

Kildare Observer and Eastern Counties Advertiser

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A rumour, which seems to have good foundation, is afloat to the effect that the recruiting staff of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers is about to be transferred from Naas to Beggar's Bush Barracks, Dublin and that no more recruits for the line battalions will be trained at Naas. The staff of the third battalion (County Kildare militia) will, it is said in some quarters, remain, and in others it is averred that they also will vacate the Naas barracks, thus leaving the buildings derelict. This sweeping change is said to be contemplated from motives of economy and centralisation, it being the opinion of the military authorities that Dublin is the proper headquarters of the Fusiliers of all battalions. If the rumour be correct it means a very serious loss to the town, having regard to the large amount of money spent in connection with the depot. There has, as yet, no official pronouncement been made, but on inquiry, it would appear that a change on a large scale is about to be made. There is every reason to believe that at least the permanent staff for recruiting and training for the line will be removed, but the barracks will not be left empty. It is a well-known intention on the part of the officials of the War Department to increase the brigades and batteries of home and foot artillery. The new hutments close to Kildare town is sufficient evidence of this. It is being considered at present whether Naas would not be a suitable station for full Divisional Brigade of Artillery to take the place of the Fusiliers. Of course, all this is merely rumor, but when it is wide spread in official circles, there must be some foundation for it. If the statement be correct that such a course will be adopted, Naas will benefit much more by the change than it does at present from being the headquarters of the 102 District.