

Kilkenny People May 27<sup>th</sup> 1916

Urban District Council

The Kilkenny Martial Law Prisoners

Acknowledgments of the Corporation's resolution with reference to the Kilkenny martial law prisoners were received from the Prime Minister and Mr John Redmond, M.P. Michael Meagher, M. P. wrote as follows from the House of Commons : — Dear Mr. O'Connell: I Received your esteemed favour, with copy of resolution re Kilkenny prisoners, for which I am obliged. I may assure you that even previous to getting your letter I, in conjunction with your worthy representative, Mr Pat O'Brien, did everything in my power in the matter, and as Mr John Redmond is working for their immediate release with all his influences I have no reason in doubting promises made us that they will be set at liberty in the course of next week."

The Town Clerk said he had received a letter from Mr. Pat O'Brien, M.P., and though the communication was strictly private he was at liberty to state that it was couched in the most hopeful terms respecting the strongly advocated release of the Kilkenny prisoners.

The circular asking for subscriptions for the wives and families of the Kilkenny victims of the recent disturbances was read.

Mr. Healy—Some of us have subscribed already. I think it is a very worthy cause.

Ald. Cantwell—Is there any necessity for this fund now, in view of the communication read by the Town Clerk ?

Town Clerk—That circular has been sent to all the Councils in the County and it comes here in the usual course. Other Councils have been moving in the matter.

Ald. Cantwell—If there is any necessity for the fund it is quite right to support it.

Mr. Healy said some of the people aggrieved were very badly off The Chairman said it was a very worthy cause. If those people were detained something must be done for their dependents.

Mr. Healy—I suppose you had better mark that letter " Approved."

Ald. Cantwell—At next monthly meeting, if they are detained, we will have good grounds for asking for subscriptions to help the breadwinners who have been taken away.

Mr. Healy—Why didn't the Mayor start this fund? He had ample time

Mr Slater—Are you sure of that?

Mr Healy—I am perfectly sure.

Town Clerk—I am sure, as far as the Mayor is concerned, he would have taken the matter in hands, but he was forestalled by this good committee.

Mr. Healy—It is mostly city men are concerned. One man was taken out of bed at 1 o'clock in the morning.

The Chairman said he got no intimation of this subscription until he saw it in the local papers

Ald Cantwell—The Mayor has not been considered at all in the matter.

The matter dropped.