Castle File No.116

1c

181

S.8.

S T A I N E S, Michael.

Extract from "THE FENIAN" No: 45 dated September 2nd. 1922, refferring to the resignation of Ald. STAINES from the Commissionership of the Civic Guard.

COLE AND COLLEY MURDERS.
TERRIFIC ROW IN SLAVE STATE GOVERNMENT OVER OUR REVELATIONS.
HEAD OF CIVIC GUARD EXPECTED TO RESIGEN.

The revelations we made that it was an assasination Society under the auspices of Oriel House that murdered Cole and Colley and that this was but the prelude to further assasinations has had its effect. The first consequence was a series of frantic raids on shops and ~~their~~ other places by the Oriel House crowd and the Slave State Troops with a view to putting an end to the Fenian. But we are still alive and kicking, notwithstanding the fact that, in their chagrin at failing to administer the coup-degrace to this paper, the raiders took away all manner of general stock from some of the poor shopkeepers including a large nunmbers of ballads, postcards, etc. relating to the men of 1916.

The next consequence was a terrific row between Dick Mulcahy and ~~Alexx~~ Alderman Staines T.D. the Chief of the Civic Guard. It wi ll be remembered that the latter made a rather inconsequential statement at the inquest, but he had to admit the shooting of the two boys was reprehensible and he condemned the "Provisional Government" for their callousness in not, at least, being represented at the inquest. This, coupled with our exposure of the whole conspiracy, led to an uproar, not only in Oriel House and other Government Spy Circles but in the army barracks as well. The decenter element among the Slave State Soldiers had their eyes opened and emphatically proclaimed that they would have nothing to do with a policy of assasination of boys or anybody else.

The others were loud in their denunciations of Staines for his action. As they all phrase it "Mick let us down badly".

Dick Mulcahy got into a towering rage about the whole business and told Staines that he had no business to go near the inquest. Staines gave back as good as he got and expressed his opinion of Mulcahy in no measured terms. The row is still going on but on thing seems clear. Staines will resign or will be made to. In fact from one quarter we have a report of his resignation but are unable, at the moment, to confirm this. The "Government" are in a fix all round. In view of the jury's verdict of wilful murder they are bound to make some effort to produce the murderers and to disclaim official connection with them. If they do - well, the men could say too much. If they don't they stand self-condemned. Moreover they know that it will not be allowed to rest there. With the promise that the Dail is to meet in a week they are at their wits ends to prepare for any awkward questions that may be asked. Mutual recriminations are going on; and at present it can be hardly described as a Happy Family Party. If they do not get Staines' resignation they are faced with considerable dissatisfaction amongst their "gunmen". If they do what kind of a satisfactory ~~expl~~ explanation can they give the Irish Public. Well, we are satisfied that they should stew in their own juice. Meanwhile we are glad to think that the courage of an honest jury and our exposure of the plot may yet save Ireland from the horrors of a series of assasinations which might provoke terrible and bloody reprisals. And so long as our health and liberty are left us we will not hesitate, le conghnamh De, to expose any and every such villainy we get information of.

"Irish Times"
30-8-22.

30-8-22

YELLOW LANE SHOOTINGS.

VERDICT OF WILFUL MURDER.

COUNSEL AND CITY RUMOURS.

The Dublin City Coroner held an inquiry yesterday into the circumstances of the deaths of John Cole (19), 22 Lower Buckingham street, electrician, and Alfred Colley (21), 115 Parnell street, tinsmith, who were shot in the Yellow lane, between Whitehall and Santry, on Saturday. The jury's verdict amounted to one of wilful murder.

Mr. Comyn, K.C., with Mr. Black (instructed by Mr. Ruttledge), appeared for the next-of-kin and for "G.H.Q., Fianna Eireann."

The house surgeon of the Mater Hospital said that there were four bullet wounds in each body. Death was due to shock and hemorrhage following laceration of the brain.

Mr. Comyn said that Sean Cole was a Commandant in the 2nd Batt. Dublin Brigade, Fianna Eireann. Alfred Colley was a Vice-Commandant in the Dublin Brigade. The circumstances of the case, he said, would show that it was murder most foul; that it was assassination most cruel; and it was his duty to lay before them all the circumstances.

It was their duty to investigate the case, and say whether it was manslaughter, murder or assassination.

In the times through which they were passing the only bulwark of liberty left was the Coroner and his jury. If they had the courage of their convictions, they would bring in a verdict that would prevent a recurrence of these abominable crimes.

Cole finished his apprenticeship in Messrs. Dockrell's on Thursday. On that Saturday he reached home at 1 o'clock, had dinner and remained at home until 3 o'clock. Then Colley called for him, and both went to a parade at Charlemont House, Marino plots, at 3.15.

After the parade the members of the Fianna were dismissed and the Adjutant of the Brigade was with the murdered men until about 5 o'clock. He parted from them at 5.30 in the North Strand.

