**NYPL**

**John Quinn to William Maloney**

**Letter 2p. typed unsigned**

November 8, 1923

Personal

Dr. William J. Maloney

105 East 53rd Street,

New York City

Dear Dr. Maloney:

Casement raised considerable money for the Irish Volunteers in this country. He was not the poser that transferred the control of the organization to Redmond. He told me all about it in greatest detail. He made the agreement with Redmond or the sake of harmony and to prevent the disrupting of the Volunteer organization. At that time Redmond could have hurt the Volunteer movement very seriously if he had thrown his weight against them. Casement had no private understanding with Redmond. What he did was perfectly open and above board. The reason for the election of the Redmond-nominated directors was that Redmond's opposition to the Volunteers at that particular moment was felt by Casement and others in control of the Volunteers to have been very hurtful to the movement, and therefore he allowed Redmond to nominate certain members of the board of directors, I think a majority of the board, but of the majority that Redmond nominated Casement and his crowd controlled enough to really keep control of the organization. He did not raise the money on the pledge to transfer the volunteers. Redmond did not subsequently aid the Volunteers. At that particular time Redmond was more powerful than he subsequently was. Casement's motives were of the very highest and beyond question. Casement did not “excuse himself” for the transfer. He did not “justify himself”. There was no one attacking him at that time. All of those who were in with him at that time agreed with him that it was the right thing to do. There has never been any question of his “Justifying” or “excusing himself” for a perfectly diplomatic and statesmanlike thing, namely, the prevention of an attack upon the volunteers at that time by Redmond. He took the majority of the directors that Redmond named, but of that majority he and his friends had enough with the minority to control the organization, and they did. Redmond's coming in never hurt the volunteers. That is the key to it. Why should Casement, therefore, want to “justify” or “Excuse” himself for a transfer which was never hurtful to the organization?

This answers your question as to the “reason for making the transfer”.

You are wrong in another respect, namely, “out of it came his trip here seeking money”. His coming here and seeking money had nothing to do with the nominal control of the organization going to Redmond, for it was never anything but nominal. He turned against Redmond later on for various reasons because he felt that Redmond was not honest in his attempt to build up the organization.

As to the re-living of the Wolfe Tone business, that is another chapter.

Your letter does not refer to the second paragraph of my letter about the Casement material that I gave to Judge Cohalan. I have a copy of the letter transmitting that to Judge Cohalan, and if you care to have that copy I will send it to you. I never asked Judge Cohalan what he did with the Casement material.

Yours very truly,