

CROSSWORD DEFINITIONS

1. **Grosse Ile** – Island in St. Lawrence River off Quebec on which a Quarantine Station was set up to examine and treat arriving immigrants to Canada. Many Irish, arriving with disease, died here and are buried on the island. The Ancient Order of Hibernians erected huge Celtic Cross in their memory in 1909.
2. **Black 47** – The deadliest year of the Great Hunger in which many thousands of Irish died of starvation and hunger-related disease.
3. **Tenant Farmer** – the landless Irish who rented land from a landlord in order to grow a crop of their own to sell in order to pay rent, tithe and taxes and to cloth and feed their families.
4. **Corn Laws** – Laws enacted by the British Parliament prohibiting the import of grain to the United Kingdom that would compete with the landlords' crops and reduce their prices.
5. **An Gorta Mor** – Irish for 'The Great Hunger' which is used to define the period between 1845 and 1851 in which the potato crop failed and diseases that attend starvation devastated the Irish.
6. **Maize** – American Indian Corn which was purchased to replace the failed potato crop. It was too hard to digest and had to be ground or chopped, but it was distributed anyway causing great suffering.
7. **Genocide** – An act committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group by inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction.
8. **Infant Mortality** – The percentage of children below the age of 5 who died during a particular time-frame. Infant mortality during the Great Hunger was 20%.
9. **Landlord** – A property owner. During the Great Hunger it referred to Englishmen placed on Irish land to maintain Ireland as an English colony and save the expense of an army of occupation.
10. **Poor Law** – A law passed by the English parliament to fund workhouses and relief works by taxing landlords based on the number of tenants they had.
11. **Exports** – Goods, such as livestock and crops, sent to other countries for profit. During the Great Hunger enough food was exported to have fed the entire population of Ireland.
12. **Workhouse** – A government-run facility which required applicants to surrender all their possessions in order to enter and receive aid. Men, women and children were divided and assigned to manual labor in return for bed and board. Workhouses were only capable of accommodating 1% of the population. During the Great Hunger they became overcrowded, disease-infested death-traps.
13. **Coffin Ships** – Ships designed to carry goods, such as lumber, which were hastily converted to carry emigrating passengers. Inadequate and unsanitary conditions caused many deaths and the spread of deadly disease.
14. **Act of Union** – An act passed by the English Parliament which made Ireland, Scotland and Wales part of the British Empire, governed by the English Parliament; the Irish Parliament was dissolved.
15. **Lumper** – A variety of potato that produces a higher yield than normal, but is less nutritious and more subject to diseases like the *Phytophthora infestans* fungus that struck in 1845.