They were next seen at Newcomen Bridge by a boy named Vincent Raftery. They were apparently the willing occupants of a big motor car with five or six other men. Counsel's suggestion was that they were decoyed into the car. He did not know how they were induced to sit quietly there, but he had evidence to show that one of the men was dressed in a green uniform. If that was the uniform of an Irish soldier, the wearer had disgraced it by the most infamous crime that had ever been committed in the annals of the city.

The motor car must have passed along by Whitehall to the Santry road and down the Yellow lane, where the two boys were placed against the piers of a field gate and foully murdered.

Their career was of the cleanest. They had nothing to do with murder, but were efficient members of the Fianna. He hoped this unIrish deed was not committed by Irish hands.

ALDERMAN STAINES.

Alderman M. Staines asked permission to make a statement, and as Counsel did not object, this was given. He said he was hurt very much by propaganda suggesting that these young men had been murdered by Irish Government forces. Cole was a bright boy, whom witness liked, although he knew that he was an irregular.

About a fortnight ago the witness's brother Vincent, said that Cole was about to leave the irregulars.

Mr. Comyn objected to this being taken as evidence, but Mr. Staines persisted, and asserted his right as an Alderman.

The Coroner pointed out that, having agreed to hear the statement, the legal gentleman should listen to it.

Mr. Comyn said that he objected to illegal evidence, and was surprised at Mr. Staines, bearing his protest, trying to make propaganda out of it.

Mr. Staines—You are absolutely wrong when you say I am trying to make propaganda about it.

Mr. Comyn—I am not. You are here as an ordinary sworn witness.

Mr. Staines—I am here as an Alderman of the City of Dublin.

Mr. Comyn—You are an ordinary sworn witness. I appeal to the Coroner not to allow these people to ride rough-shod over us. I shall have to cross-examine the witness.

The Coroner—You will have your opportunity.

Mr. Comyn made an interjection, and Mr. Staines heatedly replied that he would not be dictated to "by you or anybody else." "I know who you are now," added the witness, "and the reason for it."

Mr. Comyn was rising to reply.

The Coroner—Please sit down.

Mr. Staines—I was saying that I did not care whether these men were——

Mr. Comyn—Hearsay evidence must be rejected.

Mr. Staines—Anything I say will not be rejected.

The Coroner—Mr. Comyn has made his objection already. You allowed the witness to come forward.

Mr. Black—The witness was permitted to give evidence, and not to make a statement.

Mr. Staines—I will make my statement, no matter what legal objections there may be.

Mr. Black said that the Coroner should only allow a statement of facts.

The Coroner—Where are you going to draw the line?

Mr. Black—At hearsay evidence.

EXCHANGES WITH COUNSEL.

Mr. Staines went on to say that he did not care whether the murder was committed by the Irish Army, by men from Oriel House, or by the irregulars. He wanted to have the blame placed on the proper shoulders, and, if necessary, to have the inquest adjourned in order that proper evidence might be produced. It was a well-known fact that there was an order out to have all irregular deserters shot.

In reply to counsel, the witness said that he did not speak to anyone in the Government about going there. The witness was there because Cole was a comrade of his brother.

He had met Alderman Cosgrave by accident that morning, and, in reply to a question, Mr. Cosgrave said that he knew nothing about the shootings.

The witness said that he was Commissioner of the Civic Guard, and had no connection with Oriel House.

In the course of further cross-examination,

Mr. Comyn asked—What was it in the propaganda that annoyed you so much? It was not the propaganda or your propaganda that annoys me; it is the death of these three boys that annoys me. You would have been prosecuting me in 1916 if you had got the Solicitor-Generalship.

Mr. Comyn—I never earned a shilling of British gold since I came to the Bar, and that is over twenty years ago, and I never will touch a shilling of British gold. That is my record, and it stands as high as yours.

Alderman Staines—Does it? I was in jail in 1916 when you were applying for the Solicitor-Generalship.

The Coroner—This leads us nowhere.

Mr. Black—It only leads to the gutter, as far as I can see.

The Coroner—There is no necessity for this heat. This is the result of an altercation between you. There should be an end of this.

Alderman Staines (to Mr. Comyn)—It is the three men being sent to Glasnevin that annoyed me, and not the propaganda by people of your sort.

Mr. Comyn—Don't you know that no observation from you would annoy me? Did you mention what annoyed you to the head of your Government? It was not my business.

Mr. Comyn—Are you surprised that the Government is not represented here?

Alderman Staines—I am. If they are not represented here I am surprised.

Mr. Vincent Staines, 63 Murtagh road, said that he and Cole worked together in the evenings until 10 or 11 o'clock.

FIANNA'S LETTER.

