Copy/

Limerick Street,

Cappawhite.

January 9th, 1922.

C.J.France, Esq., Director,
American Committee for Relief in Ireland,
Dublin.

Sir:

With reference to your inquiry re damage done to me me and mine.
In October, 1920, Military raided my house for a brother of mine who had
to leave his work. He worked as a Farrier with me, and I had to employ
a man to take his place; from that to Christmas we had several raids at
my house and my father's house. On January 17th. 1921 the Black and
Tans burned my house - which was a licensed premises, and it fully stocked
with everything in the licensed and grocery trade. On the same night
they broke all the windows in my father's house. On the following
night they broke the windows of my brother's workshop, who is a Carpenter,
and burned some timber trying to get it on fire, - it was on fire
when it was put out by some neighbours.

I have three brothers, one a Farrier, who was gone since October
1920, another a Carpenter, who was idle for a long time, another a
harness-maker, who was also idle. For when you have a member of your
family attached to a column they have a special eye on you, and you
have got to be careful of yourself. On the 19th. January they made an
attempt to burn my forge. They broke a part of the roof, a Vice, a
Drilling Machine. There were three of us working in the forge. We
had to give up work for a month.In or about the 16th of May 1921 the
Black and Tans came to my forge while we were gone to our lunch - and
lucky for us at that - and fired several shots into it before going in
and cutting my bellows to pieces and damaged several tools. There were
3 Smiths, 1 Harness-maker and 2 Carpenters idle from that to the 1st
August.

We got £20 from the White Cross as a weekly allowance for being
idle.

I got £50 Loan for damage done to my forge, and a Grant of £300
for my house of which I have £150 got.   I am building my house, and
that amount would not be much good for me but for getting a little help
from my father.

Yours truly,

Thomas Ryan.