

HOME RULE REJOICINGS IN KILKENNY.

"HURRAH, 'TIS DONE, OUR FREE-
DOM'S WON."

No words can more aptly describe the sentiments of the people of Kilkenny than the above, which formed the text of a telegram from Mr. Pat O'Brien, to the Mayor (Mr. John Magennis), intimating that the Royal Assent had been given to the Home Rule Bill. As a result of that wire the Mayor had leaflets distributed broadcast throughout the city, announcing the glad news, as follows:—Citizens of Kilkenny, I am in receipt of the following telegram from your Parliamentary representative:—

House of Commons.

To the Mayor of Kilkenny.

"Hurrah, 'tis done, our Freedom's won."

—Pat O'Brien.

At the request of prominent citizens, I respectfully ask you to illuminate your houses to-night, in honour of Ireland's great victory for freedom.—Respectfully yours,

JOHN MAGENNIS, Mayor.

18th September, 1914.

GOD SAVE IRELAND.

As a result of the above announcement, the citizens of Kilkenny got, so to speak, intoxicated with enthusiasm; houses were illuminated as if by magic; in all parts of the city masses of people surged here and there, singing "A Nation Once Again," and other stirring National airs. Those who arrived in the city rather late became dumb-founded at this unprecedented scene. As this night had been fixed on for a route march of the City Corps of the National Volunteers, about four hundred had assembled on the drill ground (New Market), and when the glad news became known to those "stout roving blades," the scene of enthusiasm which followed was indescribable.

When the local bands arrived at the Newmarket, after playing through the streets, the Volunteers were lined up and marched out of the drill ground preceded by the bands. The volunteers then marched through the principal streets of the city, and having completed the circuit of the town, marched back to the drill ground, and after they had been congratulated on their splendid bearing through the city, the word "dismiss" was given, and the memorable scene was brought to an end.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1914.

"THANK YOU FOR NOTHING."

The expected has happened in the case of the Home Rule Bill. It is to be placed on the statute book and is decreed to remain for a year, or longer, in a state of suspended animation. Perhaps it will be partially revived; perhaps not, but at present the only compliment which Irish Nationalists can pay to the Liberal Ministry is "Thank you for nothing." During the latter-day career of the present Government, the populace has been considerably puzzled in an effort to determine which party rules in Britain. Certainly the Conservatives have no reason to complain that they are in formal opposition, and the situation as it exists amounts simply to the fact that the Liberals rule the people and the Tories rule the Liberals. The party which has kept the Liberals in power, to the material detriment of Ireland, does not appear to rule anybody. This was just what we always feared: that some international crisis would arise which would drive the two political parties who are enemies of Ireland, into one camp, and apparently the psychological moment has arrived for which Mr. Asquith was waiting all along. The Prime Minister in Parliament on Monday stated that while the Home Rule Bill would be placed on the statute book, "no steps would be taken to put it into operation for twelve months in any event, and—if the war be not terminated—until such further date, not later than the date of the termination of the war, as may be fixed by Order in Council." We are not responsible for the faulty construction of the sentence, but the meaning is painfully obvious. Fancy empowering an irresponsible Privy Council, which is a half-way house between the Commons and the