

ROINN  COSANTA.

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY, 1913-21.

STATEMENT BY WITNESS.

DOCUMENT NO. W.S. 876.....

Witness

Dr. Richard Hayes,
Woodlands,
Rochestown Ave.,
Kill-o-the-Grange,
Blackrock,
Co. Dublin.
Identity.

Commandant 5th (Fingal) Batt'n. Dublin Brigade,
1915-1916;

Member of Dail Eireann for East Limerick,
1918-1924.

Subject.

Courtsmartial following the Rising
of Easter Week 1916.

Conditions, if any, Stipulated by Witness.

Nil

File No. S.390.....

Form B.S.M. 2

Re Contemporary Document C.D.125.

STATEMENT BY RICHARD HAYES, ESQ.,

L.R.C.S.I., L.R.C.P.I., D.LITT., 'Woodlands',

Rochestown Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-2
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I heard of this document "List of men undergoing sentences of penal servitude" some years ago and understood that it was given to the late Mr. Michael Corrigan, (subsequently Chief State Solicitor) by an official of the Four Courts Library immediately after the Rising.

It seems to me to be a genuine synopsis of the courtmartial proceedings in the case of the various prisoners whose names are mentioned.

Regarding the pleas of many of the prisoners that they did not take part in the rebellion intentionally, that they were unaware of such &c., I remember that on May 2nd the late Thomas Ashe, the late Frank Lawless and myself were lodged in a room of the Richmond Barracks as leaders from North Co. Dublin. There were in the room 20 or 30 prisoners, all of whom were prominent Volunteers from the city. An hour after our arrival in the room Thomas MacDonagh was brought into it under guard, but was taken away immediately. Earlier he had been, with Padraic Pearse (we were informed), taken from the room for their courtmartial. We were further informed that it was the wish of the leaders that all courtmartialled prisoners were to say at their trials that in going out on Easter Monday they were merely obeying as Volunteers the orders of their leaders to mobilise in the ordinary way for manoeuvres.

Signed:

Richard Hayes
(Richard Hayes)

Date:

3rd July, 1953.

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