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## Leader editor condemns 'wholly insane episode'



Limerick was shocked by the Easter Rising and the Leader's condemnation was absolute

AS the editor of this newspaper, have the responsibility of setting out the Leader's position of any number of issues. Occasionally delivered, but in there than nine delivered, but in more than nine years of writing editorials I'm not
sure I have ever mustered as sure I have ever mustered as
much condemnation as did the man who was ocuppying the
editor's chair 100 years ago, when articulating the paper opinion on the Easter Rising. for an astonishing 50 years - a re cord that will never be broken In 1916, he had been at the helm for only six. He was a noted supporter of the Nationalist cause and in 1913 served as the first
secretary of the Limerick Volunteers. Cregan was, however, a moderate man. He was also an mond, the leader of constitututional nationalism at that time. Thus, it was no suprise that the paper he edited came out strongly against the Rising, but what is striking 100 years on is the vehemence with which he condemened it. In an editorial published in the Leader of May 10, 1916 - reproduced here on
page 5 of our third supplement o page 5 of our third supplement of
four - Cregan did not hold back. It was 16 days after Easter Monday and 13 leaders of the Rising had already been ex-

## Plea. For Clemency

Tine publle mind of treland is buts Slowly Necoverfag from the stumaing blaw of horrex inficted upot it by the insurrection which broke out in Dublin on Hister Mondshi. I H ( Thunderous: the Limerick Leader editorial of May 10,1916 , condemned the Easter Rising. See page 5 of this supplement for the full article
ecuted, including one of orial that conveyed a real sense Cregan's fellow West Limerward Daly, from the city centre. There was no sympathy fo any of the dead men in an edit
orial that conveyed a real sense by what had occurred in Dublin. Those executed were not even named. The Leader, however,
did call for clemency for those
who had yet to face the firing squad, endorsing the already stated views of Redmond.
"The public mind of Ireland is but slowly recovering from the stunning blow of horror inflicted on it by the insurrection Which broke out in Dublin on Easter Monaay, Cregan wrote. it in every element of sadness it in every element of sadness and tragedy, and there is not a
man of the Irish race the world man or capable of realising facts but abhors and condemns with vehemence the 'mad campaign', as the Most Rev Dr Kelly, Bishop
of Ross, aptly described it.
ture in connection with the whole uprising is that the out break was the work of a smal minority, most of whom wer themselves innocent, if we that it is dupes of ored by and more loudly or more vigorously than by the vastly ouse whelming majority of the Irish people themselves, both a home and abroad."
The Leader stayed loyal to Redmond for a long time to come, but even as Cregan's erick, local views of the Rising were beginning to soften, as the executions continued.

# The small farmer's son from West 

Con Colbert pined for Temple Athea after moving to Dublin, where he was the caught up in the fervour of revolution, writes his biographer John O'Callaghan

BORN on October 19, 1888 in Moanlena, Castlemahon, west Limerick, Con Colbert was
executed by firing squad in executed by firing squad in
Kilmainham Gaol on May 8, Kilmainham Gaol on May 8
1916 . 1916.


Unlike other condemned men in 1916, Limerick's Con Colbert refused the opportunity to have the company of family members before he was executed dat Kilmainham jail, above. He explained to his sister Lila: 'I felt it would grieve us both too much.' Colbert said he hoped that God would help him to 'die well' and save his soul. He was then executed by firing squad, while blindfolded
son, the 1oth of 13 children, who became a clerk: he was fairly typical of the majority of the revolu tionary generation; frequently ebels entered the independ Gaelic League, which offered Gaelic League, which offered limited opportunities for upward mobility.
Venerated as a martyr after his death, he came to be defined by his favourite phrase: "For my God and my country". The
reality is that he was an ordinary
man who worried about his family, his finances, his job and his romantic relationships, even if in the end love of country trumped all other
Colbert the patriot.
When Con was three years old, the Colberts moved from Moanlena back to old family land at Athea and built Gale View, a house on the south side of the main road from Limerick and only a couple of hundred yards outside the village. Con received most of his primary education at

