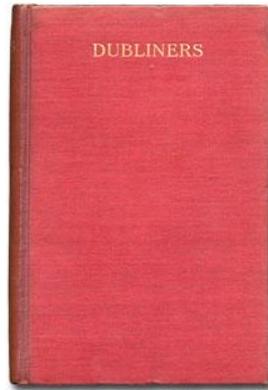




James Joyce & Revolutionary Ireland



Dubliners – written 1904-07; first stories published in *The Irish Homestead* - Aug-Sept. 1904; the entire collection published (after long delay) – London 15 June 1914.

1916 Proclamation – printed secretly and signed by IRB leadership, Sunday 3rd; read out at the GPO, Monday, 4th; reprinted by Sinn Féin Government, 1919.



Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,
THOMAS J. CLARKE,
SEAN Mac DIARMADA, THOMAS MacDONAGH,
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JAMES CONNOLLY, JOSEPH PLUNKETT.



Colonial Ireland

Pre-19th century

- Norman invasion – feudal “Lordship” established in Ireland by Henry II : 1172-79
- Anglican Reformation – resisted by the majority of Irish nobility and landowners : 1538
- Rebellion of Irish Earls - aided by the Spanish : 1588-1603
- 1641 Rebellion - Catholics rise up against Protestant settlers : 1643
- Cromwellian “Settlement” - Catholics wholly deprived of land : 1655
- Defeat of the English Catholic King James II in Ireland (Battle of the Boyne) : 1690
- Treaty of Limerick followed by Penal Laws (Catholics excluded from rights) : 1692 &c.
- United Irishmen’s Rebellion – inspired by French Revolution and brutally repressed : 1798
- Act of Union - Irish Parliament integrated with Westminster (London) : 1801
- Robert Emmet’s Rising – ends in his execution by hanging, drawing and quartering : 1803

Revolutionary Ireland

19th century

- Catholic Emancipation (allow Catholics into Parliament) won by Daniel O’Connell : 1829
- Development of a constitutional Repeal-of-Union campaign and electoral machine : 1829-45
- The Irish Famine halves the population through death and emigration : 1845-49
- Young Ireland and Fenian Risings breaking the mould of constitutional resistance, 1848 & 1867
- Disestablishment the Church of Ireland (driven through by Liberal PM Gladstone): 1869;
- First of the Home Rule Acts – sponsored by Gladstone, both narrowly defeated : 1886, 1893
- Land War – a violent conflict between Land League tenants and Landlords (“Boycott”) : 1879-1903
- Death of Parnell – leader of Irish Parliamentary (Home Rule) following divorce action: d. Oct. 1891
- National Literary Society founded by WB Yeats sponsoring new cultural politics (“soft wax”) 1892
- Gaelic League founded by Douglas Hyde to promote the revival of Irish Language – Nov. 1893

British Ireland

20th century

- Wyndham Land Act – a government-sponsored transfer of all Irish land to tenant farmers : 1903
- Sinn Fein (movement and newspaper) founded by Arthur Griffith on Hungarian model : Nov. 1905
- Formation of Ulster Volunteers to fight Home Rule; Irish Volunteers formed to defend it, 1912-13.
- Curragh Mutiny – British forces in Ireland refuse to implement Home Rule by force : 1913.
- Veto of the Lords over Acts of Parliament revoked in anticipation of Third Home Rule Bill : 1912
- Gun-running of German rifles at Dublin by Irish Volunteers using private yachts, July 1914
- Outbreak of World War I and passing of the 3rd Home Rule Bill : August & September 1914
- John Redmond (leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party) sends the Volunteer to War : Aug. 1914
- Irish Volunteers split, 3,000 out of 80,000 remaining at home to drill for revolution;
- Irish Volunteers and Irish Citizen Army embark on the Easter Rebellion in Dublin, April 1916.

Historical Snapshots



16th century Irish nobles, pinct. John Derricke



Bridget O'Donnell
(London Ill., 1846.)



Trim Castle - English power in Ireland



St Patrick (432 a.d.)



Lord Dudley
Viceroy in 1904



THE IRISH FRANKENSTEIN.
**The British and their Irish subjects... **



Evictions (19th &
20th c.)



Historical Snapshots



Ireland – “the emerald isle”



The National Library, 1893



Custom House, c.1900



Grattan Bridge, c.1902



Faithful Place
(Tyrone St.)



Hardwicke St. (setting of
“The Boarding House”



Connemara (Western Ireland)



The Four Courts (Law), 1786



Pro-Cathedral (Catholic), Marlborough St.

Historical Snapshots



General Post Office (GPO),
Sackville St., c.1910



GPO - post-Rising, 1916



The head is real but the photo is a fake involving students of the College of Art.



The Abbey Theatre, c.1920.

The GPO was designed by Francis Johnson, an Irish architect who also oversaw the building of “Nelson’s Pillar” – as it is called in Dublin.



