

243

circa 1916: Mark VI Webley British Army Revolver
Mark VI Webley Revolver made by P. Webley & Son, Birmingham. Date serial number and other issuing and proof marks pitted. Found in Dublin in the 1920s this type of revolver used by the British Army during the First World War period and also by Irish Volunteers during the War of Independence.
€200-€300 (£167-£250 approx)

244

20th Century: Militaria collection including bayonet, bandolier, belt and Irish Army badge

Spanish M.1941 Mauser Bayonet with leather frog attached to a bandolier. Also with a brown belt with cast Irish Army FF badge buckle attached, another black belt with FF badge (3 items)
€100-€200 (£83-£167 approx)

245

1917: Irish Volunteers Lee Enfield .303 MkIII rifle
Short Magazine Lee-Enfield No. 1 Mk. III bolt action rifle. Complete with wooden stock and magazine. With 1917 date mark and maker's mark of the Birmingham Small Arms Company. Completely deactivated with firing pin cut. Reputedly captured by Irish Volunteers during a raid on the Royal Irish Constabulary Barracks, Abbey Square, Enniscorthy and used during the War of Independence and Civil War.
Provenance:
Martin Doyle, Irish Volunteers; Thence by descent
€250-€350 (£208-£292 approx)

246

1916 (25 April) Irish Times Rising special extra issues
The two editions of the Irish Times issued on 25 April, 1916. The first 8pp with a full report of events and was withdrawn on government orders at 8 a.m. The second 6pp excludes all the reports but includes two government proclamations with a brief statement "Sinn Féin Rising in Dublin...the authorities have taken active & energetic measures to deal with the situation." Also with a small notice from the Manager of the Irish Times stating that "Permission to issue this paper was withdrawn at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, 25th April, 1916." The paper subsequently issued to the public on that day was considerably reduced. Scarce.
€1,500-€2,000 (£1,250-£1,667 approx)

247

1916-22: Fingal Brigade I.R.A. receipt for commandeered shotgun
Mimeograph, manuscript.
Receipt issued by 'Headquarters' Fingal Brigade' to Mr. James Griffen of Balcunnin Skerries for one double barrel shotgun. Initialled by the Brigade Adjutant 6.25 x 8in. (15.88 x 20.32cm)
€150-€200 (£125-£167 approx)

248

1916 (28 April) Rising military travel pass from Northumberland Road
Manuscript. Military travel pass written on a piece of paper from an army notepad and signed by a Second Lieutenant in the 2/6th Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment. Allowing Joseph H. Montgomery to go from St. Mary's Road to Northumberland Road for one day. Two days earlier the battle of Mount Street Bridge had taken place on the same road. See lots 290 & 291. 6 x 4.50in. (15.24 x 11.43cm)
€100-€150 (£83-£125 approx)

249

1916 Rising: Dublin Metropolitan Police travel pass from Kingstown to Dublin

Mimeograph, manuscript. A DMP permanent pass issued to Mr. Stuart of 14 Mountpelier Parade, Blackrock. With original signature and stamp of the Assistant Provost Marshal on reverse, dated 12 May 1916. This pass was issued to William B Stuart a solicitor, who lived with his family at the aforementioned address. 5 x 4in. (12.70 x 10.16cm)
€150-€200 (£125-£167 approx)

250

1916 Rising: Sinn Féin Rebellion Handbook "Easter 1916" Edition
Letterpress, 248 pp. Scarce first edition of this useful reference work. Full of details relating to the Rising with lists of casualties, prisoners, and other participants, well illustrated. Published by the Weekly Irish Times. 10 x 6.25in. (25.40 x 15.88cm)
€100-€150 (£83-£125 approx)

251

A similar lot to 250.
€150-€250 (£125-£208 approx)

252

1916 (13 May to 4 July). An extraordinary correspondence re: Pádraig Pearse's Life Assurance Policy.

Correspondence between The Hibernian Bank (now incorporated in the Bank of Ireland Group), Dublin, and Sun Life Assurance Society, London (now incorporated in Royal Sun Alliance Insurance Group). Pearse apparently gave his insurance policy as security for a loan of about £663 (approximately €100,000 in today's terms) from The Hibernian Bank. On 10 May, a week to the day of Pearse's execution the bank wrote to Sun Life to make a claim on the policy (this letter referred to but missing from the archive). A Sun Life actuary replied on 13 May - "inform me whether the Life Assured was identical with the PH Pearse recently shot after trial by Court Martial".

On 31 May Sun Life claim "the circumstances under which [Pearse] met his death rendered...the policy void". However "desirous of dealing with the case in a liberal spirit" Sun Life offered an ex-gratia payment not exceeding the surrender value of the policy (£42.3s.0d). Hibernian Bank queried the condition under which the policy was void, and Sun Life replied there was no condition but under Common Law if the Assured is "killed in a duel, or feloniously destroys himself, or dies by the hand of the common hangman, or public executioner, the Policy is void".

The bank took legal opinion from D. & T. Fitzgerald Solicitors of St. Andrew's Street - Charles Hoey and R.A. Andrews, partners - who rejected Sun Life's position. The solicitors, on 8 June 1916, suggest a compromise whereby Sun Alliance would pay out provided the money was only applied to the debt owed by Pearse. On 10 June the bank furnishes details of the debt. It is noted that the bank has the deeds of Cullenswood House (home of St. Enda's School, which Pearse founded and ran) - "The bank regard these premises as practically valueless as security. A sale was attempted some time ago but proved abortive. The alterations made by Mr Pearse, to adapt the premises for a school, render them quite unsuitable as a dwelling".

Sun Life eventually - and possibly under pressure from the Bank, who would have been major brokers for the insurance company, or even exposure in the nationalist press for their niggardly behaviour over a patriot's death - to pay Hibernian Bank the "Sum Assured and Bonuses" but "not to allow any proceeds to benefit the Estate of the Life Assured". Thus Pearse's mother and family were not to receive a penny from Sun Life.

After some to-ing and fro-ing in an exchange of several letters Hibernian Bank agreed, on 26 June, to repay any surplus, after recalling other securities and guarantees (including one from Pearse's mother), directly back to Sun Life. On 30 June the Bank received £329.16s.4d in settlement of the policy. Here the correspondence ends a squalid dispute between two financial institutions over the estate of the dead patriot, who, before his death, was a valued customer of both.
€2,000-€3,000 (£1,667-£2,500 approx)

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?

Check out the Cross Reference Index on inside back cover for topographical, thematic and collectible subjects.