

Sinn Féin labels.

Designs are a Celtic Cross and figure of Hibernia.

The Celtic Cross design was by Miss Lily Williams and used in the first definitive series as requested by the first President, Arthur Griffith.

First printing, 1907.



Pale blue-green. Broad crown, thin hound.

First printing used from Limerick on St. Patrick's Day 1908 to Thomas J. Clarke, the old Fenian, in Dublin. He was to be the first signatory on the Irish Proclamation of Independence. He had a tobacconist's shop which provided good cover for Irish Republican Brotherhood men of all classes and types to meet!

Second printing, 1916.



Narrow cross. Type 1, green. Type 2, Blue-green, on thick, wove paper.



Tall crown, fat hound.

Definitive.



Sinn Féin.

Sinn Féin was founded in 1905 as a grouping of nationalists favouring a complete separation from Britain rather than 'Home Rule'.



Fareham, England to Portmarnock, Co. Dublin. 22 July 1908. Addressed to "Sinn Féin Camp", presumably a gathering of members and supporters.



St. Louis to Dublin, 24 November 1908. Addressed to "Sinn Féin Printing and Publishing Company, Limited" (In connection with the Journal or recently issued labels)

Sinn Féin.

These labels were issued in late 1907 for use on supporters' correspondence.

On 21 July 1908 a new Post Office regulation was published which stated that mail bearing labels on the face was to be returned to sender. The examples below are all within the acceptable period.

Tête-Bêche pair of the 'Hibernia' design.

Dublin,
8 February, 1908.



Cork,
28 May 1908.

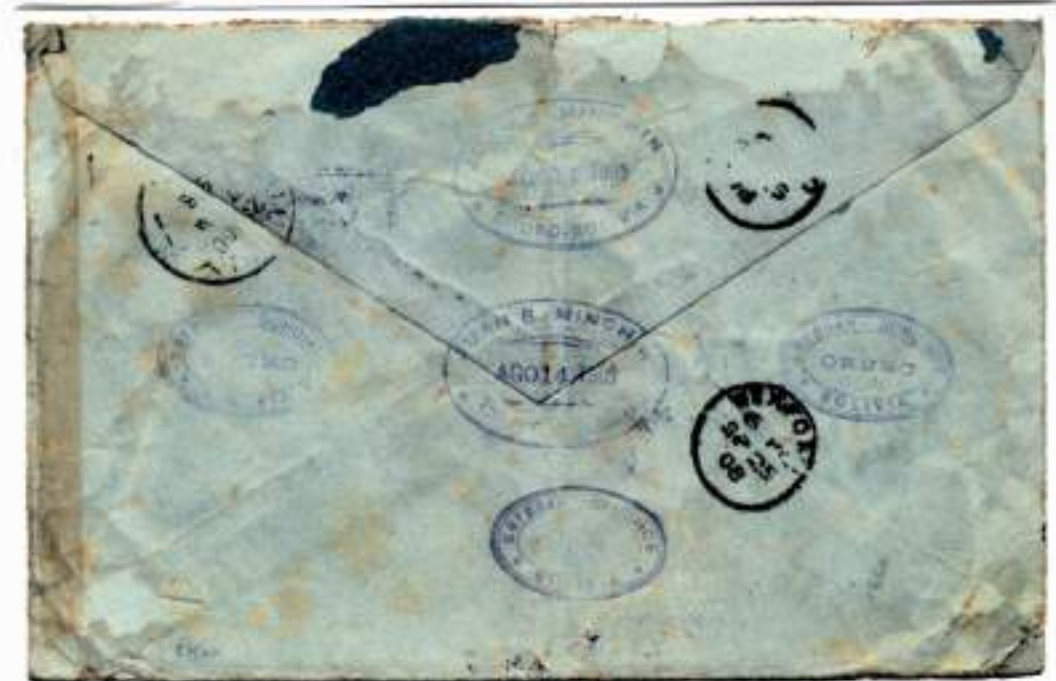


New Ross to Dublin, 9 June 1908.

Addressed in Irish.

Sinn Féin.

These labels were issued in late 1907 for use on supporters' correspondence. Here one is being used on mail from Bolivia to Wexford.



One cachet on reverse is "Esteban Donohoe, Oruro, Bolivia", while another is dated 14 August 1908.



USE OF LABELS RESEMBLING POSTAGE STAMPS.

THE practice has recently been adopted by some persons of affixing to the covers of letters adhesive labels, somewhat resembling postage stamps, which are used for advertising or other purposes. Although these labels are obviously not issued with any intention of defrauding the revenue, their use on postal packets, especially when they are placed on the address side, causes embarrassment to the officers of the Post Office, and gives rise to delay in the treatment of other correspondence. In these circumstances, the Postmaster General has deemed it necessary to issue instructions that, after the 31st of July, any letter or other packet observed in the post bearing on the front a private label in any way resembling a postage stamp shall be returned to the sender.