Athea national school. Maurice Woulfe tought school. Maurice dren.
He was the father of Dick Woulfe, a chemist in Abbeyfeale, who was closely associated with the Volunteers. Con's sister, 1913 and their home was a reg1913 and their home was a reglicans. The previous generation of Colberts also had Fenian connections, so Con experienced potentially radicalising influences both at home and at
school. Many wanted an independent Ireland, but not everyone agreed on what form it
should take or the means by should take or the means by What differentiated Colbert from most of his peers was his decision to fight.
Con moved to Dublin around 1903 and lived with Katty. His first job was as an apprentice barman but he soon returned to study under the Christian
Brothers. He took night courses Brothers. He took night courses
afterwards and was apparently
called to a post in the Customs and Excise sector of the civil service, but turned down the offer since it would have meant taking an oath of allegiance to the British Crown. He clerked in city centre bakery from 1905. He also taught physical drill in Patrick Pearse's school, but he would accept no payment for what he considered national ser vice. Colbert insisted that duty o country involved "preparing culty":
". Making Ireland strong intellectually, physically and industrially. Intellectually by the study of Irish language and literature thus helping to replace the the spoken language of the Irish people. Physically: by playing the games destined to be played by the Gael for the development of muscle and sinews of Ireland. And industrially by completely boycotting English goods a buying Irish manufacture.

## Limerick who 'died well'

John in San Francisco demon strate how his ideas developed Writing on February 9, 1909, Con Writing on February 9,1909 ,
reminisced about their youth:
"Well every scene and memory "Well every scene and memory comes back to me now - all about Gael View. Tho poverty reigned often there, still who were hap-
pier than the Colberts? Noble and pier than the Colberts? Noble and and often hungary [sic]."
He concluded with a review of his circumstances in Dublin:
"As regards athletics, except a little bit of hurling I never do anything. No great chance to develop athletics in Dublin while one is trying to make a living and study. Time will bring us the value of our work. 15/- a week at 10 houirs a day for six days of the week is my present salary and work. God increase it is my prayer."
His hope for divine financial intervention is one that would have been shared widely and it is an easily understandable sentiment. Colbert donated most of his income to Irish-Ireland organisations, however, and his personal and public lives became increasingly intertwined.
The next letter from Con to John was on December 9, 1909. He has become more dogmatic year and, excited by the formayear and, excited by the formafirst of Na Fianna, he makes his ance to British rule:
"Ten years time and Ireland will be ripe for a struggle with the will be ripe for a struggle with the cursed robbers who change this great fertility. Now I have to tell you that we've started a boys Na tional organisation, where they are taught war tactics, and when the day will come they will be able to show the stuff that's in them." Whereas previously Con had dwelled on family matters and happenings in Athea, the sole subject of his next letter to John, in 1911, is rebellion. Clearly present is an Irish nationalist version of the type of jingoism that was rampant around Europe in the years before 1914. The tone is strident, even shrill, and the rhetoric employed might be more usually found in a polemical pamphlet than in
"They, who thought that Ire-


Letters from a young Con Colbert to his brother John showed his increasing devotion to the rebel cause
land's spirit was dead, will soon [see] that Ireland can produce armed men. England sowed well and widely the seeds of brutality, lawlessness and Godlessness and the corn is growing and the grain of revenge is deepening. ... Ireland's making ready again for another fight and let us pray that that the fight will be won. Eng-
land may beat us but we'll have given the world another example of what's freedom, whats Ireland and who the Irish are. ... All die, men have as good a chance of heaven on the battlefield as on the Gallows and the chance on the Gallows is as great as that on bed. Which place is nobler[?]"

Of particular significance are

Colbert's comments on what he perceived to be the likely outcome of rebellion. He wishes for victory but realises the possibility, and perhaps even the probability, of defeat. The overriding imperative, however, is the declaration in arms of Ireland's national rights and character. The letter is evocative of the sense of historical
responsibility felt by Colbert and his peers to the physical-force tradition.

