

The Far Flung Flinns

Chapter 5

THE FIRST HOLOCAUST or The Martyrs of Ireland

(Those Murdered in Religious Persecution by England)

It is my intent in this chapter to detail some of the many heinous and brutal crimes perpetrated by the English against the Irish since about 1169. That is over 800 years, and the crimes, though perhaps lesser, are still being committed. Please read on.

Their ploy was to use "Papal permission," as a reason to eradicate the Irish. I believe that the following events are the most neglected, dismissed, or understated by historians of any events in World History.

The age of cruelty and heinous crimes began when Henry II, House of Plantagenet, became King of England in 1155 AD. Although he, through Maud (the Empress Matilda), his mother, was himself of Irish descent, he wanted to dominate and enslave the Irish people and to own Ireland. It was the most beautiful island, and had untold riches in minerals, in addition to having possibly the best farmland in Europe.

Despite near excommunication for quarrelling with and castigating the holy Thomas A' Becket, Henry II convinced, or bribed, Nicholas Breakspeare, the first English Pope, known as 'Adrian the Fourth,' to give him a document, afterwards known as 'The Papal Bull', which essentially 'deeded' to England the whole of Ireland, as if he owned the world. The English Jesuit Herbert Thurston declares that the conquest of Ireland was projected by Henry II, as early as 1156, and was carried out later with meticulous planning, with the full sanction of Pope Alexander III, successor to Adrian IV.

Henry II, delayed by the disapproval of his mother, and by political entanglements, did not act on the Papal Bull until 1169, when the bickering Kings of the Irish Provinces gave him the opening he needed.

Dermott McMurrugh, King of Leinster, coveted, then kidnapped Devorgilla, the wife of Tiernan O'Rourke, the Prince of Breifne. In 1166, O'Rourke retaliated and stormed McMurrugh's stronghold, virtually decimating his army. McMurrugh, barely escaping with his life, sailed to England with his daughter, Eva, and requested assistance from Henry II, who dispatched Strongbow, the Earl of Pembroke, a Norman living in Wales, to Leinster with his army.

In July of 1170 Henry II made peace with Thomas A' Becket, enticing him to return to England, from exile, which he did, arriving December 1. The Holy Thomas was set upon and murdered by the "Kings men" on December 29, 1170. At that time Henry was conveniently in Ireland.

Strongbow arrived in Ireland in 1170, plundering and burning his way through McMurrugh's enemies. But he was not satisfied, so he turned on Leinster, ousting

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McMurrough and becoming King of Leinster in 1171, and taking the daughter, Eva, as his wife.

In 1171 Henry II returned to Ireland, gaining control of much of southeastern Ireland. His "reforms" began with the confiscation of lands and holdings of the Irish, which would benefit himself. Both the Strongbow Normans and the English seized for their own candidates all Irish bishoprics and other worthwhile property. Ostensibly, Henry was in Ireland as the benevolent king, on a mission of welfare. He publicly denounced English conduct in Ireland, at the same time excusing it as being "in the heat of battle." Henry was completely ignored by Roderick O'Connor, the High King of Ireland, and the Princes of the north, which thought he was not a real threat. Since the Irish provinces were only loosely united, the high King felt that the southern princes should handle their own problems, and that the English did not concern him. This was a fatal mistake, which has haunted us for centuries.

O'Connor could have organized a united attack and settled the English threat once and for all.

Henry then resorted to his Papal Document for the first time, dispatching his emissaries to read them to Ireland's assembled dignitaries. Henry was accepted as genuine, because of the Papal Bull and welcomed as King by the Princes of the south, virtually relinquishing their political heritage to their new King.

But the English also began invading the north, and the High King fought back. By 1175, Roderick O'Connor, with his allied Princes in the north and west, without the help of their southern kinsmen, had battled and almost extinguished the English presence in Ireland. Had the Irish only realized it then, they could have dropped their own petty quarrels, uniting all provinces, and put down the English once and for all times. But they did not, and it was essentially their last chance.

In 1180, Roderick O'Connor had given in, and sent ambassadors to the King, headed by Laurence O'Toole, Archbishop of Dublin, to negotiate a formal treaty, to describe English duties and conduct for occupation. This treaty was violated by Henry almost before the ink was dry, for O'Toole was bludgeoned and murdered by the King's men before he could return to Ireland. He was saying mass at the time, and the blow came from behind him. But he was able to get up and complete the ceremony as he died. First, Thomas Becket, then Laurence O'Toole. In 1225, forty-five years after his death, he, O'Toole, was formally canonized a saint.

At this time, 1180, the revitalized Anglo-Norman invasion had the Native Monarchy of Ireland in disarray, the death of Laurence O'Toole, and the take-over of Dublin by John Comyn, the politically oriented bishop of Henry, certainly marked the beginning of the end of the native Irish Catholic Church. The new English State Church, a modified Catholicism ruled by Prince-Bishops, levying severe taxes and wielding powers of

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justice, was forming. By this time, native Irish candidates were barred from entering their own monasteries.