By Command of the Postmaster General.

GENERAL POST OFFICE,
21st July, 1908.

Home Rule and constitutional nationalism – John Redmond (1856-1918)

His father was an M.P. and while working as a clerk at the House of Commons he came under the spell of Parnell and entered politics. On Parnell's death he became leader of the minority faction of the Irish Parliamentary Party on 1891 and the re-united party in 1900-1918. His hope of a unified self-governing Ireland was shattered in the years after 1912 and his reputation faded after 1916 because of his support for the British war effort.



From a presentation "specimen" pack given to a Revenue Official on his retirement.

Publisher: George D. Croker, Photographer & Photo Dealer, Waterford.

Posted: Waterford to Dublin, 16 February 1913.

Extract from message reads: "Photo of Mr. Redmond during the ceremony of opening the new bridge here on Feb. 10. You will probably recognize the Bishop of Waterford & Jack the Mayor, the High Sherriff (Dr. O'S) & Mr. James Hackett T.C."

Design for the Irish Penny Postage Stamp - "Redmondus Rex" labels (c. 1912)*



The design is copied from a "Punch" magazine cartoon by Bernard Partridge, being a parody of the King George V stamp then current.

John Redmond, the leader of the Irish Parliamentary party is shown wearing a crown and standing on the British lion. He plays an Irish harp and is surrounded by shamrocks.



REDMONDUS REX.

(Design for the Irish Penny Postage Stamp.)

Constitutional Nationalism – United Irish League.

The United Irish League was founded in 1898 by William Smith O'Brien to agitate for the redistribution of western grass ranches to small farmers. It was instrumental in re-uniting the Nationalist Party in 1900.



"You are appointed to collect parliamentary fund in South Ward."



United Irish League of America – Postal stationery envelope, used Boston, 1902.

Arms and Armies – Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902)

There were close to 30,000 Irish soldiers in action from three cavalry and eight infantry regiments of the British Army. The Irish Guards were founded on the wish of Queen Victoria in response to bravery shown by her Irish troops in South Africa.

On the Boer side there were two Irish Transvaal *commandos* or brigades – one of some 250 men fought at the Battle of Colenso under John Blake and **John MacBride** who was later to be executed for his part in the Easter Rising.

