

Leinster Leader

Saturday, February 24th, 1934

DRAGGED BY HORSE YOUNG OFFICER'S TRAGIC DEATH SAD EVENT AT THE CURRAGH

A gloom was cast over all ranks in the Curragh Military District, by the death of 2/Lieutenant Daniel Davis (Artillery Corps, Kildare), which took place, in tragic circumstances, at the Curragh on Saturday last. On the morning in question the deceased young officer was exercising a horse the Curragh (on the race-course side) when, apparently, the animal shied, reared up, and crashed on to its rider who was subsequently dragged along the ground by the struggling horse. Lieutenant Davis was found lying unconscious by a party of army boxers engaged in a training run, and shortly afterwards conveyed in a private motor car to the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp. He never regained consciousness and, despite the most skilled attention, passed away the same evening. At an inquest held at the Curragh on Monday, Dr. J. O'Neill, Coroner, sitting without a jury, entered a verdict of "Accidental Death," the medical evidence being that the direct cause of death was a fractured skull.

The deceased young officer was but 24 years of age and was native of Lackahane, Creagh, Co. Cork. He was gazetted only in November last, having come the Irish Military College, Curragh, from the Officers' Training Corps. He was a splendid type of young soldier, and highly popular with all ranks.

On Sunday evening the remains were conveyed St. Brigid's (Garrison) Church being followed by a cortege representative of every unit stationed in the Curragh District.

At 8 o'clock on Monday morning, Requiem Mass was celebrated at the Garrison Church by the Revd. J. Fitzsimons, C.F., and immediately afterwards the body was placed gun carriage and, with full military honours, conveyed to the Camp boundary, where the remains were transferred to a motor hearse for the long journey Rath Parish Church, Co. Cork, for ultimate interment in the family burial ground. The chief mourners were James Davis and Stephen Davis (brothers) and Annie Davis (sister).

The military funeral Monday morning was a most impressive sight, almost every officer in the district being present, whilst the line of troops in the procession (almost mile long) was representative of all units.

The parade was under the charge of Comdt. B. Dunne.



Amongst the senior officers present were Comdt. Maher (O.C. Artillery Corps, Kildare), Col. McGoran, Col. Dunne, Col. Costello (O.C. Irish Military College). Major Egan, Major Egan, Comdt. Hannon (3rd Bn.), Comdt. Comerford. Comdt. Kingston, Comdt. Wedick, Comdt. Gantly.

Note: 2/Lieutenant Daniel Davis was a member of the 5th Cadet Class 1931/33. He was Commissioned into the Artillery Corps, Magee Barracks, Kildare Town.



5th Cadet Class 1931/33 (Military Archives)



Irish Field Artillery 1930's