

IRELAND 1845-1850: “FAMINE/GORTA MŌR” LIES versus HOLOCAUST/AN t-ĀR MŌR FACTS

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- 1) Ireland in 1845-1850 was essentially entirely owned by English landlords, many of them Lords temporal or spiritual, in estates typically of tens of thousands of acres. Their land titles were conquest-based.¹
- 2) On these estates the Irish were tenants-at-will on holdings of typically three to eight acres the rent of which they paid by, typically, 260 days of work annually on the landlord’s estate.²
- 3) In previous centuries the Irish, under British rule, were non-persons, stripped of legal personhood excepting five sept.³ As murder signifies personhood: the Irish were thus legally killable by any English person at will.⁴ Education was prohibited.
- 4) No army of English seasonal migrants produced Ireland’s vast and varied food crops. Landlords had armed militias, C. of I. (Anglican) clergy, doctors, lawyers, newspaper owners, British military and Coast Guard, the bureaucracy, officers of police, etc., but Ireland’s agriculture, its food, was produced only by the Irish (excepting areas in a few northern counties).
- 5) In and around 1845-1850, Ireland was a police State: 1,590 police stations (averaging 48 stations per county, 8 policemen per station, a separate Revenue Police (1,200), Castle Police (spies, 100)), and Dublin Metropolitan Police (1,100). Each county had one landlord-led militia regiment, but Dublin, Mayo, and Limerick had two each, and Cork had three.⁵
- 6) Ireland’s abundant meats, livestock, and other foods, though produced by the Irish were claimed by the landlords. Upon international failure of potato crops, Ireland’s starting in 1845, Ireland’s food producers resisted police and militia efforts to remove it to the ports for export. Regular army deployments into Ireland jumped to 34 regiments in 1845 and 1846, 33 in 1847, 43 in 1848, 38 in 1849, and 40 in 1850. Full regiment/years for those six sequential years were: 23.04, 23.73, 29.91, 35.40, 31.83, and 30.0. “Black ‘47” was the food removers’ most active year. Deployment lag time explains the 1848 peak of 35.4 regiment/years.⁶ More than half of Britain’s army removed Ireland’s foods; 67 regiments of its 130-regiment total.
- 7) On July 5, 1847, the depths of genocide, Lord Clarendon wrote from his Vice-Regal Lodge in Phoenix Park to Prime Minister Lord Russell; “Sir Edward Blakeney says that the Country (sic) is tranquil and if it were not for the harrassing (sic) duty of escorting provisions (edibles) the troops would have little to do.”⁷ The (London) Times’ contemporaneous reports of increased landings of Irish food in English ports are accessible in detail online.
- 8) The genocidal mass evictions and robbery of crops continued until the Land League, Boycott, and international outrage forced England to buy out its landlords from Ireland in 1900-1920. The vast estates were “striped” into typically 28-acre survival farms with an acre or two of the nearest bog for fuel and allocated to the Irish cultivators of the soil. So munificent; so far above market price, was that “golden handshake” to the departing landlords that the amortization period was set at 68.5 years. Thus my father and all of our neighbors in Co. Roscommon, and presumably the rest of Ireland, were paying off that old “debt” into the 1970s. Ireland’s farmers paid semi-annual Rates (taxes) and those “Rents.” Ireland’s centuries of imposed destitution ended upon the end of that “Rent” payment. In 1932 Ireland’s Fianna Fáil gov’t under Devalera withheld the annual £4 millions in rent to London. Britain retaliated with an embargo on Irish goods, but it faded approaching WW2.
- 9) The use of massive armed force to starve Ireland belies the exculpable “famine” and its synonyms “great hunger/gorta mor.” “Genocide” is accurate, but no Irish person had ever used it, it was coined post-WW2 by Raphael Lemkin to educate the US Congress as to Nazis crimes against Jews. An appropriately inculpable label was used to report events in Ireland starting in 1846. Writers Davitt, Fitzgerald, et al. and the Cork Examiner⁸ (now Irish Examiner) repeatedly reported it as Holocaust.
- 10) “Famine to Freedom” film is a 2003 concealment of Holocaust and the British army’s perpetration of it. Academics; they pretended to not recognize the grain-reaping hook (sickle) they excavated in Ballykilcline, Strokestown. Their “potato famine” film ignores the following non-potato food processors of 1845-1850 Ireland: 1,979 grain mills, 1,975 grain kilns, 929 livestock pounds, 251 tuck mills, 450 other mills, 420 flour mills, 132 breweries, 72 distilleries, 68 malt kilns, 58 threshers, 44 woolen mills, 50 windmills, butter churning mills, sheep folds, pig markets, corn markets, bacon stores, etc.⁹
- 11) Hundreds of Ireland’s Holocaust mass graves remain unmarked due to fear of the “Royal Dáil.” See my colored map.

¹ Bateman, John: *The Great Landowners of Great Britain & Ireland*. London: Harrison & Sons 1878. Lewis, Samuel: *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*, 3-Vols. London: S. Lewis 1837

² Beaumont, Gustave de: *L’irlande, Sociale, Politique et Religieuse*. Paris: Michel Levy Frère 1839.

³ Per Henry II (1154-1189) Law, all Irish were alien and enemies excepting five sept; the O’Neills of Ulster, O’Connors of Connacht, O’Briens of Thomond, O’Laughlins or Melachlans of Meath, and MacMurroughs, called also Kavanaghs, of Leinster.

⁴ See Statute of Kilkenny (1367), Poyning’s Law (1494), and the Penal Laws (1558-1871)

⁵ *Thom’s Directory of Ireland* (year-end 1848) Googleable. Head, Thomas: *A Fortnight in Ireland*. New York: G.B. Putnam 1853

⁶ *Disposition of the Army records* (1/1/1845-1/1/1851). British National Archives, Kew, Surrey, UK.

⁷ Shelfmark Mark MS. Clar.dep.Irish vol. 1. Bodleian Library, Oxford U. General Sir Edward Blakeney was the commander-in-chief of the 67 regiments throughout their genocide. Approaching its successful end an appreciative Queen Victoria, in 1849, conferred on Blakeney a prestigious Order of the Bath.

⁸ Cork Examiner on 4May1846, 7May1846, twice on 22Jan1847, 25Jan1847, 17Sept1847, 01Oct1847, 03Jan1848, 19Nov1855

⁹ Ordnance Survey Maps of Ireland (completed in 1845), Newberry Library, Chicago.