Mr. James Cole, father of the deceased man, identified the following document as a copy of a letter from Mr. Mellowes, Adjutant-General, G.H.Q., Fianna Eireann:—

"The G.H.Q., Fianna Eireann, offer their deep sympathy on the loss that you have sustained by the murder of your son Sean. He had been for a long time a steady worker in the Fianna, and had been promoted from time to time, his last post being that of Commandant, 2nd Battalion, Dublin Brigade.

"The Staff have investigated, as far as is possible, the circumstances of the deaths, and find that Sean and his comrade, Alf. Colley, attended on the 28th inst. at an ordinary parade of the Northern City section of the Dublin Fianna, fixed for 3 p.m., the place being Charlemont House, Marino Plot ground.

"At the conclusion of the meeting Sean and Alf Colley were picked up by armed men in the vicinity of Newcomen Bridge, taken near 'The Thatch,' and there, without any preliminary, foully and callously murdered.

"In view of the cruel insinuations which had been passed by slanderers' mouths throughout the city that the two boys died by the hands of their comrades, we take this opportunity of characterising the statement as a base and cowardly lie, which has evidently been spread to cover the tracks of the real murderers. The fight for the Republic is not waged on the basis

It is announced that a Solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the souls of the dead leaders will be celebrated in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, on Friday.

FUNERAL ATTENDANCES.

PUBLIC BODIES' TRIBUTES.

The following were also present at the funeral on Monday:—

Meath County Council—P. J. Lynch, Martin O'Dwyer, Sean O'Farrell, J. Kelly, S. Brennan, T. Crahan, P. Hopkins, T. Clinton, P. Keane, E. Collins, J. Quigley, C. Burke, B. A. Grogan, P. Weldon, J. Duffy, J. Geraghty.

Navan I.N.F.—C. Mahon, C.R.; Peter Fox, S. Walsh.

Navan Urban Council—Seoghan Mac Na Midhe, Peter Fox, M. O'Donnell, S. Walsh, S. Grogan, Joseph P. Maguire, E. Gilsenan.

Institution of Professional Civil Engineers—W. J. Adams.

Registry of Deeds—H. J. McCarron, J. B. Hughes.

Commissioners of Charitable Donations—R. A. Boyd.

Dublin Typographical Provident Society—Messrs. William Paxton, Edward Monks, William J. Whelan, Sean P. Campbell, A. McGough, R. Kerr, W. Scott.

The general attendance also included:—The Rev. J. Baldwin, Blackrock College; Professor Thrift, F.T.C.D.; the Rev. E. McGiven, Lurgan; Hugh Colohan, William Davin, Liam de Roiste, Joseph Johnston, F.,T.C.D.

MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY.

Public bodies throughout the country have sent messages of sympathy to the Provisional Government, including the following:—

Ennis Urban District Council, Navan Urban District Council, Ballina Urban District Council, King's County Council, Maryborough Town Commissioners, Dungarvan Urban Council, Roscrea No. 2 Council, Irish Commercial Travellers' Association, County Limerick Farmers' Association (Liberty Branch), Dublin Industrial Development Association, Bray, Kingstown and District Labour Council, Irish National Foresters' Benefit Society, Armagh; the Insurance Committee for the Borough of Dublin, Port and Docks Board, the Legion of Irish Ex-Service Men, Dublin; Urban District Council of Midleton, Drogheda Centre Teachers' Irish Classes, Cork Harbour Commissioners, Government Workers' Section Irish Transport Union, United Irish League Club, Earlestown; Joint Committee of the Meath Hospital and Co. Dublin Infirmary, Home Rule Club, Kilkenny; Dublin Railwaymen, Irish National Painters and Decorators.

Messages have been received also from:—

Irish National Foresters, Seaforth; Irish Shamrock Club, Bristol; Irish Club and Institute, Cardiff; Irish National Foresters, Manchester; Irish of Dormanstown, Redcar.

James Betson, Danish Vice-Consul in Dublin; the Greek Minister in London.

Major A. G. Montray, T. B. Rudmose Brown, Joseph Johnston, the Earl of Mayo.

DR. SOPHIE BRYANT.

BODY FOUND ON MOUNTAINSIDE.

The body of Dr. Sophie Bryant, who disappeared on August 14, was discovered on Monday on some rocks a few yards from the mule track running from Montenvers to Chamonix. Dr. Bryant had apparently attempted to take a short cut, but lost her way and collapsed after traversing a difficult gully, and died of exhaustion. The body has been taken to Chamonix.

SHOTS IN THE DARK.

MAN KILLED IN CINEMA.

A shooting outrage occurred in a crowded picture palace in Belfast last night. Peter Mullan, an attendant, aged 65, of Joy street, was killed.

The auditorium of the Crumlin Picture House was pretty well filled at the time. A picture was being shown, when two shots were fired. Women and children screamed, and something approaching a panic followed. When order was restored Mullan was found to have been shot through the head. He was dead. The assailant, or assailants, escaped in the confusion.

BUILDING TRADE DISPUTE.

