More than Potatoes:
Debate and Diplomacy in the Mission of the USS *Jamestown*

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Individual Documentary
Process Paper: 500 words
Process Paper

Unlike in the previous years I have competed in National History Day, it did not take long before discovering a topic that I connected with and that fit the theme. With interest in naval history, I conducted some precursory research into the Navy’s past with debate and diplomacy. I found that the USS Jamestown’s mission to help those suffering from the 1847 Irish Potato Famine, with debate surrounding the mission and its influence in future diplomatic humanitarian efforts, had strong connections to the theme as well as lasting impacts.

Because of ever-present COVID-19 restrictions, the majority of my research was conducted online. Additionally, due to the historical period in which I focused, some source types that I have used in the past were severely limited. Stephen Puleo’s book, Voyage of Mercy, was particularly helpful in providing incredible amounts of information on the voyage and historical context. The webpage A Sampling of U.S. Naval Humanitarian Operations from the Naval History and Heritage Command was also especially useful, providing valuable insight into the humanitarian work done by the Navy since the USS Jamestown’s mission, showing the far-reaching and long-term effects the mission has had on military humanitarianism. I also read sources on the Great Famine itself in order to gain accurate context for the causes of the debated journey. My school provided subscriptions to Newspapers.com and The New York Times which allowed access to primary source newspaper articles showing contemporary perspectives on the trip, famine, and Irish immigration. The Congressional Globe’s records were also invaluable, detailing the Congressional debate and the Senators’ concerns and questions with the proposal.

Although this topic, lacking resources and interviews, posed a challenge in the
documentary making process, I chose this category in order to utilize the skills that I have attained by previously competing in the category and to gain more experience as I plan to pursue documentary filmmaking as a career. I researched, wrote the script, then used Adobe Premiere Pro CC to compile and edit the documentary and to record the narration. I also made several revisions after the previous contests.

The USS *Jamestown’s* mission to provide aid to Ireland during the potato famine may have failed to improve treatment of Irish Americans at the time, but lasting consequences included saving many lives, sparking ideological debates that continue, and setting a successful precedent for governmental humanitarian diplomacy. During the Irish Potato Famine, deaths exceeded one million. Although there was much debate surrounding the matter, the United States allowed for two Navy warships to be sent to Ireland loaded with donated provisions to help the people. Consequently, many lives were saved. Despite Ireland’s newfound gratitude and love for the United States, New England failed to accept these immigrants with open arms. While governmental charity was uncommon at the time, the *Jamestown’s* mission successfully set the standard for future humanitarian efforts both militarily and with the government joining forces with private organizations to help other countries in need. Such diplomatic actions endure to present-day.
Annotated Bibliography

Primary Sources

Book


This book was written by the Captain of the USS *Jamestown* after its voyage to Ireland to deliver relief. He detailed his personal experience in Ireland and included poems showing gratitude from the Irish, newspaper articles from the time, correspondences relating to the mission, and the feelings toward the English on the part of the Irish and Captain Forbes during the famine. I used digital images of multiple pages from the book in my documentary to show the cargo of the ship, the crew on the ship, and Forbes' thoughts on the distribution process once they arrived in Ireland.

Letters/Correspondences


This letter was from an Irish woman to her brother who immigrated to the United States; in it, she begged him to send her money so she and her husband could travel to the United States. She described her personal experiences and accounts of the painful circumstances in Ireland due to the famine.


This letter was the second of two from Queen Victoria to her people asking for donations on behalf of the Irish; unlike the first however, it did not produce much help. This showed that the English government was not completely ignoring the Irish need, but it also showed that the hearts of the English people were hardened toward the suffering Irish.

Speech

This speech from the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator of the United Nations explained some of the United Nations' efforts to help those suffering from famine in recent years. It explained the necessity of not only providing food, but taking measures to end the famine.

Government Documents/Records


This session record held positions of Congressmen on allowing the United States Navy to hand over a ship to a private citizen in order to send relief to the Irish and would also have appropriated $500,000 for the repair of the ship. The statements of George E. Badger were particularly useful in showing a perspective of someone who was against the use of a government ship and government funds to help the Irish and Scottish.


The statement of John Crittenden, while debating a bill for the government to approve relief to Ireland, showed the perspective that it was a Christian duty to help the Irish.


This congressional record explained that Congressman Hunt had tried to get the bill for the relief of Ireland passed, but the House refused it. This showed more of the debate that went into securing approval for this.


This record of the continuing debate on whether or not to send governmental aid to the Irish held important statements from John Crittenden. He argued that it was Congress' duty to fulfill the wishes of the American people, protect our brothers in Ireland, and that
the Constitution did not bar this use of resources because if it did, it would oppose the
law of heaven.

---, ---, Congressional Globe. Statement of Washington Hunt, George W. Jones, Charles H.
Congress,
memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=018/llcg018.db&recNum=564.

The bill for governmental relief of Ireland was read twice and received 75 yeas and 79
nays. "A short debate then arose" which led to chaos and questioning on the part of at
least 18 men with the major players being Hunt, Jones, Carroll, and Gordon. This
instance clearly illustrated the heated debates that took place in the United States
Congress over the decision to lease out the ship.

1847, p. 559. Library of Congress,
memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/ampage?collId=llcg&fileName=018/llcg018.db&recNum=564.

