

STIRRING EPISODES

Recalled By Patriot's Death

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THE LATE "JIMMY" SCANLON

The death of Mr. James Scanlon, of Galbally, which occurred at the County Infirmary, Limerick, on Tuesday, October 3rd, removes a remarkable fighter for Irish freedom and a living link with some of the most dramatic events of the Anglo-Irish struggle, notably the Knocklong rescue. His death was not altogether unexpected as he had been in ill-health for some years. He had been in the County Infirmary from the previous Saturday.

Around the historic Aherlow country, and beyond, "Jimmy" Scanlon was known as an active worker in the Irish-Ireland movement. As a young man he helped to bring the County Football Championship to his native village. He was a member of the Gaelic League and a pioneer in the old Galbally Sinn Fein Club in 1910. When the Volunteer movement started in 1913 he became an officer in the Galbally Company, and very active until Easter Week, 1916, in drilling, arming and organising, not to forget gun-running. He greeted Monteith, Sean MacDiarmuid, Byrne and other Volunteer leaders on their tours of inspection and organisation.

UNDER ARMS DURING EASTER WEEK.

During Easter Week itself he was under arms, and one of the party which dismantled telegraphic communications in Galbally area. He marched with his company for the projected attack on Ballylanders Barracks. On the way Sean Treacy arrived with countermanding orders. From then on Jimmy Scanlon led an adventurous and active life, especially in the years 1916-1918, the years of reorganisation. In 1917, during the trial of Murphy and Crawford of Ballylanders at Galbally Court he was involved in a fierce baton charge when the police attacked the crowds, presumably because they feared an attempt at rescue. In 1918 Jim Scanlon worked very actively at the Waterford election for Dr. White, the Republican candidate.

After the Soloheadbeg ambush in 1919 Scanlon, Ned O'Brien and other Galbally men acted as scouts and an armed escort to Sean Treacy, Breen and Robinson, and sheltered them in their area for some time. Both Scanlon and O'Brien played a large part in the famous rescue of Sean Hogan at Knocklong in the following May. Among their companions in this daring exploit were John Joe O'Brien, Sean Lynch, Ned Foley (afterwards hanged), Treacy, Breen, Ned O'Brien and Jim Scanlon were badly wounded. Later both Ned O'Brien and Jim Scanlon took part in a projected ambush near Dublin of Lord French prior to the second attempt in which Martin Savage was killed.

SENT TO UNITED STATES.

Towards the end of 1919 it was decided to send Ned O'Brien and Scanlon to the United States. They booked as seamen and arrived in America after several adventures. Their ship nearly returned to Cork on account of engine troubles and Scanlon himself was badly injured by the fall of a coal bucket on his head while he was working in the hold of the ship. From this blow Scanlon never really recovered any more than from his previous Knocklong injuries. In the United States the two men were very busily engaged in collecting funds and arms for the Irish cause up to their return just after the Truce of 1921. Jim Scanlon arrived home to learn that his brother, Commandant Michael Scanlon, of Kilmallock, had been murdered by Crown Forces in Limerick when a prisoner. Another brother, Dr. Garrett Scanlan fought with the East Limerick and the Cork University Corps. A third brother, Father Peter Scanlon, of San Francisco, has always been an ardent Irish-Irelander and true friend to the "Wild Geese" of the race in far-off California.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral to the family burial ground on Wednesday, 4th inst., was of huge dimensions. Old comrades from Limerick, Cork and Tipperary who had known him in action and during his imprisonment in Belfast in 1918 were well represented.

Canon Dunne, of Galbally, recited the prayers at the graveside. Six of Jim Scanlon's comrades, under the command of his life-long friend, Comdt. John Joe O'Brien, fired three volleys over the grave.

May the green sod of Ireland rest lightly on his mortal remains.—A deis laimh De go raibh a anam.

The chief mourners were:—Dr. Garrett Scanlon, Cappamore; Patrick Scanlon, William Scanlon, Galbally (brothers); Mrs. Ryan, Mrs. Kiely, Mrs. Denis Ryan, Mrs. E. Bourke (sisters), Mrs. W. Scanlon, Mrs. Quinlan, Mrs. P. Scanlon, Mrs. G. Scanlon (sisters-in-law), Eileen Scanlon, Dublin; Josie, Lizzie, Nellie, Annie, Peggy, Mrs. E. McGrath (nieces), John, Andrew, Peter, Michael, Willie Scanlon (nephews), Philip and John Kiely (nephews), John Ryan (nephew), Mena and Annie Ryan (nieces), Tim Ryan, Jerry Kiely, Denis Ryan, Eugene McGrath (brothers-in-law).

MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY.

Messages of sympathy were received from:—W. T. Cosgrave, T.D.; Dan Breen, T.D.; Sean Hogan, Dublin; Kit Fleming, Dublin; General Mulcahy, T.D.; P. J. O'Kelly, Tullamore; W. Norton, Kilmallock; General O'Duffy, Colonel Hayes, Jimmy Leahy, Tipperary; Seamus Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, Aherlow; Sean Hogan, Kilmallock; W. E. O'Brien, solicitor; Dr. Walker, Sillorgan; Jack Manahan, Diarmuid O'Hegarty, C.S.; Michael Kearney, Tom Maguire, N.T.; Wm. O'Grady, N.T.; Father O'Halloran, Tralee; Mr. and Mrs. Willie Kiely, Dublin.

SCANLAN (Galbally)—October 3, 1939.
James Scanlan, Galbally, Old I.R.A.
Office and High Mass at 10.30 o'clock
to-day (Wednesday) at Galbally Church.
Funeral to Castlejane at 12 o'clock.