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*Archives of American Art*

## **Britton Diary, 1918 Sept-Dec**

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 05:47:14

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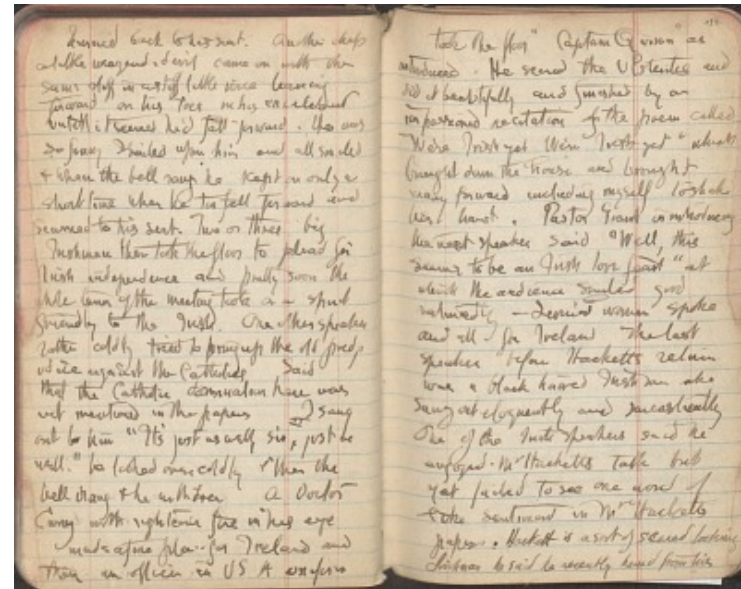
hurried back to his seat. Another chap at the [[wrazend?]] devil came on with the same stuff in a stiff like voice leaning forward on his toes in his excitement until it seemed he'd fall forward. He was so funny I smiled upon him and all smiled and when the bell rang he kept on only a short time when he too fell forward and [[returned?]] to his seat. Two or three big Irishmen the took the floor to plead for Irish independence and pretty soon the whole tenor of the meeting took on a spirit friendly to the Irish. One other speaker rather coldly tried to bring up the old prejudice against the Catholics. Said that the Catholic denomination here was not mentioned in the papers. I sang out to him "It's just as well, sir, just as well." He looked over coldly then the bell rang & he withdrew. A Doctor [[Cuney?]] with righteous fire in his eye made a fine plea for Ireland and then an offer in USA uniform

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took the floor "Captain Quinn" as introduced. He scared the Ulsterites and did it beautifully and finished by an impassioned recitation of the poem called "We're Irish yet, We're Irish yet" which brought down the house and brought many forward including myself to shake his hand. Pastor Grant in introducing the next speaker said "Well, this seems to be an Irish love feast" at which the audience smiled good naturedly - [[Several?]] women spoke and all for Ireland. The last speaker before Hackett's return was a black haired Irishman who sang out eloquently and sarcastically. One of the Irish speakers said he enjoyed Mr. Hackett's talk but yet failed to see one word of like sentiment in Mr. Hackett's papers. Hackett is a sort of scared looking Irishman he said he recently heard from his

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