A further conference was held at 11 o'clock yesterday between the officers of the Dublin Building Trades Employers' Association and the Dublin Workers' Council on the subject of wage reductions. The proceedings occupied nearly two hours and ended without any decision being reached. The "cut" was to have come into force last Monday, but as a tribute of respect to the memory of General Collins, its operations was postponed for a week.

MAILS STOLEN AT DALKEY.

A postman was robbed of two mail bags at Dalkey Railway Station yesterday afternoon

Extract from "Republican War News No: 23" dated 25-7-22.

"RISKING HIS LIFE"

On July 20th. Ald. Staines, T.D. publicly stated that a few months after the Treaty was signed he risked his own life to save that of Cathal Brugha. "How many of those who were talking so glibly of Cathal Brugha would have risked their lives to save his"? Mr Staines asked. We are informed by Mrs. Brugha that Ald. Staines performed his heroic deed five months ago, when, hearing an indefinite rumour that her husband was to be shot by R.I.C. he thoughtfully called at their house and told them. On this act performed nine months after the Truce at no danger to himself Mr. Staines bases his sneer at those who cherish the memory of a man who was brave and did NOT speak it.

'FREEMANS.' 19-10-'21.

INSPECTION PACT

Commandant Staines Awaits British Representative

Commandant Staines, T.D., expects shortly to start on a tour of inspection of the prisons and internment camps, in company of a British representative, whose appointment he is awaiting.

'IRISH TIMES.' 24-10-'21.

CAMPS AND PRISONS.

INSPECTION TO BEGIN AT ONCE.

Mr. E. J. Duggan, Chief Liaison Officer of the Irish Republicans, on Saturday, announced that as the result of conferences between representatives of the British Army, the Irish Office, and the Republican forces, it has been arranged to begin the inspection of Irish prisons and internment camps immediately. Colonel Andrus has been nominated to represent the military authorities; Mr. Chippendale to represent the Irish Prisons Board; and Mr. Staines to represent the Irish delegation.

'FREEMANS.' 27-10-'21.

Alderman Staines, T.D., member of the Commission appointed to investigate conditions in Irish internment camps and prisons, yesterday visited Bere Island internment camp. No announcement has yet been made regarding the visits to the various camps.

'IRISH TIMES.' 29-10-'21.

INSPECTING CAMPS.

Our Bantry Correspondent states that Alderman Michael Staines, M.P., chief Republican *liaison* officer, and a British military officer of high rank have visited and inspected the internment camp on Bere Island. Alderman Staines had already inspected the Spike internment camps.

'IRISH TIMES.' 7-1-'22.

THE PRISONERS.

REASONS FOR HURRYING UP.

Mr. Michael Staines (Dublin) said that he was in favour of the Treaty, because, while all this talk and repetition was going on, there were two thousand Irishmen in English gaols, and 41 Republicans in Irish gaols, under sentence of death. For their sakes they should hurry up and finish this debate. He was declaring for the Treaty in accordance with the dictates of his own conscience, and in accordance with the wishes of the majority of his constituents, and the majority of the people of Ireland. His conscience, his constituency, his country—these were the three rocks he stood on, and there were no slippery slopes and no betrayal. (Applause.)

According to the Orders of the Day, the President was going to move a motion with reference to a document. That document did not specify a Republic. That document was not signed; the Treaty was signed. That day the President made a statement, in which he said that he was going to stand by the Republic. He was glad that Mr. de Valera was a Republican again.

Mr. de Valera—Might you show where that document is inconsistent with a Republic?

Mr. Staines—First of all, you leave the British Navy in possession of certain ports.

Mr. de Valera—For five years.

Mr. Staines—Even five years. He voted for the Treaty because it stood for Irish freedom against English oppression, for Irish self-determination against English domination, and for Irish sovereignty against English slavery.

Mr. E. Aylward (Kilkenny) spoke against the approval of the Treaty, stating that the Republican idea was not dead. He was elected a Republican, he would remain a Republican, and would vote against the Treaty.

Alderman Corish (Wexford) supported the Treaty, under which, he held, Ireland's national *status* had been achieved.

The House then adjourned until 11 o'clock to-day.

It is expected that a division will be taken on the motion for ratification to-day.

DAIL EIREANN.

"INDEPENDENT." 28-4-'22.

Ald. Staines said that when the Opposition were in power they did away with the Volunteer Executive. The Dail Cabinet at that time was the Government, but now they were told that the Dail was the Government. There were some people who would rather rule in hell than serve in heaven.

The night before the publication of Mr. de Valera's letter advising the people not to have the Treaty, he (Mr. Staines) went to Mr. de Valera and in presence of Cathal Brugha and Austin Stack advised him not to send that letter to the Press, that it was the Dail should decide whether the Treaty be accepted or not.

LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE.