The creeping paralysis that began in 1169 would last until 1829, at which time, religious persecution and murder would be replaced by economic persecution, followed by starvation.

In 1189 Henry II conveyed Ireland to his son, Prince John, who had been in Ireland since 1185, with his army. This John became King of England in 1199.

The next few generations saw a succession of several kings of little or no interest: 1216 King John died, leaving English throne to Henry III. 1272 Edward I, King of England. In about 1280, the Galloglass Guard, half Scotch-Irish and half Viking (Dane), from the Hebrides and Scotland, invade and pillage Ulster, and were afterwards assimilated into the Irish culture. Tribes of the Galloglass; the Mac Sweeneys, MacDonnells, " MacCabes. MacDugals and Sheehys become mercenary troops for the chiefs of Ulster, Connacht and Munster; became known as among the most fierce warriors in history. They helped sustain pockets of Gaelic resistance and revival against English oppression in the next three centuries. Descendants of early Anglo-Normans became 'Irish', and rebelled along with the Irish against the English, in the thirteenth century.

1307 Edward II, becomes King of England.

In 1310 English accelerated the long lasting trend to 'suppress the Irish', a trend which later -amounted to genocide. British law took notice of Irish people only to exercise it's repressive or exterminating power. A notable case was that of Robert Le Waleys. a Briton charged with murdering John MacGillemorey, wherein he was acquitted of the charge since the victim was 'mere Irish'. "They were not protected by law," said historian John Davies, "so that every Englishman might oppresse spoile, and kill them without controulment. "

In 1316 Statutes of Killkenny, were enacted by English to prevent descendants of Nomlan invaders from 'becoming too Irish'.

1485 Henry VII, House of Tudor, King of England. Beginning of Renaissance. Persecution of the Irish proceeds.

1496 Line of the English Pale (almost totally English in Irish territory) at Clongowes.

1509 Accession of Henry VIII, King of England. He founds The Church of England to spite the Pope. Henry VIII wanted to put away his current wile and marry Anne Boleyn. Since this was not permitted by the Church, he started his "own church", the Church of England, and outlawed Catholicism as it had been known. (The same But no pope.)

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1515 Complete Anarchy in Ireland, Irish again rebel against the English, and their new demands for the Anglican Church in Ireland.

1534 Irish Rebellion in Kildare. Pressure for the Irish to change faith began a more serious turn in 1535. Henry VIII, Elizabeth, Cromwell and the later Penal Laws all concentrated the woes of the Irish people. The people were so fragmented in their resistance, that the rebellions were isolated and relatively ineffective.

1536 Union of England and Wales.

1553 to 1558 Brief Catholic Restoration. Queen Mary, sympathetic to Irish Catholics, was on the English throne. This gave Ireland a short-lived respite.

1558 Accession of Elizabeth I, Queen of England. England was then permanently identified with reformation, which still met stiff resistance in Ireland, in spite of severe punishment of Catholics. Some militant 'Papists' were burned 'over a slow fire', others, like Ambrose Cahill and James O'Reilly, were slain with the greatest cruelty and then their bodies were 'drawn and quartered', as others were forced to watch. Under Elizabeth it was ruled that every Papish Priest in Ireland after a certain date was to be deemed guilty of rebellion and that he should be hanged until half dead, then his head taken off, his bowels taken out and burned, and his head fixed on a pole in a public place. There were thousands of examples like this, and worse.

1562 Elizabethan Wars. Irish rebel against religious persecution. Under this barbaric, sanctimonious Queen, a bounty equivalent to twice that of a wolf, was placed on the head of priests: ten pounds for each head. People were -penalized for not attending sabbath services in the new Anglican Church. Burton's Parliamentary Diary, June 10, 1567, recorded the words of Major Morgan, M.P. for Wicklow, who was protesting more taxes upon Ireland, "We have three beasts to destroy which lay burdens upon us; the first is a wolf, upon which we lay five pounds; the second is a priest upon whom we lay ten pounds- if he be eminent, more; the third beast is a Tory. (Irish rebel) II etc.

Edmund Spenser, who hated the Irish more than perhaps anyone, in his "View of the State of Ireland" graphically pictures a little of what Elizabeth accomplished: "Notwithstanding that the same was a most rich and plentiful country, full of come and cattle yet, ere one year and a half, they were brought to such wretchedness as that any stony heart would rue the same. Out of every corner of the woods and glenns, they came creeping forth on their hands, for their legs could not bear them; they looked like anatomies of death; they spake like ghosts crying out of their graves: they did eat the dead carrions, happy where they could find them; yea, and one another soone after that in shorte space, there was none almost left, and a most populous and plentiful country suddainlie left voyde of man and beast."