On his last visit home Christmas 1915 Colbert swore his brother Jim into the IRB as well as brother Jim into the IRB as well as lunteer commander, William Danaher. Colbert looked young and innocent but he was hardheaded and shrewd.
Like many of those he recruited and trained, he proved willing to kill and be killed. He fough bravely during Easter Week, firs in Watkins' brewery on Ardee Street and then in Jameson's dis tillery on Marrowbone Lane.
Only one witness testified against Colbert at his court-mar tial, an Irishman home on leave from the western front. His evidence was inaccurate but this mattered little in what was in some respects a show trial.
Unlike the other condemned men, Colbert refused the oppor tunity to have the company of hi people before he was shot.
He explained to his sister Lila: I felt it would grieve us both too much."
Colbert penned 11 letters the day before he was shot, bidding seeking their prayers. The letters seeking their prayers. The letter righteousness of his cause was intact, and that he was reconciled to his fate Within the republican radition, execution by shooting was regarded as an honourable death. He hoped that God would help him to "die well", presumably meaning in a stoic fashion, and save his soul.
Colbert was executed at 3.45 am . He was blindfolded and his wrists were tied. The medical fficer placed a small white card o mark his heart and provide a lear target. The firing squad of 12 soldiers was lined up at only 10 paces from the prisoner, but the supervising officer sometimes had to administer a coup de grâce by handgun. Alongside his comrades, Colbert was buried in Arbour Hill military prison cemetery, without a coffin, in quicklime, in a trench that consti uted their common grave.
Con Colbert, by John series published by O'Brien Press

## Leader news items from 1916

Ballyhahill man, 28, missing since the 1916 Easter Rebellion in Dublin
MAY 31, 1916: Mr Michael O'Connor, aged 28, son of Mr M P Q'Connor, Ballyhahill, County Limerick, has been missing since April 26. He was last seen at Kingsbridge, Dublin, at 1lam on that date, but his whereabouts since are unknown. He was an intermediate teacher, and taught in Carlow, Roscrea, Newbridge, and was teaching in Kilkenny until the Easter Holidays
Northern Irish sailor faces 50 s fine being drunk and disorderly in city
JUNE 2, 1916: The Mayor presided at the City Police Court yesterday. Patrick German, a North of Ireland seaman, was charged by Constable Moffat with being drunk and dis orderly on the streets on Wednesday night. There was a second charge against the accused of being violent and illconducted while under arrest at John Street Police Barracks. German was sentenced to five weeks' imprisonment racks. German was sentenced to five weeks imprisonment

Hurling in the streets of Limerick is a danger to players and passers-by JUNE 2, 1916: The practice of hurling in the streets has grown to an annoying degree in Limerick. The fine manly pastime deserves every encouragement, but a public thoroughfare is not the place to play it. It is rather a pity that the little boys who relish the game and are to be commended for their love of it have not suitable grounds for exercising themselves. At any rate hurling in the streets is a danger to passersby as well as to the juveniles engaged in it.

18-year-old city girl pleads guilty for attempting to commit suicide at Docks
JUNE 2, 1916: At the Limerick Quarter Sessions yesterday, a city girl named Violet Gibbons, aged 18 years, was put froward and charged with attempting to commit suicide by drowning on May 23, at the Docks. The accused, who was not professionally represented, pleaded guilty. Mrs Sarah Gibbons, mother of the accused, was present. The accused was let out under the First Offenders Act in her own ball and

## Kilfinane priest joins chaplaincy at the New Zealand Expeditionary Forces

MAY 29, 1916: Rev TE Kinkead, who is a native of Ballinvreena, Kilfinane, is at present with the New Zealand Expeditionary Force as chaplain. He is a very zealous priest and is a great favourite with the men amongst whom he ministers.

## Youth escapes drowning in quarry

JUNE 16, 1916: A little boy John McNamara, Lady's Lane, fell into the quary at Carey's Road, and had a narrow escape from drowning. He was rescued by Timothy 0 'Brien, of the Young Ireland Hurling Club, who pluckily jumped into the water and succeeded in bringing the boy to safety.

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## Early reaction to 'misguided' uprising

- Grainne Keays on the Leader's coverage in the pages reprinted above and right

IN part two of our series, we saw the initial reports of the 1916 in the Limerick Leader and were This week, we fast-forward two short weeks to examine the coverage of the "Dublin Situation" in the edition of May, 10,1916 . Much of this edition is con-
cerned with numbers and with condemnation. The report from the House of Commons under
the headline 'Death Penalty' is revealing. It would appear that the decision to execute the tion of the military, in particular Sir J. (John Grenfell) Maxwell. Thirteen leaders had been ex ecuted by the time this edition of the Leader went to print, namely Padraig Pearse, Thomas Clarke, Thomas MacDonagh, Joseph lunkett, Edward Daly, Michae O'Hanrahan, Willie Pearse, John

