**Millar Gordon postcards to Casement**

**NYPL Maloney IHP Box 1, Folio 14**

**Postcard 1 (written Sunday 31 August 1913 (as per 2nd card) with photograph of Larne harbour and Curran, Larne, postmarked Larne ‘AU 31’??)**

**Casement note:**

Recd at Ardrigh

3 Sept 13

Sir R Casement CMG

c/o Mrs. Thomas.

(opposite McKenzie & Co Painters)

Antrim Road

Belfast

Delighted to have got your card with the good news. This is where I am for the week-end See you next week. Hav’nt we had some grand weather, hope September will be the same.

Yrs M.

**Postcard 2 (postmarked 3 September)**

**Casement note:**

Recd at Ardrigh

3 Sept /13

Wired to say coming tomorrow.

2/9/13

Sorry I was not able to go up to-night to see you as I am feeling a bit seedy, but hope to go up to-morrow night about 7.45. Hope you are very fit and enjoying the glorious weather I was down in old Larne over Sunday & sent a PC which I hope you have got. I always enjoy going back there - most people like to revisit the scenes of their childhood Ever yrs. M

**Related extract from Dudgeon book:**

 There are two further chirpy bits of Millar correspondence surviving, unnoticed until now, in the Maloney Papers in New York. Casement presumably had left them with Joe McGarrity when he departed for Germany in October 1914 although Maloney did mysteriously get hold of other original material of earlier date. The two items are both postcards although only one carries a photograph. It is of perhaps the ugliest looking scene ever depicted; a blocky “Larne Harbour and Curran, Larne.” Both are meticulously addressed to “Sir R Casement CMG.” so Millar, despite his new politics, was no believer in disregarding British titles. Although Casement was using the same rooms where Millar first came six years earlier, the young man remained uncharacteristically uncertain of its precise Antrim Road number, having to define the house as “c/o Mrs Thomas (opposite Messrs McKenzie Painters).” J. McKenzie & Sons, Painters and Decorators were indeed located opposite, at 114/116 Antrim Road, according to the Belfast street directory.

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 Both cards are annotated by Casement as received “at Ardrigh 3 Sept 13” with the second also bearing his comment “Wired to say coming tomorrow.” So the cards were sent up by Mrs Thomas to Bigger’s house. Casement was therefore obliged to head down the Antrim Road later that evening to meet Millar, who was certainly not economising on communications in this attempt to ensure the assignation finally took place.

 The first card, postmarked Larne, reads “Delighted to have got your card with the good news [unexplained]. This is where I am for the week-end. See you next week. Hav’nt we had some grand weather, hope September will be the same. Yrs M.”[[1]](#endnote-1) Note Millar’s little Ulsterism “grand” which Casement enjoyed replicating in his diary entries on both 29 and 30 May 1910.

 The second dated “2/9/13” and postmarked 3 September reads “Sorry I was not able to go up to-night to see you as I am feeling a bit seedy, but hope to go up to‑morrow night about 7.45. Hope you are very fit and enjoying the glorious weather. I was down in old Larne over Sunday and sent a PC which I hope you have got. I always enjoy going back there – most people like to revisit the scene of their childhood Ever yrs. M”.[[2]](#endnote-2)

 And so the documented side of the pair’s relationship ends.

1. NYPL Maloney Collection of Irish Historical Papers, Box 1 Fol 14 [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
2. ibid [↑](#endnote-ref-2)