1569 to 1573 The Desmond Irish revolt against English. –

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1570 Connacht divided into counties. Sir John Perrot, (does this name sound familiar?) the illegitimate son of Henry VIII was named first President of Munster .

1572, Birth of 'Red Hugh' O'Donnell future patriot and rebel. –

This year started the mind-numbing series of heinous crimes against the feckless Irish by the barbaric English. Read on.

Edmond O'Donnell, Jesuit, by order of Queen Elizabeth, was hanged, drawn and quartered in Cork, October 25, 1575, Conor Maccuarta (McCarty) and Roger MacConnell, Franciscans at Armagh were flogged to death. Franciscan guardian" Fergal Ward, Armagh, was hanged with his own sash.

1576, Franciscans John Lochan, Donagh O'Rourke, Edmund Fitzsimon, were hanged at Downpatrick.

1577, William Walsh, Cistercian Bishop of Meath, after imprisonment, died in exile at Alcalá. Thaddeus ODaly, Franciscan" was hanged, drawn and quartered at Limerick. John ODowd, for refusing to reveal a confession" was put to death his head compressed by a twisted cord.

In 1579, Queen Elizabeth's soldieries were spreading death and destruction all about them. When the monks of St. Mary, in Nenach were found by the soldiers, praying at the altar. A lay brother who had been absent, returned that evening to find them lying about, all dead, and covered with blood. The monastery was in ruins. htrick O'Healy, Franciscan Bishop of Mayo, and his brother Franciscan Cornelius O'Rourke, were tortured and hanged at Killmallock. A Cistercian Abbot and his Brethren, at Manisternenay, County Limerick, were all slain and hacked to pieces.

1580, Lawrence O'Moore, secular priest, was tortured and hanged in Smerwick. Eugene Cronym, secular priest, executed, Dublin. John Xieran of Tuam, hanged. Gelasius O'Cullenan" abbot of Boyle, hanged in Dublin. Daniel O'Neill" Franciscan, was tied around the waist with a rope and with weights tied to his feet was first thrown from one of the town gates at Youghal and then fastened to a mill wheel and torn to pieces.

In 1581, Robert Sherlock and Christopher Eustace were paraded through the streets of Dublin, then hanged for refusing to recant their religious vows. Richard French, died in prison" Wexford. Nicholas FitzGerald, hanged, drawn and quartered in Dublin. Mathew Lamport, Wexford, hanged for harboring a Jesuit. Robert Meyler, Edward Cheevers, John O'Lahy and Patrick Cavan, all Wexford laymen, hanged for conveying priests to France. -Patrick Hayes, ship owner of Wexford, charged with aiding priests, died on release from prison. Maurice Eustace, hanged, drawn and quartered for refusing to accept the reformed religion. Daniel Sutton, John Sutton and William Wogan, executed Dublin, May 26. Walter Aylmer, Thomas Eustace, his son Christopher, and brother Walter were hanged in Dublin.

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1582, Aneas Penny, parish priest, Killock, slain by soldiers while saying mass. Phillip O'Shea, Maurice O'Scanlon and Daniel Hanrahan, Franciscans, slain at Lislactin. Charles MacGoran, Roger O'Donnellan, Peter O'Quillan" Patrick MacKenna, James Pillan and Roger O'Hanlon, Franciscans, died in prison, Dublin Castle. Phelim O'Hara, and Henry Delahyde, Franciscan lay brothers, strangled before the altar. Thadeus O'Meran, a Franciscan at Eniscorthy, was tortured to death.

1584 Dermot O'Hurly, a bishop, was tortured and hanged in Dublin. First he was tied to a tree in Stephens Green where his clothing was saturated with oil his boots filled with salt and oil. Then he was set on fire, and the fire put out, repeatedly. He lived for days and finally died, then was hanged. A Prior and brethren of Craiguenamanagh, Cistercians; slain. John ODaly, trampled to death by cavalry. John O'Grady, executed. Thaddeus Clancy, beheaded. Eleanor Birmingham died in Dublin prison.

1585, Six priests and laypersons were hanged or otherwise executed in this year. 1586, The Plantation of Munster. 210,000 acres of farmland given to English farmers, displacing the Old Irish. Sir Walter Raleigh got 40,000 acres. Richard Creagh, bishop of Armagh, died after 18 years in the tower of London. Donagh O'Hurley, Franciscan sacristan. Muckross convent, tortured to death. 1587, Sir John Perrot, now Lord Deputy of all Ireland, had 'Red Hugh' captured and placed in Dublin Tower prison, along with Art and Henry O'Neill his cousins. Sir Walter Raleigh destroyed the Dominican Church and priory to make way for his new manor house, on his newly acquired acreage. Murtagh O'Brien, bishop of Emly, died in Dublin prison.