MacBride, Eamonn Ceantt, Michael Mallin, Sean Heuston and Con Colbert, mainham Gaol May 9 in Cork but his demise was not included in the paper's count. Despite assurances of restraint from Asquith, the British Prime Minister, three more executions were to come: Sean MacDiarmada, James Connolly both shot on May 12 in Kilmainham and, lastly, on August 3, Roger Casement was hanged at Pentonville Prison in England Interestingly, the Leader
made little reference to the
names of the rebels. The paper did, however, print a correction MacBride, stating that the rebe was not divorced from Maud Gonne. Divorce proceedings had been brought but the divorce was refused.
The edition mentions the pathetic" prison wedding cere mony of Joseph Plunkett and Grace Gifford. The report sugests that the newlyweds were afforded private time together but according to statements hey were given only 10 minutes together in a cell which Grac
said "was packed with officers and a sergeant, who kept a watch in his and and closed the interview by saying: "Your time is now up."
The Leader published several items from various sources op posed to the Rising. An Irish woman living in London, Annie Roberta Sparke, wrote to the paper condemning the leaders as "misguided". The thrust of her argument was: "If England's none but the most drivelling idiot would expect a better tim under the Hun ...
The views of
four Roman Catholic Bishops are given an airing in this edition of the Leader. Dr Kelly, Bishop of Ross is quoted as describing the Easter Rising as "a mad campaign (in the paper's Bishop of Ross said the rebellion constituted "a senseless and meaningless debauchery of blood". Bishop of Ross said that those "duped for their own deIreland" and the Archbishop of Cashel and Emly, Dr. Harty, said the people of Tipperary showed "great common sense" in not getting involved in the insurrec-
tion. Various other organisa tions are quoted as passing resolutions condemning the Rising and pledging allegiance to John Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party.
Most of the criticism levelled at the leaders seems to hav been based on the belief that be cause the Rising was doomed to failure before it began. The at tempt was therefore futile
bringing destruction and need ess death to Dublin, and was less death to Dublin, and was a Germany. The impact of the Rising would be reevaluated in the months and years to come.










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We conclude our fourpart series with further. pages firom the Leader of 100 yearsfago, as the authorities in Limerick arrest 28 men believed to be sympathetic to the - ? cause espoused by the leaders of the Rising 2x+2.


## 1916 Remembering 1916. Imerick life 100 years ago

## FINTAN WALSH

IN 1952
2, city-born Lieutenant James (Seamus) Gubbins wrote in grea detail of a first-hand account of the Limerick Volunteers' preparation for the Easter Rising and the unfortunate series events that led to their dismissal from the famous rebellion.
This account was published in the Limerick Leader on July 14, 1952, fol lowing a Government ative, in 1947, toriences of first-hand exped in 1916 and the War of Independence. James Gubbins, born in 1891, grew up on Clare Street, and was the last surviving member of the First Battalion of the Limerick City Regiment of the Irish Volunteers when he died in July 1983, aged 92 . He was one of the first members of the Limerick Volunteers in 1913.
Lieut Gubbins, resided at Stormont House, CastleHisparents, who were of strong nationalist backstrong nationt taught at St Patrick's National School. The rebel was one of the key members of the Limerick Volunteers, providing Irish classes and served as treasurer of the organisation. While a commercial traveller for Tinsly Salt Merchants, Mr Gubbins also served as president of the Limeric
In a 34 -page witness In a 34-page witness
statement, he detailed their rise and struggle in Limerick. The force con-

## Limerick forces were 'ready and willing to do their part' in 1916

James Gubbins, who died in 1983, was the last surviving member of the First Battalion

## Part Played By Limerick In The <br> 1916 Movement

IN this, the aceond, inssalment of the paper tead by hin at a fecen meeting of the Old Limerick Society on Limerich m 1916," Mr. James Gubbins seals with certain evedences of hostility to the Irish Volumteers in he City in the early days. He describes in some detai the incadent, that took place on Whit Sunday, 2915 the men 1 pardede of Volunteers in which P. H. Pearse and other leakers rooh part was subjected to jeers and atracks un the w.eg through hreshown and Mungret Street. Mr Cinbbions, in his parper, says:-


