

APPENDIX III
AMENDED
CONSTITUTION OF THE IRISH REPUBLICAN
BROTHERHOOD¹

Whereas the Irish People have never ceased to struggle for the recovery of their independence since the date of its destruction and *whereas* it has on this 17th Day of March, the day of our Patron Saint, St. Patrick, 1873, been resolved by a convention of Irish Patriots, held in Dublin and representing associations of Irishmen existing in various parts of Ireland, England and Scotland to amend the Constitution of the present Irish Revolutionary Organisation for the purpose of overthrowing English power in Ireland, and of establishing an independent Irish Republic. Said organisation being known as The Irish Republican Brotherhood and governed by a Council entitled "The Supreme Council of the Irish Republican Brotherhood and Government of the Irish Republic." The following is declared to be and promulgated as the Amended Constitution of the Irish Republican Brotherhood and of the Supreme Council of the Irish Republican Brotherhood and Government of the Irish Republic.

CONSTITUTION OF
THE IRISH REPUBLICAN BROTHERHOOD

1. The I.R.B. is and shall be composed of Irishmen, irrespective of class or creed resident in Ireland, England, Scotland, America, Australia, and in all other lands where Irishmen live, who are willing to labour for the establishment of a free and independent Republican Government in Ireland.
2. The I.R.B. whilst labouring to prepare Ireland for the task of recovering her independence by force of arms shall confine itself in time of peace to the exercise of moral influences—the cultivation of union and brotherly love amongst Irishmen—the propagation of Republican Principles and the spreading of a knowledge of the national rights of Ireland.
3. The I.R.B. shall await the decision of the Irish Nation as expressed by a majority of the Irish people as to the fit hour of inaugurating a war against England and shall, pending such an emergency, lend its support to every movement calculated to advance the cause of Irish independence, consistently with the preservation of its own integrity.

¹ This is the Constitution adopted when the IRB was reorganised in 1873 and it remained unaltered till after the insurrection of 1916. This copy was made by me from a copy printed for the Supreme Council about 1910 which in turn was taken from older copies. Only a few copies were ever in existence at any one time. (Signed) Bulmer Hobson, 29.4.47.