1588 Ten priests or lay people were executed by hanging or torture, by year end.

1589 Patrick O'Brady, Franciscan prior and six friars; slain in the monastery of Monaghan.

1590 Mathew O'Leyn (O'Lynn), Franciscan of Kilcrea convent, Muskerry, killed by English soldiers. Cristopher Roche was killed by torture in London.

1591 'Red Hugh' escaped to Ulster and became 'The O'Donnell', the last of the old stock Gaelic Princes. Franciscan Terence Macgennis, Manus O'Fury, Loughlan MacKeagh; died in prison. Michael Fitzsimmon was put to death.

1593, Edmund MacGuaran, bishop of Armagh, was slain at Tulske.

In 1594, Patrick Sa1mon and John Carey were hanged, and John Cornelius was hanged, then drawn and quartered at Dorchester on July 4, for sedition and treason. Cornelius had been tortured on the "rack" in an effort to make him reveal those who had assisted him in a previous escape. Andrew Stritch, priest, died in Dublin prison.

1595, Rebellion of Hugh O'Neill Earl of Tyrone. 1596, Bernard Moriarty, secular priest, his thighbones broken by soldiers, died in Dublin prison.

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1597, John Stephens, secular priest, county Wicklow, convicted of saying mass, was hanged, drawn and quartered. Walter Fernan, priest, was torn apart on a torture rack in Dublin.

1598, O'Neill had his greatest victory over the English in the battle of Yellow Ford in Ulster . 1599, George Power, secular priest, the Vicar General of Ossory, died in Dublin prison.

1600, John Walsh, Vicar General Dublin, died in prison at Chester. Nicholas Young, secular priest at Trim, died in Dublin Castle. Thomas MacGrath, layman, was beheaded.

1601 Defeat of O'Neill, 'Red Hugh' O'Donnell and Spaniards at Kinsale by English Lord Mountjoy. In January, Donal O'Sullivan Beare of Kerry flees with 2,000 followers to the north, arriving with scarcely 200 people. The weak and infirm froze to death or died of malnutrition along the way. By this time, death and disaster lay everywhere in Ireland. The Gaelic language was forbidden and penalized. English laws decreed death to anyone in possession of an Irish manuscript. So sweeping was the destruction of Ireland's ancient books, that the Franciscan monks undertook to collect data and write a "History of Ireland" , " lest it be neglected at that time and not again be done to the end of time. " Their monastery in Donegal had been occupied in 1601 by 500 foot soldiers and then reduced to ruin. In these ruins, during the time of Charles I, they, the Franciscans remaining alive, Michael O'Clery and three principal collaborators, compiled during the years 1632-1636, the gigantic and noble work, the ANNALS OF THE FOUR MASTERS.

Raymond O'Gallagher, bishop of Derry , was murdered. Daniel Molony, secular priest vicar general of Killaloe, died under torture at Dublin Castle. John O'Kelly, Connacht priest, died in prison. Donagh O'Cronin, secular priest and cleric, was hanged, drawn and quartered in Cork. Brian Merchertagh, secular priest and archdeacon of Clonfert, died in prison in Dublin. Donach O'Falvey, secular priest, was hanged in Cork.

1602 Dominic Collins, Jesuit lay brother, was hanged in Cork. As he went to the gallows, he exhorted the crowd of mourners: "Look up to Heaven and, worthy descendants of your ancestors who ever constantly professed it, hold fast to that faith for which I am this day to die." He was not allowed to hang long upon the gallows. His executioners cut open his breast and plucked out his still beating heart, holding it up in view of the crowd and shouted "God save the Queen!" (Does anyone in his right mind think this had anything to do with God? Were the Nazis of World War n worse than this?). The exact dates are lost, but of the Dominican communities, 21 members at Colerain, and 32 Members at Derry, were put to death in the reign of Elizabeth, prior to 1603.

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1603 Accession of James VI, House of Stuart of Scotland, King of Great Britain. Surrender of rebel Hugh O'Neill. Enforcement of English law throughout Ireland; most severe in Ulster Prison.

1606 Settlement of more Scots on Ard's Peninsula. Beginning of mass relocation of Scottish criminals and convicts to Ulster. The Irish were hacked to pieces or driven into the woods, mountains and moors. Thousands died of starvation, others escaped to the continent. 6,000 Irish swordsmen, despairing of any victory, joined Sweden's army, with the hope that they would later go to war against England.

Bernard O'Carolan, secular priest, was hanged in Dublin. Cistercians of Assaroe, Donegas Eugene O'Gallagher, abbot, and Bernard O'Trever, prior, were slain by English soldiers. John Burke, lord of Brittas, layman, was hanged.

1607 'Flight of the Earls', O'Neill and O'Donnell flee to Europe. John O'Lynn (of the Ulster O'Fhloinnns), Dominican Friar , was hanged at Derry.

