18th Century Limerick Freedom Box.
18th Century Limerick Silver Buttons.
LIMERICK FREEDOM BOX.

Through the kindness of the owner, I am privileged to describe and illustrate another Limerick Freedom Box.

This Box is circular, 3½ inches in diameter and nearly 1 inch in depth, with a slightly domed top, and weighs 5 ounces. It was made by the Limerick silversmith, Jonathan Buck, whose mark IB is stamped on the inside of the top and also on the bottom of the box.

The cover is engraved with the arms of Limerick, a castellated gateway, with portcullis, surrounded with the inscription "Insignia Armorum Civitatis Limerici Aug: 25: 1726."

On the base is engraved a crest, arms, and motto surrounded with floriated design. The crest is a wolf's head, erased, collared and charged with a cross crozlet between two pellets. The arms, per chevron embattled nine cross crozets. The motto on ribbon, Summum nec metuam dum nec optem. Inside the cover is engraved the presentation of the Freedom to Richard Tighe.

The recipient of the box, The Rt. Hon. Richard Tighe, M.P., was presented with a Gold Freedom Box by the City of Kilkenny in 1718. His grandfather, William Tighe, was Colonel of the Dublin Militia and Mayor of that city in 1661.

John Carr is listed as Mayor of Limerick in 1725. The list of Freemens at present in the Limerick City Library goes back only to March, 1746, the earlier list evidently being lost.

EIGHTEENTH CENTURY SILVER BUTTONS.

I lately acquired an interesting collection of 94 silver buttons, of various ages, which were worn on the elaborate coats, &c, used by gentlemen in the 18th century and earlier.

They vary from 1½ inches to 13-16 inches in diameter, and the fronts are engraved with the crest and initials of the owner, the initials only, or with a border of bright cutting close to the rims. One button, made by Samuel Johns, has engraved on it, inside the bright cutting, "Ridgelleicht Hussars." Another, evidently a dub button, inside the bright cutting, is engraved "Instituted 1793."

The illustration shows the various designs and relative sizes.

The following is a list of the various buttons and makers, numbers and probable dates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Maker</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Initials</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limerick</td>
<td>John Buck</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>IB</td>
<td>1725-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joseph Johns</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>1731-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Samuel Johns</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>SJ</td>
<td>1765-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George Moore</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>GM</td>
<td>1785-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Stritch</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>IS</td>
<td>1771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Bourke</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>TB</td>
<td>1784-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cork</td>
<td>Richard Stephens</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>RS</td>
<td>1787-99</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With the above buttons was one of Sheffield Plate on which was engraved MICAILAMAKINAC HUNT, with a wolf between two axes. It would be interesting to know where this Hunt was situated, perhaps in the New England States or Canada.

The buttons as illustrated are as follows:

1. Limerick made by Thomas Bourke.
2. do.
3. do.
4. do.
5. Cork.
7. do.
8. Sheffield Plate.
10. Limerick.
11. do.
12. do.
13. do.

J. N. A. W.