

Kilkenny People 6th May 1916

KILKENNY GENTLEMEN'S EXCITING EXPERIENCE

A party of Kilkenny gentlemen consisting of Messrs. T. F. Murphy, J.P.; P. D. McCreery, L.D.S.; E. Shearman and James King, had a most exciting experience in Dublin on Easter Monday which we were not permitted to refer to in our last issue.

They motored from Kilkenny to Fairyhouse, and after the races, where they had been particularly lucky, proceeded to Dublin for what they hoped would be a pleasant dinner and an enjoyable evening before returning home.

Nothing particular attracted their attention until they arrived in O'Connell street. Here, opposite the Post Office, they observed three cavalry horses lying dead on the street and the windows completely shattered in the G.P.O.

Without molestation of any kind they reached the Dolphin Hotel, which they found barred and the doors locked.

Mr. Murphy, however, is an old friend of Mr. Michael Nugent, and the latter admitted the party, when for the first time they learned that Dublin was in possession of the insurrectionists.

They give a terrible description of the firing that proceeded without interruption while they enjoyed an excellent dinner and for hours afterwards. The firing, proceeded from the City Hall, the "Daily Express" office, and the districts surrounding, and one officer was brought into the hotel badly wounded.

About 11 o'clock the firing ceased, and they decided to venture on the homeward journey, accompanied by a Dublin gentleman.

They [proceeded on by a roundabout route, and were congratulating themselves the danger zone when they were suddenly halted by a Sinn Fein patrol. They were directed to leave the car, which they promptly did, rifles and revolvers being levelled at them. The leader of the rebel patrol then intimated to them that he commandeered the car, which he directed to have turned round on the street so as to form a barricade. A young woman armed with a revolver formed one of the party, and she entered into quite friendly conversation with Mr. McCreery, who rather good-humouredly, if inconsequently, opened the conversation by remarking that it was "a soft night." Indeed the four Kilkennymen and their Dublin friend all emphasise the perfectly courteous manner in which they were treated by the Sinn Fein patrol party, who spoke in the friendliest possible manner to them and explained that they were merely obeying orders.

While "pourparlers" were being exchanged, the captain of the patrol arrived, and on hearing the circumstances of the case and that some of the party had urgent business in Kilkenny, he at once gave them a permit to pass through the lines, and they arrived home about 4.a.m, nothing the worse for their unexpected rencontre.