1608 Donagh O'Lynn, brother of John (above), Dominican prior of Derry , was hanged and quartered there. Plantation of Derry; English move in more farmers, displacing Irish landowners, many of whom escaped to Connaught.

1609 Donagh MacCreid, secular priest, hanged in Coleraine.

1610 John Lyng of Wexford, secular priest, was hanged and quartered in Dublin.

1612 Franciscan Cornelius O'Devany, bishop of Down and Connor, one of those who gathered and recorded forbidden information such as you are reading in this paper, was hanged in Dublin. The faithful lined his route to the gallows to beg his blessing, even as protestant ministers made futile last efforts to save his life by turning faith. He would not. He kissed the gallows and turned to exhort the Catholics to constancy. His executioners threw him off the gallows, alive, and he was drawn and quartered while attempting to continue praying. Patrick O'Loughran, secular priest, was hanged with O'Devany.

1614 William MacGallen, Dominican was executed at Coleraine.

1615 Loughlin O'Laverty, secular priest, was hanged at Derry. Laymen Brian O'Neil. Art O'Neill (cousins of Red Hugh), Rory O'Cane, Godfrey O'Cane and Alexander MacSorley were hanged with O'Laverty.

1617 Thomas Fitzgerald, Franciscan commissary and visitor of the Irish province, died in Dublin prison. Franciscan John Honan (MacConnan), of Connacht, was tortured, hanged, drawn and quartered in Dublin.

1618 Patrick O'Deery , secular priest was hanged in Derry .

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1620 James Eustace, Cistercian, was hanged and quartered, place not known.

1622 John O'Cahan, Franciscan, Buttevant convent, died in Limerick prison.

1625 Charles I, King of Great Britain. He was beheaded in 1648.

1628 Edmund Dunigan, bishop of Down and Connor, died in Dublin Castle prison.

1641 Great Catholic-Gaelic rebellion for return of lands, later joined by Old English Catholics in Ireland. Only fifty-nine percent of land then held by Catholics.

1642 Phillip Cleray of Raphoe secular priest, was murdered. Cistercian Malachy Sheil, was hanged at Newry. Peter O'Higgin, Dominican prior of Naas was hanged at Dublin. March 24. Cormac MacEgan, Dominican lay brother, was hanged. Raymond Keogh, Dominican of Roscommon, was hanged (This could have been in 1643). Stephen Petit, Dominican superior of Mullingar was shot while hearing confessions on the battlefield. Hilary Comoy, Franciscan of Elphin, was hanged at Castlecoote. Fulgentius Jordan (Sartain), Augustinian, was hanged. Friar Thomas, Carmelite, hanged on July 6, at Drogheda. Friar Angelus, Carmelite, was killed at Drogheda. During this period, many non-clerical Catholics were shipped to the West Indies and Australia as slaves.

1643 Edward Mulligan, Cistercian, slain near Clones by English soldiers. Francis O'Mahony, Franciscan guardian at Cork, was tortured and hanged. He regained consciousness and was re-hanged by his girdle (sash). Peter (?), Carmelite lay brother, was hanged in Dublin.

1644 Cornelius O'Connor and Eugene O'Daly, Trinitarians returning from France, were drowned at sea by puritans. Hugh MacMahon, Ulster nobleman, layman, was executed at Tyburn on November 22.

1645 The patriot Archbishop of Tuam, Malachy O'Queely, his priest secretary, Tadgh O'Connell and Augustinian O'Higgin, were executed after the battle of Sligo, October 26. Henry White, secular priest, age 80, was hanged at Racconnell Westmeath. Christopher Dunlevy, Franciscan, died in Newgate prison, London. Conor MacGuire, Baron of Inniskillen, layman, was hanged, drawn and quartered at Tyburn on February 20.

1647 Nine Priests and two laywomen, Elizabeth Carney and Margaret of Cashel, were slaughtered along with 2,000 other men, women and children in the massacre at Cashel.

1648 Charles I was beheaded. Charles II, after 14-year exile, became King of Great Britain. Four Dominican priests were killed at Clonmel and near Killmallock.

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In 1649 Cromwell arrived in Ireland, with eight regiments of foot soldiers and six of cavalry, and several troops of Dragoons. He quickly captured Drogheda and massacred hundreds. He then moved to Wexford and other strategic areas were massacre at Drogheda, in-which 3,000 men, women and children were murdered (there were fourteen priests and the rest were common citizens, not soldiers) was described by Oxford Historian Arthur Wood: "Each of the assailants would take up a child and use it as a buckler of defense (shield) to keep himself from being shot or brained. " This documentation by Arthur Wood has since disappeared.

In the massacre of Wexford, same year, approximately 2,000 Irish, including seven priests, were slaughtered as at Drogheda, by Cromwell's soldiers. Three other priests were murdered elsewhere, same year.