Lieut James Gubbins' first-hand account of the Rising was published in the Limerick Leader on July 14, 1952
sisted of local rugby club members,
tradesmen, bourers. He stated that the GAA representation was "relatively weak" and only became prominent in 1918. Volunteers and Cumann na mBan practised their drills at Fianna Hall on Barrington Street, which was constructed by Fenian leader and former Lord Mayor John Daly. However, Lieut Gubbins said as the organisation expanded, the ical of their cause.
"Many who attended the haugural parade [in 1914] did not stay the course This was not surprising some were teachers or civil servants, whose livelihood would have been jeopardised, had they continued in the movement. Employers at the time wielded the
most potent weapon, in manner which would not be tolerated today, the
weapon of economic pressure, or to use a cruder phrase, the threat of starva tion, and there were some who did not hesitate to us it. One member, a marrie man with a family, was con fronted with a blunt choice "The Volunteers or your job?' Who could blame him for choosing his job? He commended the driving force of the loca valu up of former TD made up of former MP Michael Colivet, later a TD and former Lord Mayo George (Seoirse) Clancy who was murdered by the Black and Tans in 1921.
Despite their growing success before the Rising, the Volunteers were stil admonished by the ma-


James Gubbins with his wife Rachel, seen strolling in Galway
jority of the public, he wrote. One Limerick recruiting officer for the British Army said that they were "hypnotised and carried away from the path of individuals for the lure of lusty gold". Rumours were also spread by their adversaries that Sinn Féin had formally congratulated the Germans for sinking the Lusitania, which killed eight Limerick people. And even though training was limited, due to a restriction on the delivery of arms and appropriate weapons, Gubbins wrote
that they were fortunate to that they were fortunate to Colivet and Capt Robert

Monteith The group was Monteith. The group wa Capt Monteith gave spe cal instructions on field work, signalling and intense exercise, which involved 34 -mile runs on Sundays.
In the background, one of the pivotal groups to as sist the running of military operations was Cumann na mBan, which was managed by the Daly sisters. Pres dent Madge Daly, the businesswoman of the family, céilís and fundraisers to help finance weapons for the rebels.
Three weeks before the Rising, Colivet was advised to prepare for thei
strategy. This involved four battalions taking charge of battalions taking charge of fillaloe, the shannonside West Limerick, in order to surround the city.
However, on Holy Thursday, German ship the Aud, which was carrying arms for the Volunteers, was intercepted by British intelligence and was blown up. This, according to Gub bins, proved to be a fatal hindra

## paign.

As a result, three Volun teers - including Gubbins - were sent to Tralee and Dublin to fetch orders from headquarters about whether the Limerick Rising was on or off.
Lieut Gubbins requested to fight with the Dublin unit, but was told by Eoin McNeill to return home to Limerick. Gubbins re turned with the message from Sean McDermott that he Rising was still on, but rest to "strengthen the morale" "f the Volunteers. However, confusio brewed after the runners were receiving conflicting orders from Dublin, whether the Rising was stil on. At the same, Capt Mon teith - who had moved to Germany and returned be fore the rebellion - con demned the Germans, a they were promised the end received no man the end rand a full powsolete Russian arms. He then advised against the Rising.
However, on Monday 2 pm , Nora Daly had dePadraig Pearse that the

Rising was to take place at noon, that day. Gubbins de scribed this as a "bomb shell which created a most confused and impossibl situation, incomprehen ible to the ordinary intell gence".
As a result of lack of equipment, and poor communication, the Limerick Battainons were forced the city, and were outnumbered by British forces when they arrived.
Though no arrests were made, the public grew concerned about the possibility of more bloodshed after the Easter Rising, and pressure was exerted by Mayor Cllr Stephen Quinn and the clergy to surrender arms.
All personnel handed their weapons to Commandant Colivet, who then handed them to Mayor Qost of the Volunteers were then arrested, but released soon afterwards:
"They were ready and willing to do their part, and if they did not go into action, the fault was not theirs, Gubbins concluded.

