

Cambridge Nov 26 1912

To the Honorable, the City Council  
of the City of Cambridge:

The undersigned respectfully pray

That you will not regret the lease  
of the Old Grand Army Hall, City Building  
Harvard Sq. to the Grand Army Veterans  
until your order of 1911, and 1912 in  
regard to the grant given to the  
members of the Cambridge Gaelic School  
is complied with

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| B. J. Egan | President |
| John Egan  | Treasurer |

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PETITION

of C. J. Egan, Proprietor  
for in relation to release  
of Battle St. Building Hall  
Nov. 26 1912

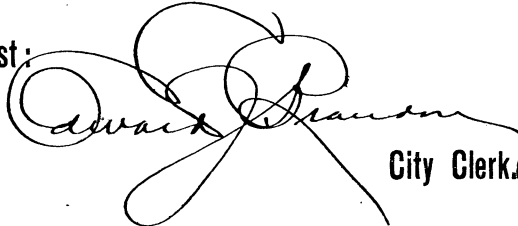
In Board of Aldermen, Nov. 26 1912

Referred to the Committee on

Public Property

Sent to the Common Council for concurrence.

Attest:

  
City Clerk.

IN COMMON COUNCIL,

Nov. 26, 1912

CONCURRED.

ATTEST

M-10-10

# Honorable Members of City Government

Gentlemen ; -

We, members of the Gaelic school, in session, condemn your entire attitude toward the granting of the use of the old Armory. We have seen ~~the~~ board take off their coats in favor of a cause that involved the tax payers of Cambridge in thousands of dollars, while you practically refuse a minor concession involving no expense to the city, the hall being the property of the city and idle. We know it is probably not occupied more than twice a year as the Grand Army and Women's Relief Corps, etc; have the use of the entire flat below, consisting of two small halls and some other rooms. They contented themselves with them, while this hall was occupied by the militia, and they in turn used it for dances, etc. The inconsistency in granting the use of the hall to us and then letting the Grand Army ignore your power with their temporary lease of one dollar! We also would draw your attention to the committee that are afraid to recommend an order to revoke the lease that was passed by them in violation of your order, and a second one restraining the giving of another lease until the city's right is established. It certainly shows a spineless lot, no backbone and no blood or principle. We ask ourselves the question : Are those the men that revolutionized the politics of Cambridge? We are afraid they are but camp followers that follow every fight. They certainly have no initiative or spirit, but look to where they think some force would come to bear to deprive them of their position. Let us analyze their judgment : Suppose we bring the county councils to bear on them and tell them their statement on the subject. The Gaelic Alliance and, in fact every society in Cambridge would sympathize with us. In fact we have helped in a number of charities and helped the United Irish League and the Gaelic League. I know we could get a hundred to one against any other, as ours is not a selfish organization. We again ask you to insist on seeing this through, or we will be obliged to relegate some of you to your level, as some of you are spoiling for fight, and probably before you are through with us we may place you in the position of the Irishman that was looking for a good boarding house which his friend had shown him. He saw the sign over the door

Boarding and Baiting "He remarked that he liked the board well enough but didn't like the baiting. We realize that you know all the ins and outs about that now. We hope you will put this matter through without any further recommendation, for we are bound to keep up the fight as long as Artemus Ward, when he said he was in favor of prolonging "the war as long as any of his mother-in law's relations were alive" we ask also ; If the Grand Army owned the building , could you take it or destroy it, as the Lord remarked he could destroy the temple and in so many days build it up again? It is now about eighteen months since we ask for the hall and we were granted it and again and again in 1912 we requested---repeated the demand for Gaelic School purposes and were granted it; again. Now if you see any way out of the situation it is up to you to suggest it. "e do not see any way but to revoke the lease or temporary agreement and establish your right. Whom soever granted it did it in violation of your order, so therefore it is illegal. Any man that has a building and lets it temporarily retains the power to let it to any man who comes along. This was the way with the Grand Army before they got the City Building . It is the way they are treated at number 678 , below you on the Avenue, except that they assume and pay the full rent at the market value and then they let and sublet to suit their convenience. The city of Boston lets to them and retains the right to let to whoever it pleases. For instance at the Franklin School , on Washington street , I counted the names of thirteen societies on boards in the entry and some more meet there whose names are not posted, including the Gaelic School on Sunday evenings and afternoons and Thursday nights, the Helping Hand on Sunday evenings, and a Kindergarten through the week. Moreover it is used for a ward room while several military societies meet there, If your wards have any bigoted notions they ~~ought~~ ought to be informed that the lambs must lie down with the wolves and that they have let several others in on their privileges. The wonder to us is how any intelligent administration passes here, as I have been informed the committee were discussing how to go about revoking this charter and then referred the matter to the city solicitor. Of this man's ruling I think the citizens have some sam-



please already. We will conclude by asking you to please again to grant our  
petition and we do not ask you to play up the Boyne Water like the prov-  
erbial Irishman ,to see how his blood would stand it,while he with his  
club went waltzing around before the Fray

J. Egan

Petition  
of John Egan for use  
of Brattle Square Hall etc  
Oct 29. 1912

In Board of aldermen  
Oct 29, 1912  
Referred to the Committee on  
Public Property  
Sent to the Common Council for concurrence.  
Attest Edward D. Martin  
City Clerk

IN COMMON COUNCIL,  
Oct. 29, 1912  
CONCURRED  
ATTEST Edward A. Buchanan  
CLERK.