In Cromwell's report to London on the "righteous judgment of God upon the barbarous wretches and the mercy vouchsafed the English, a great thing done, not by power or might but by the spirit of God." he asked that all honest hearts give the glory of it to God alone. (Glory? Isn't that what Hitler said when he caused the Jews to be gassed? Who were the barbarians? Why weren't we taught all this as history students in high school?) Cromwell began the "Protectorate and Commonwealth of England. "

In 1650 many Catholic landowners were killed or driven off and exiled to Connaught, or put to the sword. Some were shipped as slaves to the Barbadoes, some as bond servants (a politically correct term for slave) to the Colonies. Boetius Egan, Franciscan bishop of Ross, was taken, and his hands and feet were cut off: then marched to the gallows on his 'stubs' and hanged at Carrigadrohid. Four other priests were hanged or murdered that year.

In 1651, thirty-seven priests were put to death.

In 1653, thirteen priests were put to death. One woman, Brigid D'Arcy, wife of Florentius Fitzpatrick, was burned at the stake. Also, in 1653, English merchants contracted with the government for 250 women and 300 men, ages 14 to 45, to be captured in the neighborhood of Cork, Youghal Kinsale, Waterford and Wexford, and sold as slaves to the sugar planters of the West Indies. Lord Broghill considering it a waste of time for such a hunt for "mere Irish", supplied the whole number from Cork alone. In a consignment of 1655, all the Irish of Lacach, County Kildare, were seized. Of them, four were hanged, and the rest, including two priests, were sent as slaves to the sugar cane fields in the Barbadoes. This was about the time the first slaves were brought to America from Africa.

Also, this same year, 1653, three novitiates, Honoria Magan, Honoria de Burgo and an attendant were pursued by soldiers and beaten, stripped of their clothing (and I assume they were raped. However in those days, rape was common, and not deemed serious enough for the recorders to mention) and left to freeze to death. Magan's body was

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found frozen in a hollow tree and de Burgo's body was found in the Dominican Friary, frozen in worship while kneeling upright in front of the altar.

The most unimaginable atrocities were committed upon the weak, hungry and defenseless women and children. A total of over 68,000 English families were brought in, displacing Irish, which were murdered, starved, or sent to Connacht. 11,000,000 of Ireland's 20,000,000 acres were confiscated. This is one of the most inhumane and brutal periods in the history of man. Adding insult to injury, all Irish names "had to be Anglicized. " Those O'Flinn survivors, left in Ireland, joined the Anglicans and had to change their name to 'Flynn'.

NOTE: Most historians have either glossed over the inhumanities and war crimes of the Elizabethan and Cromwellian periods, or deliberately left them out of their writings. History lessons in American schools do not mention these atrocities. Most modern Americans of Irish descent are not aware of any of this. Indeed, Britain is looked upon as having the most "gentle, courteous, kind and God loving people in the world. " God help us!

"It has been said that though God cannot change the past historians can. " --Samuel Butler

From 1654 to 1713, sixteen more priests were murdered or allowed to die of starvation in prison. 1660 Accession of Charles II. House of Stuart restored to throne. Irish accelerate move (escape) to America.

On June 8, 1681, Oliver Plunket, a priest, was hanged, cut down while still alive, drawn and quartered and his entrails burned. His head is on display in a church in Drogheda.

1685 Accession of James II, King of Great Britain. Last stand of Catholic Ireland.

1688 James II deposed in England. Only twenty-two percent of Irish land held by Catholics.

1689 Siege of Derry. Scots brought over in 1606 assist William, House of Orange, in overthrowing James II. William becomes King of Great Britain, co-ruled with Mary II, until 1694, then ruled alone until 1702. Most Scottish descendants in Ulster, having been subsidized by the English, had changed faith to protestant and were loyal to the English.

1691 Irish Catholic defeat (again) at Aughrim and surrender at Limerick.

1695 Fourteen percent of Irish land held by Catholics. British enact penal laws against Catholics. Persecution accelerated.

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1698 William Molyneux distributes pamphlet disparaging the English making of laws for Ireland; beginning of 'Home Rule' movement.

1702 Death of William III, succeeded by Anne, his sister-in-law, younger dau. of James II, last of the Stuart line. Union of Scotland with England.

1714 Only seven percent of Irish lands in hands of Catholics. Catholic Irish cannot hold any office. George I, of the House of Brunswick succeeds Anne of Stuart as King of Great Britain. He was a great grandson of James I.

172~ Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's in Dublin, writes pamphlet utterly rejecting all clothing or anything wearable from England, attempting a boycott. He writes " A Modest Proposal", satirically recommending the Irish eat their young to avoid starvation. Famine spreads.

1727 George II, son of George I, King of Great Britain.

1756 'Catholic Committee' formed by Dr. Curry, Charles O'Connor and Thomas Wyse.

1760 George III, grandson of George II, King of Great Britain. 1775 Henry Grattan starts 'Patriot' party, becomes leader.

1776 Thousands of Irish Immigrants participate in American Revolution. Fully forty percent of George Washington's army were Irish.

1782 Legislative Independence won from Britain by Irish Parliament. Rise and Fall of the 'Protestant Nation'.

1793 Louis XVI of France sent to guillotine.

1795 Orange Order formed in Ulster. Scots and English Protestants gaining in numbers.

1796 French fleet with Wolfe Tone arrives in Bantry Bay.

1796-1798 United Irishmen plotting another rebellion. .

1798 March; arrest of Leinster Directory of United Irishmen. May; arrest and death of Lord Edward Fitzgerald. Piecemeal rebellion in Midlands. June: rebellion in Wexford. Battle of Vinegar Hill. November; death of Wolfe Tone.

1800 Act of Union with Ireland passed, to be effective Jan. 1,1801.

1803 Robert Emmet's rising, capture, trial and execution for sedition. 1807 Daniel O'Connell founded " Catholic Association " .

1812 End of Napoleonic Wars -beginning of the Great Hunger.

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1820 George IV, son of George III, King of Great Britain.

1828 Daniel O'Connell elected to represent County Clare in Irish Parliament.

1829 Catholic Emancipation bill passed, Penal Laws repealed. At this point, religious persecution of the Irish seems to taper off Economic persecution accelerates into full bloom. (Easier to starve them, than kill them.)

1830 William IV, third son of George III, King of Great Britain. The Irish people continue to die of starvation and disease. Shipments of Indian corn meal from the United States offered only minor relief to the hungry. When mobs of hungry peasants saw supplies of meat and other food being exported to England, they broke into flourmills, butcher shops and even boats bound for British harbors. As Peter Kelly pointed out in a recent TV documentary on the famine, Ireland's economic problems in the 19th century arose from deliberate British policy designed to ensure that "John Bull's other island could never again threaten the political interests of John Bull himself." How can you threaten if you are dead?

1837 Accession of Queen Victoria, granddau. Of George III.

1840 O'Connell's Repeal Association founded.

1843 O'Connell's Monster Meetings for repeal of Union. August, Tara Monster Meeting. October, Clontarf meeting banned.

1845 Blight in potato crop; famine worsens (1845-1849). Charles Trevelyan is permanent head of Treasury .Sir Robert Peel imports Indian corn meal from America, which few peasants can afford.

1846 April, Trevelyan opens market for sale of corn meal but later closes it down, for too much demand. (What kind of logic is this?) Repeal of Corn Laws. Irish attacks on food carts, supply houses. July, Lord John Russel replaces Peel as PM. August, Public works started, but soon after stopped in expectation of new harvest. Total failure of harvest, public works restarted. October, report more deaths from starvation. Thousands migrate to America.

1847 Free rations first distributed from government soup kitchens. Fever spreading throughout Ireland. Blight-free, but small potato harvest. Trevelyan ends Soup Kitchen Act and retires to Knighthood, and writes Famine History. Responsibility for Ireland's distress falsely attributed to local rent rates and lazy peasants. Ireland left to 'operation of natural causes'.

Author James Tuke wrote his impressions after a trip to western Ireland: "I have visited the wasted remnants of the once noble Red Man and explored the Negro quarters of

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the African slaves, but never have I seen misery so intense or physical degradation so complete as among the dwellers in the bog holes of Ireland."

1848-49 Worst years of Ireland's famine. 100,000 have starved to death. By now, without weapons, the English may have killed as many "mere Irish" as they did with all their soldiers. Battle of Widow McCormack's Cabbage Patch at Ballingary , County Tipperary. Smith O'Brien (Young Irish leader) arrested for sedition. James Stephens flees to France. 95 percent of land controlled by English Protestants. Six million pounds of annual rents sent to England and to be use a in expanding their commerce and industry. What money left in Ireland was used to build palatial mansions and conspicuous consumption of luxuries by English landlords.

1856 James Stephens returns, starts 'walk through' Ireland.

1858 James Stephens founds organization, which becomes Irish Republican Brotherhood. Fenian Brotherhood founded in America.

1861 Funeral of Terrence Bellew MacManus. Beginning of American Civil War.

1861-65 Stephens, John Devoy and others swearing in members of 'Organization.'

1863 Newspaper "Irish People" founded.

1865 End of American Civil War. Arrest of Editorial Board of Irish People. Arrest and escape of James Stephens from jail.

1866 Stephens first encourages then calls off 'Rising', deposed by American Fenians. Civil War Veteran Kelly becomes Chief Organizer of Irish Republic, and sails for Ireland.

1867 February , abortive raid on Chester Castle. March, Fenian Rising in Ireland. September, rescue of Kelly from police van in Manchester. November, Execution of Allen, Larkin and O'Brien. December, Clerkenwell explosion.