It was the Dail and not the Cabinet that sent the plenipotentiaries to London, and if they were to report to anyone it should be to the Dail and not to the Cabinet. In the Treaty debates the whole trouble was that the plenipotentiaries did not come back to the Dail Cabinet. "While we are squabbling here for power," he concluded, "the people are being slaughtered in the country. Let the people decide, and decide quickly."

"IRISH INDEPENDENT" 16. 6. 22.

A TISSUE OF FALSEHOODS

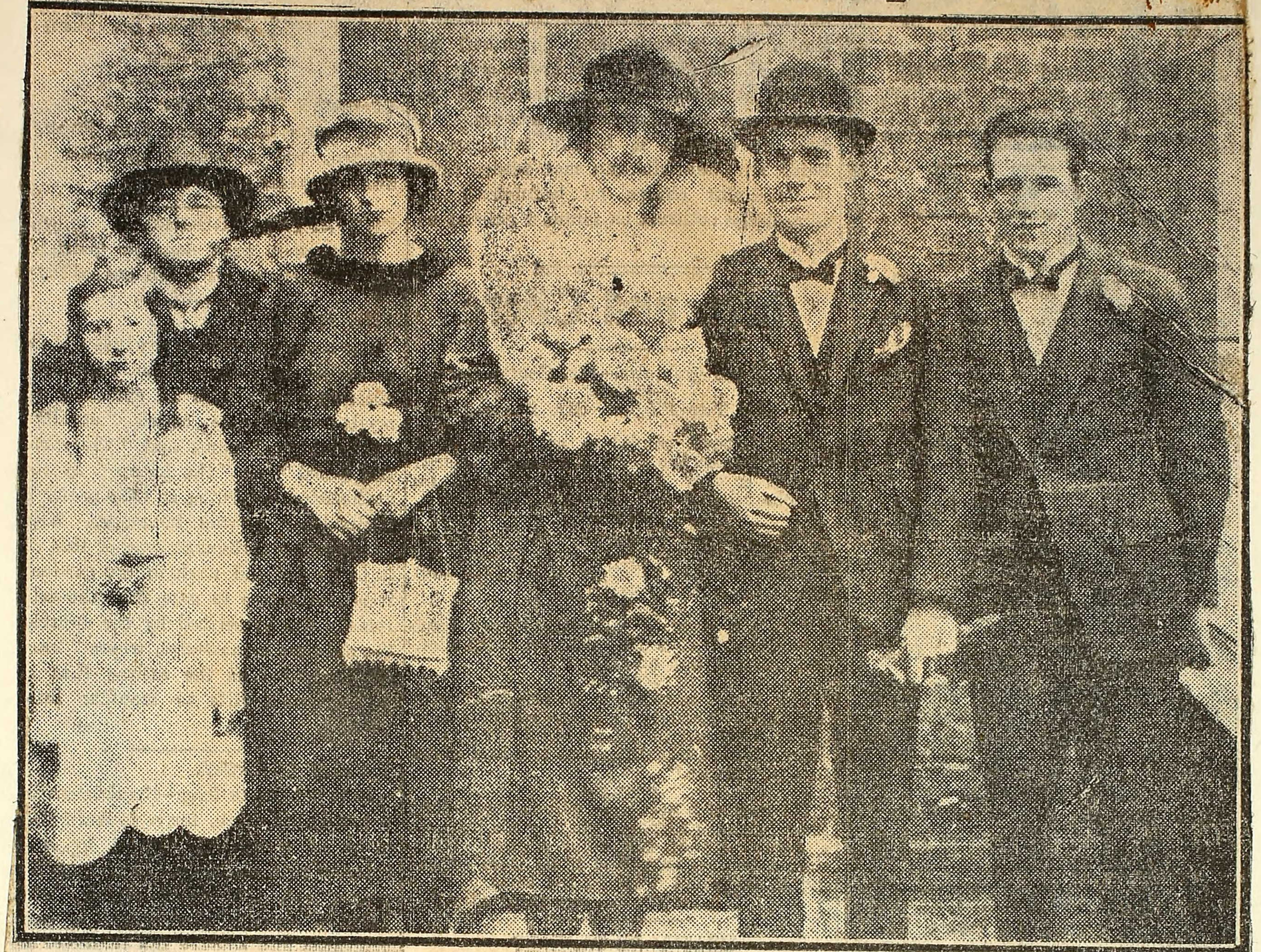
LD. STAINES REPUDIATES POSTER

Ald. M. Staines, T.D., writes that his attention has been called to notices bearing neither signature nor printer's name, and refering to his candidature which were extensively posted throughout the city on Wednesday night. They refer to alleged incidents in the Civic Guard, and says Ald. Staines "they are a tissue of falsehoods throughout."

Mr. J. T. O'Farrell (Labour), the opponent of the Panel candidates in this division (Dublin N.W.), emphatically repudiates these posters, and declares that neither he nor his supporters know anything of the authorship or substance of them. At a largely-attended meeting of representative members of the Railway Works' Association a resolution was passed strongly resenting a charge recently made against Mr. O'Farrell by a speaker on a coalition platform, and calling for an immediate public apology and testifying to his good work and unblemished record.