Nelson’s Pillar, raised in 1808 to celebrate Trafalgar, was never popular with Dubliners on account of its British associations but well-loved as an urban monument. In 1966 it was blown up, presumably by members of the IRA.



Dublin City was tram-lined earlier than most British cities – and the trams feature prominent in *Ulysses*.

Historical Snapshots



This photo of British forces at a barricade during the Rising is taken from a film of 2015. Original pictures of the action are rare.



A contemporary photograph of British soldiers at a barricade in central Dublin during the 1916 Rising.



Much of the city centre was destroyed and later rebuilt. The GPO re-opened to the public in 1929. Permanent losses include the Royal Hibernian Academy and its pictorial contents. Nelson's Pillar – from which one of these pictures was taken – remained intact.



An artistic representation of events inside the GPO when the building caught fire and escape became necessary.



Artist's impression of the execution of Patrick Pearse on May 3rd 1916. We now know that it was not very efficiently done and the condemned man had to be shot in the head by a nervous officer who was later cashiered.



Sinn Féin Rebellion, 1916.
Hotel Metropole and
Post Office, Dublin.



The post-card is authentic but the date is wrong since the Rising was over by Friday, 29th April.



Nelson's Pillar was substantially undamaged and survived until 1966 when it was destroyed by a bomb placed there by break-away members of the IRA.

Historical Snapshots



A fictional portrait of the leaders printed in 1930s.

Thomas Clarke, the oldest leader, was a life-long republican and a survivor of the British prison system. James Connolly was the Secretary of the Worker's Union and a committed Marxist campaigner for worker's rights. Thomas MacDonagh was a school-teacher, as was Pearse. Eamon de Valera was spared execution as an American and went on to become President of Ireland.



Death toll

The mortality figures for the Rising were reported as follows:

Republicans, 86 (including 16 executed); British forces, 168; civilians (mostly women & children while scavenging), 1,024; unidentified, 12.



Con Markievicz (née Gore-Booth) was an aristocratic member of the Citizen Army and a founder of the Bean na hEireann women's movement. She recommended trousers and a revolver as the proper equipment for the Rising and used the revolver to shoot an unarmed policeman in St. Stephen's Green. To her great disgust, she was spared the death sentence as a woman and later participated on the Republican side in the Civil War.



Patrick Pearse in 1915

Patrick Pearse (1879-1916), the son of an English stone-mason and an Irish mother, an Irish-language enthusiast, lawyer and innovative school-teacher, wrote the 1916 Proclamation by himself, with only a few variations of phrase supplied by James Connolly. The "poetic" tone of the document is completely consistent with the matriarchal blood-sacrifice conception of Irish patriotism which he developed in the last few years – much influenced by the blood-bath of World War I.



Lieut. Michael Malone was in command of the unit at Mount Street Bridge which decimated newly-arrived British troops at Mount St. Bridge. 144 British soldiers died in fusillades from his position. He himself died in the action.

1916 PROCLAMATION OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC

POBLACHT NA H EIREANN. THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE IRISH REPUBLIC TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty; six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,
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SEAN Mac DIARMADA, THOMAS MacDONAGH,
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Young Joyce on the “plague” of Catholicism

The deadly chill of the atmosphere of the college paralysed Stephen’s heart. In a stupor of powerlessness he reviewed the plague of Catholicism. [...] Like the plague of locusts described in Callista they seemed to choke the rivers and fill the valleys up. They obscured the sun. Contempt of human nature, weakness, nervous tremblings, fear of day and joy, distrust of man and life, hemiplegia of the will, beset the body burdened and disaffected in its members by its black tyrannous lice. Exaltation of the mind before joyful beauty, exultation of the body in free confederate labours, every natural impulse towards health and wisdom and happiness had been corroded by the pest of these vermin. The spectacle of the world in thrall filled him with the fire of courage. He, at least, though living at the farthest remove from the centre of European culture, marooned on an island in the ocean, though inheriting a will broken by doubt and a soul the steadfastness of whose hate became as weak as water in siren arms, would live his own life according to what he recognised as the voice of a new humanity, active, unafraid and unashamed.

Stephen Hero [written 1904-07]; published from fragmentary MSS in 1944 (Cape Edn. Edition, 1972; pp.198-99]

Elastic Art/Art élastique

- ‘[L]e problème de ma race est tellement compliqué qu’on a besoin de tous les moyens d’un art élastique pour l’esquisser - sans le résoudre. Je suis de l’avis qu’une prononciation personnelle n’est plus permise. Je suis contraint à la faire moyennant les scène et les personnage de ma pauvre invention.’ (Letters, 1, p.118)
-
- Translation [letter to Guillermet, 5 Aug. 1918]: ‘The problem of my race is so complicated that we need all the means of an elastic art for sketch - without solving it. I am of the opinion that a personal pronounciation is no longer allowed. I am forced to do it through the stage and the character of my poor invention.’ (Letters, 1, p. 118.)