1869 Prime Minister Gladstone disbands Protestant Church in Ireland. 1870 Gladstone's first Land Act.

1875 Charles Stewart Parnell elected MP for County Meath.

1879 Threat of another famine in Ireland. Mass eviction and destruction of cottages. Irish National League founded after initiative by Michael Davitt.

1879-92 Home Rule and the Land War .

1881 Gladstone's second Land Act. Parnell imprisoned in Kilmainham.

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1901 Edward VII, son of Victoria, House of Saxe-Coburg, King of Great Britain.

1906 to 1914 Last fight for Home Rule.

1909 Lloyd George's Land Taxation budget rejected by House of Lords.

1910 George V, son of Edward VII, King of Great Britain.

1914 World War I. Home Rule bill debated by George V. Changes Royal name to "House of Windsor."

1916 Easter Rising by Irish Republican Brotherhood. After a four-day battle, the rebels surrendered. Pearse and 14 others executed.

1917 Sinn Fein wins election in Roscommon.

1918 End of WW I.

1920 Under Lloyd George's Amending Act, the six counties of Northern Ireland separated, accomplishing the Partition of Ireland.

1922 Irish self-government restored in the southern 26 counties, as result of Michael's negotiations. 1923 Death of Michael Collins. A young Irish revolutionary, Collins was gunned down in his native

Cork County by a former comrade in Ireland's bloody fight for independence. He personified Ireland's determination to be free from England. He is known as the "Man Who Made Modern Ireland." He was first known as a 'trouble-maker', from the English perspective, during the Easter Uprising, the catalyst for the English War. He, and a handful of rebels stormed the Dublin General Post Office to seize symbolic control of their country. England executed the leaders, ensuring their martyrdom, and sent the rest, including Collins, to prison. When he was released a few months later, Collins returned to an Ireland outraged by England's response to the uprising. He organized an arms smuggling operation, established an underground newspaper, while overseeing a 'hit-squad', developing guerilla tactics and a network of spies. During the war, he coolly bicycled around Dublin; the 'Most Wanted' man in Ireland.

After the rebel's victory, Eammon DeValera, their political leader, sent Collins to London to negotiate a peace treaty.

Collins signed his name to a document creating an Irish Free State, but leaving six northern counties under British dominion. He considered the treaty a stepping-stone, believing they could free Northern Ireland later. However, most of Ireland was angry, including De Valera, who wanted a united Ireland. This treaty resulted in a civil war,

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pitting the former rebels against each other. That war was an exercise in futility and useless death. Northern Ireland still remains under British control.

Northern Ireland is the last remaining British colony since Hong Kong reverted to China in 1997. It has been completely mis-governed for the last 73 years. She has no 'Bill of Rights'; British Parliament, in loco the Supreme Court, found its civil rights violations a matter too distasteful to consider. So they sent in troops to enforce their laws. It is now a police state, in response to which, the I.R.A. was born.

British conduct in Northern Ireland has been criticized by Amnesty International the Helsinki Watch, and other human rights committees. A constant outcry singles out the conduct of the British Troops, who committed everything from physical abuse to the killing of innocent people. Almost 350 people are listed in the category of "killed in disputed circumstances." Even in the rare instance of a soldier's conviction of murder, he pays only a token penalty--less than he could have received for a parade ground insubordination. Perhaps he should collect a ten-pound bounty, as in the days of Queen Elizabeth. If there should be a court case, the soldier is not required to be present for cross-examination. Inquests are commonly delayed for years.

An example of a long neglected injustice (the English just don't give up) was the "Bloody Sunday" murder (January, 1972) of fourteen marchers in Derry .F or 21 years the official British account was that they were "terrorists". In 1993, Prime Minister John Major finally admitted they were innocent victims.

The I.R.A. may be equally brutal and culpable. But British reforms could alleviate this horrible situation by not using, Army troops as a solution to civil rights problems, and by overseeing Northern Ireland as carefully as they do any other portion of the United Kingdom, or get out of Northern Ireland altogether.

1936 Edward VIII, son of George V, King of Great Britain. Resigned to marry 'common American' woman. George VI, 2nd son of George V., replaced him as King of Great Britain. 1952 Elizabeth II, dau. of George VI, became Queen of Great Britain. 1991 Mary Robinson installed as President of the Republic of Ireland.

1993 Summary; Social political and economic conditions in Ireland have caused the massive exodus of it's people to other countries, in the past two centuries, predominantly to America. Now, scarcely four million people remain on the Emerald Isle, struggling to educate and employ their young people. If anyone needs instruction on -..How to destroy a country," he need look no further than to" kind and gentle England. "

At the end of the summer of 2001, Catholics in Northern Ireland are still oppressed. Lip service is being given to "peace talks" now being held with the Sinn Fein, political wing of the Irish Republican Army. Peace talks have started, but the Ulster English are

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stalling. If a treaty does result, I solemnly predict that the English will violate it within a year.

God bless Ireland.

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