire into the thing. No one can object to doing that.

Mr. Harrington said they had no evidence

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Mr. Wandesforde: I agree with that, but we have no definite information about the officer giving the order.

Mr. O'Neill: Whoever gave the order, three unfortunate people lost their lives.

Mr. Harrington: They would scarcely fire a volley without an order.

Chairman: After all you are committing yourself to a newspaper statement. I don't think we ought to do so, as a public body.

Mr. M. J. Murphy: It is not fair for the Government to allow the Ulster Volunteers to carry arms and refuse to allow arms to be imported into the south of Ireland (hear, hear).

Chairman: in nearly all these cases the fault lies with the individual, the officer, and not with the Government. It is the man in authority who takes the wrong action.

Mr. Drennan: Get that man out of authority then.

Mr. Harrington: In the days of the Land League the police could never fire until the Riot Act was read. There does not appear to be any Riot Act read in this case.

Chairman: The only thing we have not before us is that this emanated from any responsible official of the Government. You could fancy a mad man at the head of a Scotch regiment as well as any other.

Mr. Smithwick: The soldiers appear to have got orders in any case.

Mr. O'Neill: If the Volunteers, returning from Howth, had loaded their rifles they would meet with less attacks on their journey.

The resolution was passed unanimously, copies to be sent to the Chief Secretary, Mr. J. E. Redmond, and the city and county M.P.s.

#### Demand For Fair Treatment.

Mr. M. J. Murphy proposed the following resolution:—

“That we protest against the one-sided conduct of Dublin Castle and the police authorities in winking at the importation of arms into Ulster and allowing same to be carried openly in public by the Orangemen, while keeping the strictest watch on arms intended by Nationalists for their self-defence. That we call for a repeal of the order prohibiting importation of arms into Ireland.

Mr. James Walsh seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously.