**Letitia Fairfield letter to Montgomery Hyde**

**22 May 1959**

**University of Texas at Austin**

60 Beaufort Mansions

SW3

May 22 [1959]

Dear Mr Hyde,

I have been so busy that I have had no time to thank you for the charming lunch at the House. I am sorry we had to concentrate on such a gruesome subject!

The New Statesman has been very good about allowing me space for a reply but it isn’t nearly long enough to meet all these ridiculous arguments. I have written to Mr [Robert] Kee, pointing out that the “significant passages” are much more closely interwoven with the text than I was able to show. The story of his relations with the native Aredomi (with whom he used to go bathing while on the voyage with the Commission) & also that of Ignacio the handsome steward he picked up just afterwards, seem to be beyond the powers of any forger, if all the references to them are put together. Also the style & the sentimentality are pure Casement; especially the Dec 4, 5, & 6 [1910] entries.

I enclose a note about the question of the expenses of the trial which is a real mystery! Doyle purported to have come over at his own expense. He is still alive & could presumably explain the story.

Yours sincerely

Letitia Fairfield

I hope you don’t think this has been a horrid obsession with me – but I have always felt that much of the trouble came because no-one really read the diaries & I was determined to try & get at the real man behind them.

**[On a separate page, and presumably the note referred to above:]**

I.S Gavan Duffy was obliged to repudiate other statements Doyle made about his conversations with Casement. He sounds to me a very suspicious person.