**Alice Stopford Green to Casement**

**NYPL Maloney IHP 9 – original**

**19 July 1914**

**[Casement note:]**

Rec'd at New York

Augt 4 or 5

Ardrigh,

July 19, 1914

My good Knight of the Island,

 I am longing to hear how it fares with you. You write to me that you had spent all on the Volunteering expenses. That is not right. Your services were great, and you should not suffer in this special way. Will you please tell me how it stands? There are Volunteer funds now available. If you will only let me have a line, quite confidentially, I will look into the matter. Your expenses in America must be heavy. Travelling and hotel are costly. Will you put the matter in my hands? No one will know. I can make just arrangements. You are all the time serving the one and only cause.

 Our friends of the seas have had a rainy and choppy time and much discomfort, but are very gallant. I heard a week ago - and cannot hear again for a week. But I hope all fare well,

 Eoin MacNeill is hopeful. The new members are in part very good material. As for the rest he thinks they will be powerless. Redmond put on good men, Devlin Hibernians, and Dillon a bad sort. But Hibernians and Party men object to Party rule, and may prove very independent. The spirit is, I hear, good. Mr. Berkeley is drilling the Belfast men. He is splendid. I did not know till I saw him at work the force that was in him. He is a fine disciplinarian, very sympathetic, very particular about his get up, and gives a fine air to the whole field by his bearing. He speaks well too. One day this week he worked from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m. It will be good for him and them. The Volunteers did admirably in battalions to receive the colours. Next week will bring its great decisions. No one knows anything, none can guess - not even the Government. I feel myself as if the bill had gone. There is nothing left in it to take - judiciary, policy, all gone. It had better now all fall to the ground.

 Weather bad. We go tomorrow to Rathlin to see the Volunteers, every man there is enrolled. Mr. Page will bless them and us.

 I am now driving an attack on Lord Shaftesbury for his new scandalous cottages.

 Alec Wilson (private) has opened communications with Carson. Who knows what they will come to. I have no hope myself, for Carson is too much tied to the Unionists. He has sold himself to them for rifles.

 I feel satisfied that the only thing your Committee could do was to make one united party. The old groups will be broken, and new must emerge. I do not agree with Devoy's letter. Ireland is being made new, and the Party will have to follow and not lead the Nation. I am sure you rightly calculated the forms, and the only course of action. You will come back to see that you were right.

 Meanwhile I am personally greatly concerned about you. You must be at ease, and comfortable, and give Ireland a chance by giving yourself a chance. It is because we are thinking of the same thing that I ask you to treat me frankly, and tell me the situation. So that your public expenses shall not fall on you. If you want an immediate cheque please cable to me at Ardrigh Yes - and it will go by return.

 In all things treat my friendship to the very end. You can write to me with perfect openness and confidence. I want to see your work go through without preventable risk and hardship - and that for Ireland's sake.

Your devoted friend and ally

ASG.