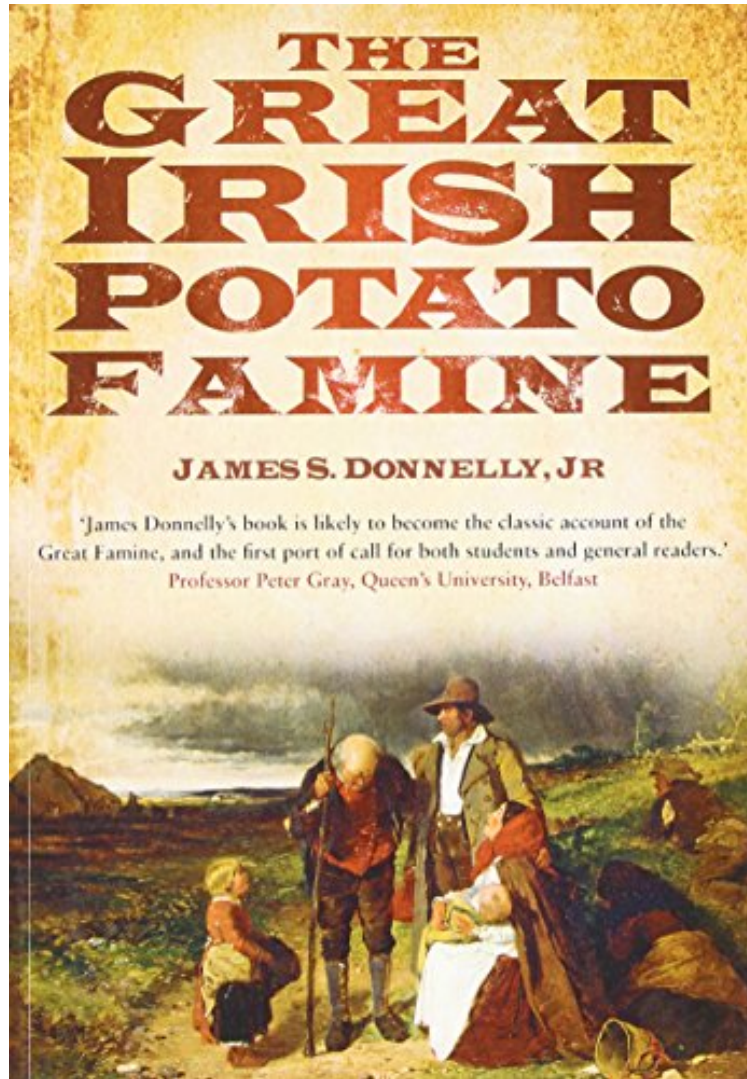


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## The Great Irish Potato Famine

*James S. Donnelly Jr.*

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**James S. Donnelly Jr. : The Great Irish Potato Famine** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Great Irish Potato Famine:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good history.By glennKnew nothing about the Great Irish Potato famine. Never heard of it in the history books. Certainly doesn't paint a good picture of England at the time.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. My great-grandparents died in. it, so I had ...By mlsMy great-grandparents died in.it, so I had a lot to learn. Last month I went back and saw the workhouse where I think they died. Even today it is hard there if protestant, but back then it was hard if you were catholic as well.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Extremely InterestingBy Larry J. ClarkAfter recently visiting Ireland for the first time and hearing

some stories, seeing remains of potato rows on the hillsides, it really activated my interest in getting some facts. This book went into great detail of all the "behind the scenes" activities between governments to help resolve this famine without much financial expenditure. For those who are interested in Irish History, mid 1800's, this is a must read. A very unfortunate time for the poor and middle class Irish people.

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.

From Library Journal The Irish Potato Famine of the 1840s, one of the major human catastrophes of modern times, has been popularly perceived as a genocide attributable to the British government's actions and failures to act. In professional historical circles, however, such thinking was dismissed for many years, as evidenced by the scathing academic response to Cecil Woodham-Smith's 1963 classic, *The Great Hunger: Ireland, 1845-49*, which, in addition to presenting a vivid and horrifying picture of the human suffering, made strong accusations against the British government and its officials. Donnelly (Irish history, Univ. of Wisconsin) has written an intelligent, thought-provoking, and well-written book that, among other things, is a very useful survey and synthesis of the current debates about and researches into the origins and causes of the famine. Donnelly supports Cecil-Woodham's charges of British governmental sins of both omission and commission in the famine but puts those charges in a broader context, including discussion of class and regional influences on the famine in Ireland itself. The chapter notes, indexing, and bibliography are of good quality. This book would be an excellent choice to accompany and update *The Great Hunger*. Highly recommended for both academic and public libraries. Charlie Cowling, Drake Memorial Lib., SUNY at Brockport Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. 'This is unquestionably the most comprehensive single account of the Irish catastrophe...' Professor Peter Gray, Queen's University, Belfast '... many historians have written excellent books about the great Irish famine ... Donnelly's is the best and most comprehensive of them all.' Kerby Miller, Middlebush Professor of History, University of Missouri, Columbia 'James Donnelly's book is likely to become the classic account of the Great Famine, and the first port of call for both students and general readers.' Professor Peter Gray, Queen's University, Belfast About the Author James S. Donnelly, Jr, is a professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. One of the most prolific and wide-ranging historians of Ireland, he is the author of *The Land and the People of Nineteenth-Century Cork*, which was awarded the Herbert Baxter Adams Prize of the American Historical Association). He is a coeditor of the journal *Eire-Ireland*.