"Evening Herald"
8-11-22.

An Alderman's Wedding



The wedding took place at St. Andrew's, Westland Row, this morning, of ald. Michael Staines, T.D., to Miss J. Cullen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Cullen, Rathmore House, Ashford, Co. Wicklow. The photo shows the bridal party, Left to right—Miss T. O'Beirne, Miss L. Cullen (bridesmaids), the Bride and Bridegroom, and Mr. Vincent Staines.

"Herald" Photo.

Castle File No 116.

STAINES.
~~STAINS~~. Michael. J. 63, Murtagh Road, Dublin.

AN ALDERMAN.
Occupation Ironmongers Assistant.

Age about 34. (1921)

Elected S.F. M.P. for N.W. Division of Dublin, May 1921.

Director of Organisation. 1921.

On G.H.Q. Staff, I.R.A.
Member of the Supreme Council, I.R.B.
Resident Member of the I.R.A. Executive (1921).
Voted for Treaty on Sat 7-1-22

Prior to 1921 Election was Director of Organisation, also a Member of Committees on "Foreign Affairs", "Finance", "Trade", "Commerce", "Agriculture", "Forestry" and "Loan Bank".

Son of a dismissed Member of the R.I.C.

Born in Co. Sligo.

Employed as an Ironmonger's Assistant.

Joined the I.Vs at their formation.

At the time of the split in the ranks he sided with the extreme section and was shortly afterwards (1914) appointed a Captain and Secretary of the 1st Battalion, Dublin Regiment of the Irish Volunteers.

Took part in the Rebellion of 1916, fighting in the Four Courts. Was in the general surrender of the rebels and deported to Frongoch from where he was released 23-12-~~20~~.16.

Early in 1917 resumed his activities in organising the I.Vs and was appointed Collector on behalf of the Irish National Aid and Prisoners Dependents' Funds.
Visited various counties in the west of Ireland collecting funds.

In February 1918 was appointed one of the Secretaries of the Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents' Fund, 6, Harcourt Street, and travelled through various parts of the Country collecting funds for that Organisation, and in the same month was co-opted a Member of the Executive of Sinn Fein.

Elected S.F. M.P. for St. Michan's, Dublin at the General Election of December 1918.

In March 1919 went to Sligo where he addressed an Emmett Anniversary Meeting, and on 17th of same month he addressed a Sinn Fein Meeting at Longford.

In April 1919 was elected a Member of the Executive of Sinn Fein and was a regular attendant at all Meetings of this body at 6, Harcourt Street.

Attended Meetings of Dail Eireann held at the Mansion House on 1st, 2nd and 4th April 1919, and on 8th and 9th of same month attended meetings of the Ard Fheis held in the Mansion House.
On 10th and 11th of the same month he attended meetings of Dail Eireann held in the same place.

contd.

STAINES. Michael J. contd.

Appointed one of the Committee of Management of the New Ireland Assurance Company, 65, Lower Sackville Street, towards the end of April 1919. This Society is being run by Sinn Feiners.

On 20th August 1919 attended a Meeting of Dail Eireann held in the Mansion House.

During the end of this year he travelled a good deal through the Country in connection with his Assurance business; and also on business connected with the Sinn Fein Organisation.

Is said to be a V/Commandant of the 1st Batt., Dublin Bde, I.R.A. and to take an active part in the inner working of that Organisation.

Made seditious speech in Sackville St. on 2-2-19 reference the occupation of St Enda's College, Rathfarnham, by Military.

His residence and other places where he was suspected to be staying were searched by Military during February and March 1920 with a view to his arrest and deportation, but he was never found.

Made a fierce speech on 26-8-20 in Phibsboro' Sinn Fein Hall, advocating the murder of every Government Official in Dublin Castle. ("O" 26-8-20). Precis of speech attached.

Arrested on 6th December 1920 and sent to Mountjoy.
Released 30-6-21 as a T.D.

Liaison Officer for Galway, 1921. Relieved by Finian Lynch owing to ill health. (IX/0166).
Told the D.C. that he intended to resign his post unless he got more support in preventing I.R.A. breaches of the Truce.
His Deputy in Joe Ring. (IX/0248).

Appointed I.R. Member of Commission to visit and report on Internment Camps and Military Prisons. (IX/0279).

Attended Meeting between Council of I.R.A. and I.R.B. and M. COLLINS when latter came over from London for week end. (IX/0262 26-10-21).

Runs Joint Account with Michael Collins at the Munster and Leinster Bank.

Wanted by Police since May 1918.

Commissioner of Civic Guard. at present at Kildare Training depôt. (Ex. "Freeman's Journal" 25.5.22)

On or about the 16th. May 1922 members of the Civic Guard in Kildare refused to serve under their officers & instructors, Cmdt. Staines, senior officer, paraded the men & asked those who stood by him to step forward, about 25 men complied. (Ref. File IX/1192).

