

Copy/

C. J. France, Esq.,  
Standard Hotel,  
Dublin.

Connors,  
Rear Cross,  
Newport, Co. Tipperary.

15 - 1 - 22.

Dear Sir:

My place was destroyed by "Black & Tans". In February 1920 this County was under martial law and fairs were prohibited in the district. They arrested me in connection with a local fair and my son got a month in jail for the same offence. In April of the same year they arrested two of my sons in connection with the shooting of police in the district. They were liberated after undergoing a hunger strike in Cork Jail. We were repeatedly visited by Police and Military up to November of the same year. Everytime they visited the place they committed acts of robbery and destruction, - fowl, delph, furniture and clothes being among the property taken and destroyed. In November they burned my hay and shot some of my cattle. During the same month they repeatedly fired into the house and we had some miraculous escapes from being shot. Up to that time my wife, daughter and I were carrying on business as best we could. My sons were "on the run". We then left the place and went to some friends. In January 1921 the house was partially burned, and we scarcely ever could return to the farm until the truce was called.

I wish to thank the "White Cross" for relieving us from a very critical situation. We were left to <sup>face</sup> ~~see~~ the winter of 1921 to 1922 with only a kitchen and bedroom for ten in family. However, the White Cross came to our assistance and encouraged me to repair the destroyed portion of my house.

We had three visitors from the White Cross - inspectors, after which I received two successive loans, - one of £50, the other of £70.

These Grants enabled me to put my house in a habitable condition again.

Gratefully yours,

Thomas Caplis.

P.S. You may use my name as you wish in connection with this letter. T.C.