

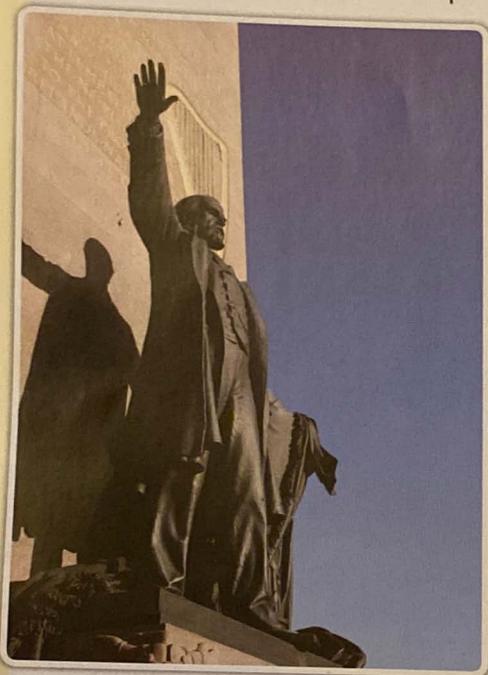
Long-Term Effects of the Famine

By 1851, the worst of the famine was over, but the effects were still being felt. The population of Ireland was over eight million people in 1841. However a census taken in 1851, just ten years later, showed the population had decreased by one and a half million. The population continued to fall because of emigration in the years that followed. Emigration became a part of Irish life for generations. In 1850, there were more Irish people living in New York than in Dublin.

Following the famine there was anger at both the British government and the landlords who did little to help the people of Ireland. Irish people had died of starvation, while food was being exported out of the country to places such as Britain. The Irish people began to seek political change.

Some people looked for peaceful ways to try to bring about change. Charles Stewart Parnell and Michael Davitt fought for and achieved land reforms, helping tenant farmers. Others decided that only violence would free Ireland from British rule. In 1848, there was an Irish rebellion against British rule.

The rebellion failed, and some of the leaders fled to the United States. There, the leaders raised money for rebel groups that later played an important role in the fight for Irish freedom.



▲ Charles Stewart Parnell

Did You Know?

The Irish language, which was already starting to die out, declined greatly during the famine. This was because many of those who died or emigrated spoke Irish.

Checkpoint

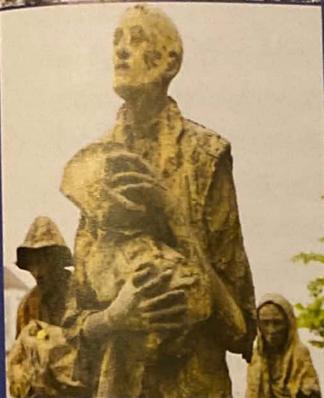
1. What effect did the famine have on the population of Ireland?
2. Why were Irish people angry at the British government and landlords after the famine?
3. What did Charles Stewart Parnell and Michael Davitt do to change the situation?

Lesson Wrap-Up

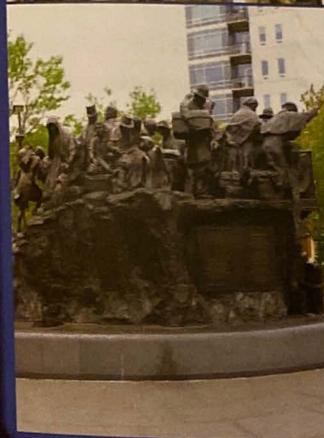
Visual Summary



The Great Famine was a major event in Irish history. The failure of the potato harvest led to widespread starvation.



Diseases such as typhus killed even more people than starvation. The landlords evicted thousands of tenants who were unable to pay rent from their homes.



Millions of Irish people emigrated to Britain and North America. Today memorials in Ireland and America remember the suffering of those who died or emigrated.

What Did I Learn?

What have I learned in this chapter?

What else would I like to know?

Where can I find this information?

Review

1. Recall

Why was 1847 known as 'Black '47'?

2. Vocabulary

I begin with the fifth letter of the alphabet and I am eight letters long. I am used to describe the action whereby a landlord forces a tenant out of their home.

3. Critical Thinking

Compare what happened during the Irish famine with what happens when there is a famine today. How do modern governments deal with famines?

4. Be a Historian!

Ask your relatives if they know what happened to your ancestors during the Great Famine. Do you have any relations in the United States or Britain as a result of emigration? Do some research then write a report of your findings.