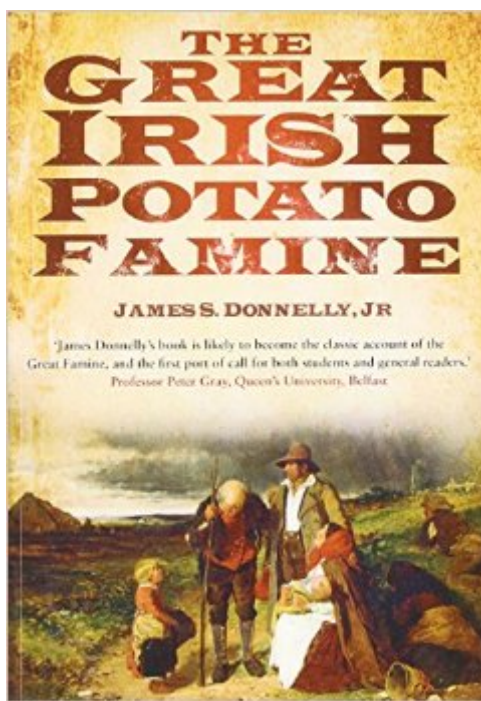


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The Great Irish Potato Famine



Synopsis

This is an account of the Great Irish Potato Famine of the late 1840s, a famine which resulted in the death of about one million people and was also largely responsible, in conjunction with British government policies, for one of the great international human migrations of British history; the mass exodus of some two million people from Ireland, mostly to North America, in the years 1845-1855. This book combines narrative, analysis, historiography, and scores of contemporary illustrations. This work aims to provide an insight into the misery of the famine and the nightmare of mass evictions that followed.

Book Information

Paperback: 320 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (11 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

Although many have heard about the "Potato Famine" in Ireland in 1845-1847; they actually know and understand very little about what happened during those few years and more importantly the effects it had on Ireland right up till the end of the 19th Century. To understand what happened, it is imperative that one understand the history of Ireland for at least 100 years before and know that Britain ruled totally all aspects of life in Ireland. All the laws, all the land ownership, all the imports and exports, schooling, religion, policing, social services, government, military, and thus was responsible for things whether physically or with the people, rich, poor or in between; being the way they were when the potato crop was affected with *Phytophthora infestans* in 1845 and 1846 and subsequent years. No other disease in Europe has been written about more than this "Famine" other than The Black Death of the 1350's. As the Black Death changed forever the way of life in Europe, the "Famine" had a similar affect on Ireland. This book attempts to cover all aspects of the "Famine"

and particularly tries to resolve the question of whether the death and devastation had to be as bad as it was; whether Britain was content to allow the country to be ravished, or even if Britain's actions actually magnified the problem. In more blunt words; "Was there really a Famine or was it Genocide on the part of Britain? The book contains a great amount of data, but then again the source of the information is from government controlled records. One must read between the lines and realize that it was not the wealthy, government officials, the landowners, and the Anglo Irish, that died in huge numbers, lost their land, and emigrated to America; while Britain looked on.

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