Mr Gubbins became adjutant of the Limerick City Battalion of the IRA in 1921, atter he spent his inBrixton Pris.
He continued the hunger strike following the death of Terence McSwiney, in 1920 .
Adjt Gubbins was also tasked with being Michael Collins bodyguard, during his travels from Limerick to Cork, before Collins was killed at Béal na Bláth, on August 22, 1922.

## 'Proud' son of volunteer

THE SON of Lieutenant and Adjutant James Gubbins said he brought his father's gallant story to the Limerick Leader to commemorate those who fought and fell during the 1916 Rising. Seumas Gubbins, 75, from the Ennis Road, brought the Volunteer's account of 1916 to the Leader, more than 50 years afte it was first published in 1952.
Though it was widely known father's participated in Easter father's participated in Easter was never really mentioned", he was n
said.
"I always knew about it growing up, because there would have been colleagues calling him. Old friends, who had been involved, would call him.
"But it was never discussed at home. I think he didn't want to be boastful. It was the job to do at the time, and that was it. But occasionally, there would have been discussion,

## ny great detail."

nd though Lieut Gubbins' in olvement and imprisonment in Brixton was "normalised", he said that he was "proud" of his history. He said that his father went on hunger strike for nine or 10 days, following Terence McSweeney's death
"If the person died, somebody else would take his place. So my father took his place, and he was released because of the outburst of anti-British feeling at the tim a a result of McSweeney' .
He said he thinks that a lot of the information in his father's account is "not widely known oday, and that his article only ooks at 1916, when he - and many Limerick people - was in volved in events in 1921.
He added that James Gubbins worked very hard and provided well for the family" after his in volvement.
Seumas' brother, Brian Gub bins, was previously a director o the Limerick Leader.
December of last year.

2016

# 1916 <br> Remembering 1916．Limerick life 100 years ago <br> When the Volunteers were stoned on Limerick＇s streets 

## On the 50th anniversary of the Rising，the Limerick Leader recounted a riotous occasion in the city on Whit Sunday 1915．Below，we reproduce that article from April 9， 1966

IN the excitement of the Easter onies，it may be easy to forget an incident which occurred in Limerick in May 1915，and in which such prominent Sinn Féin Volunteers as Padraig Pearse， Ned Daly and Eamonn de Valera were involvẹd．These men，later to become National heroes，were stoned while leading the great Irish Volunteer parade of Whit Sunday，1915，through Mungre The and Broad Street， The has been but obviou erred to in the years between ut it is worth remembering in hat it reflects the highest credit n the discipline of the Volun作路，and shows that these men有e not afraid to express their ational convictions in a time patriotic．
and Fi a thousand Volunteers and Fianna Scouts from Dublin， Cork and Charleville travelled to trains for the sparal excursion were joined by about 150 of the local body in the city．The Volun－ teers wore uniforms and were fully equipped and included in their number such prominent members of the organisation， such as Perase，Tom Clarke， Wille Pearse，Liam Mellows， Sean McDermott，Ned Daly，Ter－ ence McSwiney，Seoirse Clancy and Thomas McCurtain． The parade assembled at Pery Square and，headed by two bands，followed the traditional tions－O＇Connell Street，O＇Con－ nell Avenue，Boherbuoy，the Irishtown，the Englishtown， across Thomond Bridge，and Sar－ sfield Bridge，and through O＇Con－

