

COUNTIES OF ANTRIM AND BELFAST.

Crown Solicitor's Office,

CHIEF SECRETARY'S

6509 - 21 APR 1914

OFFICE

30 Rosemary Street,

Belfast.

20th April 1914.

The Under Secretary,
The Castle,
DUBLIN.

Sir/

I beg to report that I have read the File herein handed me by the Police and have arranged to issue Summonses at the suit of Head Constable Moore against the several defendants for disturbing the Clergyman in the Church during Divine worship. I have also arranged with the Head Constable in charge to secure me an interview with the Dean and Messrs Campbell, Cummings and Trelford who were present on the occasion. On securing a note of their evidence I shall have the Summonses issued immediately. Meantime it occurs to me to suggest that I might be permitted to proceed against 4 only, omitting two, namely, Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Elfreda Baker, for the following reasons:- In the case of Dorothy Evans, she is one of the defendants in the prosecutions at present instituted for felony under the Explosive Substances Act and Misdemeanour under the Malicious Damage Act 1861 and as in the course of that prosecution I have today had fresh Warrants issued for the arrest of Dorothy Evans and Madge Muir this Summons for a

Disturbance by Mrs Baker and others in Belfast Cathedral on 5th inst.

Attorney General
Please advise

J. B. D.

21.4.14

I approve Mr
Moorehead's suggestion.
Summon only 4,
omitting Miss Evans
& Elfreda Baker.

21/4/14. JFM

To instruct Mr
Moorehead

REGISTERED.
22 APR 1914

J. B. D.
22. IV. 14.

Due
depos
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1914

Summary Jurisdiction offence might conflict with the prosecution for the more serious matter. As soon as the defendant Evans is arrested I will proceed de die in diem with the taking of the depositions until complete and as they will probably not offer bail this defendant will likely be in jail on remand when the summons for the disturbance in the church would mature.

The other defendant who, I would suggest, might be omitted is Miss Elfreda Baker. The reason I suggest for omitting her is that she is a young girl, little more than a child. I doubt if she is quite 16 years of age, and at the time of the disturbance she was present with her mother, Mrs Hannah M. Baker, who was a principal ringleader in it along with Dorothy Evans. It occurs to me that a child not more than 16 years of age being in the church with her mother when the latter took part in a criminal offence, the substantial guilt is that of the mother whose influence would clearly dominate the child. For these reasons, if permitted, I would be disposed to summon only the other 4 defendants omitting the two mentioned.

I shall be glad of a reply by return in order that I may have the Summonses issued without delay.

I am, Sir,

Your obedt. Servant,

John R Morkland
