Remembering John Redmond's call in the Markets Field. Limerick. for Irishmen to fight for Ireland's freedom on the battlefields of France

IT'S A LONG WAY FROM HE MARKETS FIELD

(To My Father, Who Answered The Call)

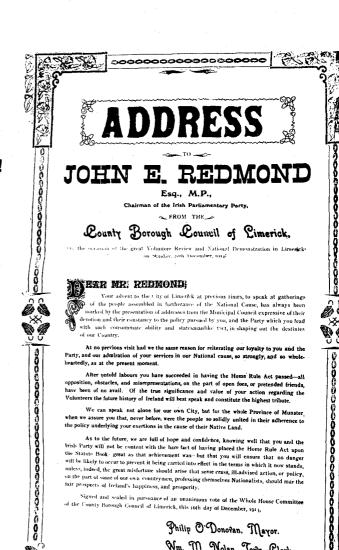
BY TESS GUERIN-LETENDRE

It's a long way from Markets Field, John! **About our necks, grey thread of Somme** Is hung with stones of Abbeville and Amiens: "Save Petain. Verdun and France!" We stand for them.

It's a long way from Markets Field, John! A long way from the Shannon and the Liffey and the Lee! We are young and with some shred of innocence We still believe Night's promise of silence and of peace. But here our peace is murdered By whining shell and gangrenous Verey light ... While we, canopied by arching flight of steel, Tread out, with thousand thousand feet, Pavane for the watching, waiting dead.

It's a long way from Markets Field, John! From the smiles and cheers and flowers. On the day we marched like children. With wooden sticks, to fight and set them free. The flowers are dead, the cheers are turned to curses. And we are outcasts in the Potter's Field.

Our ears are rent and deafened. John! We read each other's words, by lips alone. And what do our lips soundless say, John? "God save Ireland"? Yes, ... let God save Ireland. While we die for France.



Signed and scaled in pursuance of an unanimous vote of the Whole House Committee County Borough Council of Limerick, this 16th day of December, 1913.

Philip O'Donovan, Mayor.

Wm. M. Wolan, Town Blerk.