

280

1921 (7 January) Pickardstown Ambush War of Independence Medal
1919-21 War of Independence Medal with Comrac bar officially named to "968 Michael McGrath". Also with a related War of Independence Medal issued to an unknown recipient and 1898 centenary Robert Emmet lithographic print. Both medals complete with ribbons, clasps, boxes of issue and presidential issuing slips. (3 items)

A scarce medal officially named to the first Waterford City man to be killed during the War of Independence. Michael McGrath was born at Poleberry Waterford on 1 December 1894, the youngest son of Thomas and Anne McGrath. He was educated at the Mount Sion School and became involved with the Sinn Féin movement after the 1916 Rising. During the 1918 elections McGrath canvassed for the party in Waterford city and moved to more militant activities in 1920, serving with D Company 4th Battalion East Waterford Brigade I.R.A. In January 1921 he was selected to take part in an ambush on British troops at Pickardstown near Tramore. A feint attack on Tramore police barracks was designed in order to draw a British relief force from Waterford where they would be attacked by members of the East and West Waterford Brigade. During the ambush on 7 January, McGrath was with a group of men armed with shotguns and positioned in a ditch on the road. During the ensuing fight this group was surrounded and McGrath killed. An inquest later stated that he was only identified by the Union membership cards that were found on his body and that he had suffered a severe wound to his head which caused instantaneous death. Michael McGrath's funeral took place on 10 January in Carbally Churchyard under the watch of a large British military presence. The spot on which he was killed is marked by a present day memorial to the ambush.

€1,000-€1,500 (€833-€1,250 approx)

281

1919-46: War of Independence to Emergency medal group awarded to Captain E. O'Boyle

An interesting and complete grouping awarded to Captain Eamonn O'Boyle Army School of Music. Comprising of War of Independence Service Medal and Comrac bar, with presidential slip, ribbon bar and postal box of issue addressed to O'Boyle at Portobello Barracks. 1971 50th Anniversary of the Truce Medal with presidential slip, ribbon bar and box of issue. Emergency Service Medal Na Forsai Cosanta with box of issue and envelope addressed to O'Boyle at an address in Clontarf. Also with a scarce gold and enamel 1929 Irish Army Gymnastic Championships winner's medal and newspaper clipping relating to the Battle of Mount Street Bridge believed to have been written by O'Boyle in 1938. (5 items)

Eamonn O'Boyle was born in Glencolmille, Donegal and was educated at Pearse's St. Enda's School. He died in the 1970s and is buried in Balgriffin Cemetery, Dublin.

€800-€1,000 (€667-€833 approx)

282

1919-21: War of Independence medal and 1971 Truce medal pair

1919-21 War of Independence Service Medal and 1971 50th Anniversary of the Truce Medal issued to an unidentified recipient from Cork.

€400-€500 (€333-€417 approx)

283

1919-21: War of Independence Medal and 1971 Truce Medal awarded to Thomas Carroll, Dublin Brigade

War of Independence Medal and 1971 50th Anniversary of the Truce Medal with box of issue awarded to Thomas Carroll of Ballymore Eustace who is believed to have served with Dublin Brigade, I.R.A. With a copied photograph of the recipient, who in later life lived in Ranelagh, died in February 1989 and is buried in Bohernabreena Cemetery.

€500-€600 (€417-€500 approx)

284

1919-21 War of Independence Service Medal, also 1939-46 Emergency Service Medal (Defence Forces) and others

Unknown recipient, from an estate in Co. Tipperary. Also includes an Óglaigh na h-Éireann cap badge, 1907 Dublin International Exhibition medal, a Pope Leo XIII medal, and some others. (14)

€150-€200 (€125-€167 approx)

285

1919-21: Cumann na mBan badge

A good Cumann na mBan lapel badge in white metal. 1 x 2.50in. (2.54 x 6.35cm)

€300-€500 (€250-€417 approx)

286

1919-21: Cumann na mBan badge

Another similar Cumann na mBan pin back badge in brass 2.50 x 5in. (6.35 x 12.70cm)

€300-€500 (€250-€417 approx)

287

1919 (1 December) Government of the Irish Republic issued share certificate

Scarce Government of the Irish Republic registered one pound share certificate issued by Michael Collins as Minister of Finance with authorising signature of Joseph Meehan, to Edward Daly of Rose Cottage, West End, Bundoran, Donegal Also with a Keogh photographic postcard of his namesake, 1916 leader, Edward Daly. (2 items) 4 x 8in. (10.16 x 20.32cm)

€150-€250 (€125-€208 approx)

288

1919-20: American Commission on Irish Independence, Bond Certificate Campaign pamphlet

8pp pamphlet with the intention as it describes "to Finance the Elected Government of the Republic in Projects of National Reconstruction and for such other purposes as the Government may decide" 8 x 5.50in. (20.32 x 13.97cm)

€100-€150 (€83-€125 approx)

289

1919-21: War of Independence period Irish Volunteers print

Print with a depiction of Christ blessing a group of Volunteers and titled "O Sacred Heart Bless Ireland" by Joseph O'Hanrahan. Framed. 19 x 14in. (48.26 x 35.56cm)

€150-€200 (€125-€167 approx)

290

1921 (31 January) ROIA Dublin Metropolitan Police motor vehicle pass

A scarce Restoration of Order in Ireland Regulations permit for a BSA motorcycle and side car complete with photograph. Issued to Joseph Henry Montgomery 78 Northumberland Road. See lots 247 & 291. 8 x 9in. (20.32 x 22.86cm)

€200-€300 (€167-€250 approx)