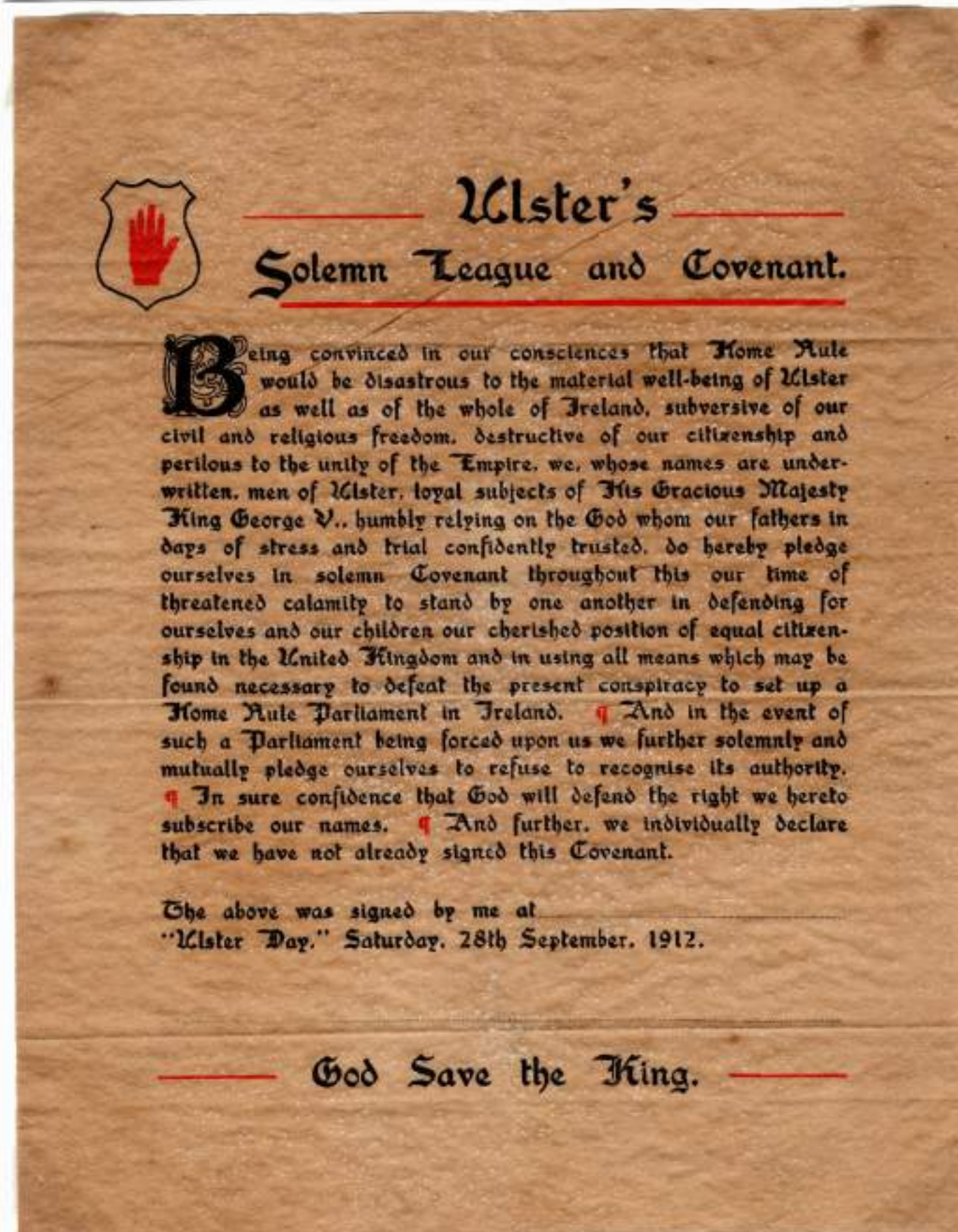


Picture postcard of Pretoria, postmarked "Army Post Office, Blomfontein".

Sent by **Col. R. Wallace**, 5th Royal Irish Rifles.

He was later to be one of the founders of the Ulster Volunteer Force.

Anti - Home Rule.



Signed throughout the Province by 218,206 Ulstermen within a few days.

Anti – Home Rule labels.

These labels against Home Rule were produced in 1912. From 21 July 1908 “stamp-like” labels were not to be affixed to the address side of mail.

Contrary to Regulations.



Sheffield to Egypt, 20 February 1914.



Dublin, local use to the Vice-Regal Lodge, 27 August 1912. Contrary to regulations, BUT apparently accepted to this address!

Arms and Armies – Irish Citizen Army.

During the August 1913 strikes and employers lock-outs, James Larkin defied the police and appeared in O'Connell Street to address a meeting. After a few words he was taken away by the police and a street riot followed, police baton use injured 400 and killed at least one. The 'Irish Citizen Army' was formed on 23rd November, 1913 as a workers self-defence force. Later it would participate in the Easter Rising.



"The terrible riots in Dublin – A baton charge" (31st August, 1913)

*The withdrawn issue of 2014 - the portrait is **not** the named "Captain Jack White".

Irish Citizen Army • Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



The stamps had been distributed and available for a short while on the day of issue, with only a few offices having actually sold any, before the instruction not to issue was implemented.

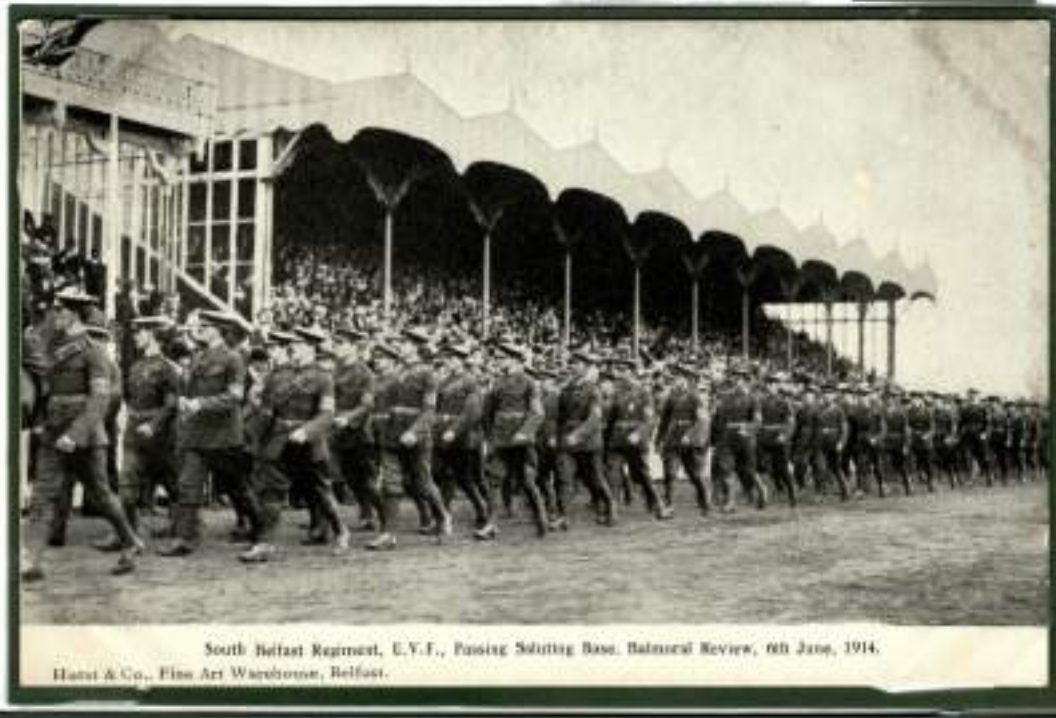
Arms and Armies – The Ulster Volunteer Force.