Nominated Treaty Candidate for North-West Dublin City. (Ext. "Irish Times" 2-6-22).

Elected member of 3rd Dail.

One of the Hon. Secretaries of the Irish Republican Prisoners' Dependents' Fund and visited deportees in Galway & West of Ireland. Is a frequent visitor to S.F. Hqrs. 6, Harcourt St. (See File No: 94971).

Sent message of sympathy to Mrs. Arthur Griffith on the death of her husband the President of the Provisional Govt. (Ext. "Freeman's Journal" 15-8-22).

Present at the funeral of Mr. Arthur Griffith on 16-8-22. (Ext. "Freeman's Journal" 16-8-22).

At an inquest on two members of the "Fianna" Staines appeared to give evidence to shew that the murders were not committed by F.S. Troops but by Republicans. Some hot exchanges followed between Staines & Counsel for the "Fianna" Organization. (Ext. "Irish Timess 30-8-22, - see press cutting.

Reported to have resigned the Chief Commissionership of the Civic Guards. (Ext. "Irish Independent" 9-8-22).

See extract from "The Fenian" referring to his resignation from the Commissionership of the Civic Guard. (Ext. "The Fenian" No: 45 dated 2-9-22).

Married on 8-11-22 to Miss J. Cullen of Rathmore House, Ashford, Co: Wicklow. (Ext. "Irish Independent" 9-11-22 -see press cutting).

Inf: 63

SECRET

G.H.Q.
Sir J.Anderson.
D.D.
R.I.C.Special
D.M.P.

An Informant states:

"Alderman Staines made a fierce speech tonight in the Phibsboro S.F.Hall, he said that if the Government murdered MacSwiney it was up to them to murder every single one of them in Dublin Castle and he wanted to make it quite clear to the vols that from the information to hand there was great fear that such was their intention. "They shall never forget it if they do", he went on to say, "we shall make things as hot as hell for them, and let me say also that we shall do the same with the spies they have here clustered round us". "And I want to give you all warning that we shall have spies and that our plans have got to Government quarters; we have had to change a court that was to be held in city on two occasions because we found some of the castle spies in the near approach to where this meeting was to take place, and that cannot be accidental". "I can tell you", he went on, "that I was reared in Government circles and I know the ropes, my father was a Sergeant in Police and was fired after 24 years service because he refused to commit perjury, and I have good knowledge of their tactics and moves". (His telling this to young fry did him no good and came as a bomb.) He said that a very important message had just come tohand from America, one that would have a great effect on the future of this country and would have to be very carefully handled by them. He referred to a Lt.Treston of the U.S.Army, who has said he can equip 500,000 boys to let loose on the huns that are now living on the fat of our land. Not much attention was paid to him, and his audience were disappointed that Maurice Collins did not appear, but he was engaged with the Executive on a message that came from John Devoy with reference to funds to continue the struggle. Great offence was taken by Griffith and Cosgrove at what Devoy said about "Dev"; the Countess and Walsh and Shanahan were in agreement with Devoy. The Countess was not pleased with things, and said that there was too much bickering going on, and such she feared would be fatal to cause. She remarked that Devoy was right, that the money spent on talk in America would have been more beneficial in getting material to continue the struggle. It was a wonder that Devoy did not shoot those responsible for such conduct towards Ireland. She remarked that what Denis Spellesey had said in 1917 was right namely to get all the stuff you can ready and give over talking, he was turned down but Devoy said he was right. She fears that the extreme party in America have lost all faith in "dev" and that he is doing harm to the financial question.

The vols have got instructions from H.Q. to try and establish friendly relations with military.

It was pointed out that both A.Griffith and Wm O'Brien expected good results from the Labour manifesto issued by them to British Labour in the name of the Irish Labour party, and that a friendly spirit just now was most necessary. There is great difference between Collins, Walsh and others who say that O'Brien and Labour Party fear their own safety and to show the white feather to military would be dangerous. It has not yet had effect for on Saturday night soldiers were taken from trams and beaten not 40 yards from Royal Barracks, and a fellow with a steel arm who lives in neighbourhood used it with severe force, this fellow's name is believed to be Malone, however there is only the one man of that description and the police know him.

26.8.20.

S. 468/2.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Detective Department,

Dublin, 3rd. February, 1919.

Military Occupation of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham, Protest Meeting in Sackville Street.

I beg to state that a Sinn Fein meeting to protest against the occupation of St. Enda's College was held yesterday afternoon in Upper Sackville Street. About 2,000 persons were present. Those who addressed the meeting were, J.K. REDDIN, who presided, FRANK GALLAGHER, COUNTESS PLUNKETT, K.S. REDDIN, J. RYAN, M. STAINES, M.P. A. Mc LOUGHLIN, JOHN O'HURLEY and E.O'KELLY.