Everything went well until


The Volunteers crossed Thomond Bridge，but faced violent opposition during their 1915 march through the city
passing through Mungret Street， where the volunteers got a hos－ which includes War ocality Palmerstown，they were loudly boohed and stones were freely thrown． For For a time the situation looked very threatening；a number of deavour to check the violence of the women，girls and boys who had attacked the Volunteers with all sorts of missiles．
The marchers，however，main－ tained the highest discipline and， though a few of their number had been injured，the parade was con－ where the attack was again umed．A shower of stones wa
fired into the ranks of the Volun temper and however，kept thei without further incident While further inciden While paraded through the
men
ishtown district，hearty the Irishtown raised for the Munster Fusilier and other Irish regiments by the crowds on the sidewalks，who had relatives and friends in those units fighting at the front． In other parts of the city，things were rather quiet，having regar to what happened in the Mungret Street area．However，there were isolated attacks on the Volun teers，who in a few instances use them．Several had to not police protection from the crowd，
which became more demon－ strative as the as the day ad－ anced．
In Davis Street a number of ladies wearing the Sinn Féin col ours had to take refuge in a li－ censed premises from the mob An officer of the Dublin Brigade， Captain Eamon de Valera，went to their assistance and he and the ladies were later rescued by a party of Limerick Volunteers．
Long before the departure of the Cork and Dublin trains，a large mass of people congregated in front of the railway station，the and held by a number were barred who refused admission to all ex－ cept those holding tickets． Some time before
o＇clock，the Cork Volunteer marched up and were received borm and jeers．The mob stones and bottles were geable at the visitors，who only suc ceeded in getting through suc ceeded in getting through into the station yard after a desperate butts of rifles used by some of the Volunteers to beat off the hostile attentions of the attackers．
It was only when the Dublin section of the Volunteers made their appearance that the dis turbances reached their height． In the scrimmage，seven rifles were wrested from the Volun－ teers．The Limerick Volunteers， mained under MP Colivet，re－ Hall during the time the Dublin， Cork and Tipperary brigades were being marched to the sta－ tion，and were actually on their way to assist their comrades．
Their intevention，however， was not necessary．A number of the local clergy，particularly Rev JM O＇Connor，Rev Fr Bernard， OFM，and Rev Fr Mangan，CSSR， Spiritual Director of the Arch－ Confraternity of the Holy Family， did valuable workin pacifying the row d，and when the last train restored． estored．
Later that week，a meeting of he whole House Commitee of the he clergy Corporation thanked and influence were highly cessful in restoring order at the Railway Station．The Committee eplored the conduct of the women in the Irishtown as it might cast a slur on the good name of the whole city＂and paid a high tribute to the Volunteers， ＂who showed great restraint in not retaliating under the pro－
vocation they received＂．

## Leader news items from 1916

Limerick Shipping Company faces $£ 7,212$ penalty following ship collision
JUNE 7，1916：In the Admiralty Division，London，yesterday Mr Justice Bargave Deane granted a decree under the provi－ sions of the Merchant Shipping Act，limiting the liability of the Limerick Steamship Company Ltd，as owners of the steamship Cratloe，to $£ 7,212$ in respect of damages arising out of a colli－ sion between that vessel and the steamship Condor on August 20，1915．The Condor sank，but there was no loss of life． Cross－claims for damages instituted by the parties were settled on the terms of the owners of the Cratloe paying 75 per cent of the damges and the owners of the Condor 25 per cent．

Wife granted compensation after husband killed in railway accident
JUNE 5，1916：At the Limerick Quarter Sessions on Saturday before County Court Judge Law－Smith，KC，in the case of Margaret Larkin，whose husband died as a result of a railway accident．His Honour decided that $£ 100$ of the $£ 2,435$ s 11 d compensation agreed to should go to the widow，the balance to go for the benefit of the three children，and the dividends to be paid to the mother for their maintenance．
Limerick soldier awarded gallantry medal for recapturing post in battle JUNE 2，1916：A supplement to Tuesday night＇s London Gaz ette contains the announcement that Lance－Corporal T Con－ nolly，2nd Battalion of Leinster Regiment，a native of Lower Gerald Griffin Street，Limerick，has been awarded the Distin－ guished Conduct Medal for conspicuous gallantry in the field． A party of the enemy drove back a listening post，but Lance－ Corporal Connolly immediately collected some bombs，led a party over the parapet，and recaptured the post．He then car ried back a wounded man into safety．He is expected to soon arrive from the trenches back home in Limerick，where his people and his friends will be pleased to see him after his ex－ periences．
Young city boy，6，＇narrowly＇escapes drowning after falling into river
JUNE 12，1916：A boy named Edward Hayes，aged six，Clare Street，had a narrow escape from drowning on Friday night， while playing at the Lock Quay．He accidentally fell into the Abbey River，and was rescued by Daniel O＇Callaghan．He was fully recovered after being brought to Barrington＇s Hospital．

Farmer lodges £30 compensation claim after horse＇s tongue is cut off

MAY 22，1916：On Tuesday night，a farmer named John Da－ naher，living at Glenmore，in Monegay，reported to the police that his horse had been maliciously injured by having his tongue cut off．The horse will have to be destroyed，and Da－ naher has already lodged a claim for $£ 30$ compensation for malicious injury to the animal．