The Ulster Volunteer Force was created in January 1913 to co-ordinate paramilitary activities of Ulster unionists. The membership of some 90,000 led by retired officers of the British Army, were a powerful political tool.

U.V.F. labels of "East Down" and "South Belfast".



A matchbox label shows the topical 'Red Hand' of Ulster.



South Belfast Regiment, U.V.F., Passing Saluting Base, Balmoral Review, 6th June, 1914. Hand & Co., Film Art Warehouse, Belfast.

THIS UNION STAMP MUST NOT BE PLACED ON THE OUTSIDE OF ANY POSTAL PACKETS.

**National Movement against Home Rule.
THE UNION STAMP.**

The UNION STAMP has been issued for all who are determinedly opposed to the Home Rule Bill. It should be widely circulated as a means of expressing the feeling of the country against this dangerous and unworkable measure.



This beautiful stamp is designed to represent the Union of the Kingdom, which all true patriots are resolved to maintain at any cost. Under the Imperial Crown are the historic arms of the United Kingdom, and the design is printed in imperial red, with the appropriate motto, "Patriots, maintain the Union!"

The Union stamps are finely produced, and are equal in quality to Government stamps. They will be valued by many collectors as mementoes of the national campaign for the Union.

USE THE UNION STAMPS EVERYWHERE!
ONE PENNY EACH.

Label - Patriots maintain the Union!

This design was later adapted by the printers, Harrison & Sons, for use on coil trial labels.

Arms and Armies – The Ulster Volunteer Force.

During the pre-First World War era there were two different series of German poster stamps showing events from world news – one from each series was of "Ulster".



The leaders of Ulster: Sir Edward Carson, Lord Londonderry and Captain Craig.



The situation in Ulster.

Carson, Londonderry, Craig, Richardson, Smith and Wallace as leaders of the U.V.F. The symbolism of the leader on a white horse is to echo William III at the battle of the Boyne.



Local postal use of the postcard, Dublin, 20 March 1914.

Arms and Armies – Larne gun-running, 1914.

During the crisis surrounding the third Home Rule Bill, Major Frederick Crawford, acting on behalf of the Ulster Unionist Council, brought 216 tons of German, Italian and Austrian rifles and ammunition to Ireland by steamer.

On the night of 24/25 April the arms were brought in at Larne, Co. Antrim with smaller consignments being landed at Bangor and Donaghadee. The guns were loaded onto motor cars which distributed them to pre-prepared dumps around Ulster. The 'Curragh Mutiny' of the previous month meant that the British Government could no longer rely on the regular army to quell rebellion in Ulster and the importation of arms now made such rebellion possible.



BRAVO, ULSTER VOLUNTEERS! The "Mountjoy" unloading "the stuff" at Larne Harbour. (No. 4. Historic Events Series)



GUN RUNNING AT BANGOR, CO. DOWN, APRIL 25TH, 1914.

Message on the lower card reads: "17.5.14 – This is what it was supposed to have been like the Friday before we arrived here (sic) – very busy were they not by the looks of it"

Arms and Armies – The First World War.

The Ulster Volunteers formed the 36th (Ulster) Division, while many of the Irish Volunteers supported Redmond and joined the British forces in the fight for the freedom of small nations. Ireland was thought to be one of the small nations ready to emerge from the conflict.



"Our Day"
Irish support for the war.
Charity label flag.



Michael O'Leary was the first Irishman to be awarded the V.C. during the Great War.

Label supporting Lord Roberts' fund for the war disabled.

Several of the Delandre 'charity' labels refer to Irish units within the British Army.



Royal Dublin Fusiliers.



Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.



Connaught Rangers.



Bamforth & Co. postcard – 'War Cartoons' series.