The speech of the latter was particularly violent, and as a result some of the detectives present were, at the conclusion of the proceedings, roughly handled by the mob. The Detectives took refuge in the Gresham Hotel, but the crowd remained outside until appealed to by one of their number to respect private property.

This meeting was not arranged, it is said, until late on Saturday night, and its announcement was only made public by the distribution of hand-bills outside the churches on Sunday morning.

I attach reports from Sergeant Revell and Detective officer Walsh giving an out- speeches.

Signed:-

OWEN BRIEN.

THE CHIEF COMMR. Superintenden

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Detective Department,

Dublin, 2nd. February, 1919.

Meeting in Sackville Street to Protest against Military Occupation of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham.

I beg to report that with Detective Officer Walsh, I attended a meeting which was held at the Parnell Monument, Upper Sackville Street, on this date from 3-45 to 5 p.m. About 2,000 persons attended, and speeches were delivered from a brake by the following:-

J.K.REDDIN. (Chairman.)

FRANK GALLAGHER

COUNTESS PLUNKETT.

- REDDIN (Solicitor.)

J.RYAN.

MICHAEL STAINES,M.P.

A. Mc. LOUGHLIN.

JOHN O'HURLEY

E.O'KELLY. (Capt. I.V.)

The object of the meeting was to protest against the Military Occupation of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham.

(Sgd) PATRICK WALSH. Detective Officer.

MICHAEL STAINES, M.P., in addressing those present said "When I was coming to this meeting today I had no idea that I would be called on to speak. I am proud to join with other speakers today in protesting against the British military occupation of St. Enda's. St. Enda's is a holy spot consecrated by ~~by~~ Patrick Pearse and Liam Pearse. To us it is little short of desecration. The occupation is unjust and unjustifiable and an invasion of private property. Mrs Pearse had just moved the necessary educational necesaaries to St. Enda's when the military authoritie came and broke into her house and by this unjust act of their all her plans have been upset and she now finds herself in a position against which we protest today.. The act is a blow against her as the mother of two sons whose names will be honoured when military despots are no more. This is not a time for making long speeches but it is a time to burn into the heart of the people that we come here today to protest: we come here to protest against the desecration of Pearse's School: We come here in the second place to protest against the invasion against private citizens; we come here in the third place to protest against a fresh blow to an already wounded and bleeding heart of one of the noblest mothers of our race: We protest in the names of Patrick and Liam Pearse and the citizens of Dublin; we protest in the name of the people of Ireland, and I pray God to right this wrong in His own mysterious way and give all aid to those who are suffering persecution. You can help by subscribing to the Fund just started to help to buy ~~up~~ out St. Enda's - £10,000 is necessary. Already America has done very well and it now only remains for Ireland to do its duty. When the present occupants are put out with your help and with the help of America we can buy out St. Enda's.

S. 468/2.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Detective Department,

Dublin, 3rd. February, 1919.

Military Occupation of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham, Protest Meeting in Sackville Street.

I beg to state that a Sinn Fein meeting to protest against the occupation of St. Enda's College was held yesterday afternoon in Upper Sackville Street. About 2,000 persons were present. Those who addressed the meeting were, J.K. REDDIN, who presided, FRANK GALLAGHER, COUNTESS PLUNKETT, K.S. REDDIN, J. RYAN, M. STAINES, M.P. A. Mc LOUGHLIN, JOHN O'HURLEY and E.O'KELLY.

The speech of the latter was particularly violent, and as a result some of the detectives present were, at the conclusion of the proceedings, roughly handled by the mob. The Detectives took refuge in the Gresham Hotel, but the crowd remained outside until appealed to by one of their number to respect private property.

This meeting was not arranged, it is said, until late on Saturday night, and its announcement was only made public by the distribution of hand-bills outside the churches on Sunday morning.

I attach reports from Sergeant Revell and Detective officer Walsh giving an out- speeches.

Signed:-

OWEN BRIEN.

THE CHIEF COMMR.

Superintendent

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE.

Detective Department,

Dublin, 2nd. February, 1919.

Meeting in Sackville Street to Protest against Military Occupation of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham.

I beg to report that with Detective Officer Walsh, I attended a meeting which was held at the Parnell Monument, Upper Sackville Street, on this date from 3-45 to 5 p.m. About 2,000 persons attended, and speeches were delivered from a brake by the following:-

J.K.REDDIN. (Chairman.)

FRANK GALLAGHER

COUNTESS PLUNKETT.

- REDDIN (Solicitor.)

J.RYAN.

MICHAEL STAINES,M.P.

A. Mc. LOUGHLIN.

JOHN O'HURLEY

E.O'KELLY. (Capt. I.V.

The object of the meeting was to protest against the Military Occupation of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham.

(Sgd) PATRICK WALSH.

Detective Officer.

Detective Department.