On this day, the proposed bill to help Ireland and Scotland was altered to exclude the
previously suggested $500,000 for ship repairs and changed the proposed ship from the
USS Macedonian to the USS Jamestown.

session.

This congressional debate was over the Irish and Scotch Relief Bill and showed the
multiple perspectives on the bill from the people in Congress; it highlighted the stark
contrast this bill was to the widely accepted standoffish government role toward
international charity. It was a great example of the debate that occurred over the proposed
bill to appropriate the naval ships and money to send to Ireland; it also showed the bill
passing in Congress. I used quotes from the document and the document itself in my
video to show the debate.

---, ---, Senate. A Resolution Authorizing the Employment of the United States Ships
Macedonian and Jamestown in Transporting Provisions for the Famishing Poor of Ireland
of Ireland and Scotland. Library of Congress, 3 Mar. 1847,
29th Congress, Senate Resolution 10.

This resolution, approved by both the Senate and the House of Representatives, allowed
for the Secretary of the Navy to permit the ships USS Jamestown and USS Macedonian
be at the disposal of Captains Robert Forbes and George De Kay to bring donations to the Irish. This resolution was important because it marked the end of the debate in Congress over the constitutionality of such an allowance.

Newspapers


This newspaper article was an account of the banquet that was thrown in honor of the *Jamestown* crew when they docked. It detailed the letters of apology written by those who could not attend and the toast given in their honor. This banquet showed how grateful the Irish were for the help of the *Jamestown* and Captain Forbes.


This article was a reprint from the *Cork Constitution* on April 15, 1847. It spoke of the shame in lack of response from their own government, the gratitude the Irish had for the United States, and it spoke in great detail of the suffering the Irish were facing.


This article announced the bills that had recently passed in the Senate and House of Representatives. One of these Senate bills was the one which allowed Captain Forbes to take control of the U.S. ship *Jamestown* to deliver provisions to the starving Irish.


This article detailing the National Repeal Association's weekly meeting was helpful in detailing the statistics and numbers of dead and dying in different parishes in the country of Ireland. I used an excerpt from this article in my video to show the reports of the Irish that the British did not believe.

This article detailed the suffering experienced by the Irish during the Famine. I used two illustrations from this article to depict this suffering as well as the variety of provisions that were distributed to assist them.


This article announced the recent developments of Congress, and expressed disappointment in the events except for the resolution allowing one of two ships of war permission to bring the Irish relief. This article provided important historical context.


This newspaper article was most helpful in its explanation of the fundraising efforts that had been accomplished thus far and talks about the call to donate even more. I used an excerpt from this article in my documentary to begin explaining the early fund-raising efforts in the United States.


This article explained that the conditions in Ireland greatly improved since the Jamestown arrived in Ireland. While the writer admitted that it would still be rough going, it was believed that no more people would starve.


This article from the New York Times explained the catastrophe of the series of earthquakes that racked the Ionian Islands in 1953. It explained the United States Navy's presence and the services they offered to the people of the islands. I used an image of this newspaper in my documentary to highlight the work the US Navy has done internationally to help those in need.


This short announcement stated that it was assumed the money donated by people in Brooklyn would be used to purchase provisions to go to Ireland. I used a picture of this announcement in my video to show the donation efforts in the United States.

This article announced the gift of a flag from the Irish to the citizens of Boston; it was designed to be a mixture of the Irish and American flags. This gift demonstrated Irish gratitude and their feelings of relation to the United States of America.


This article expressed outrage at a letter written in which the author was angry at the U.S. government for not paying for the trip and for making the USS *Jamestown*'s passage a private endeavor. The author also expressed dismay at the fact that the letter was sent to Ireland to be published in the *Cork Examiner*. It included copies of the correspondences in the article.


This article described a banquet that Captain Forbes held on the *Jamestown* on the last day that the ship was in dock. It explained the gratitude the people of Ireland felt by the sheer numbers that attended and the addresses they gave in honor of Captain Forbes and his crew. It also, importantly, briefly mentioned the political anger toward the English that the Irish were feeling.


This article announced the USS *Jamestown*'s arrival in Cork; it included an excerpt from the *Cork Examiner* about the event. I quoted the *Cork Examiner* in my documentary and used this newspaper clip to show and support the quote.


This article provided information on the reception of the *Jamestown* from the Irish people to the American people. It showed them how grateful the starving people were to receive the gifts from the people in the United States. It also included a portion stating that the London papers made no mention of the *Jamestown*'s arrival.

This article began by praising the response of the American people for honoring the blood bond all humans share. It briefly mentioned that the London papers made no mention of the *Jamestown's* arrival and tried to offer an explanation for this and then copied in full Captain Forbes' response to the address given him by the Chairman of Cork.


This article detailed the request Captain Forbes made to the Relief Committee in Boston and the decisions they made. It also listed some major donations made to the relief efforts.


This brief article was an update on some of the goings-on in the Mexican-American war. But it also included a statement that explained the average American's view of supporting the Irish survival instead of the bloody war with Mexico. I used a clip and quote of the newspaper in my video to show this.


This brief insert was written by an anonymous subscriber to the Gazette explaining that the undisclosed amount of funds enclosed were to be used for the Irish relief effort. This was a perfect example of the successful far reach the relief effort had and the common folk who contributed even a small amount of money. I used it in my video to show that perspective.


This newspaper article explained the situation in Ireland as witnessed by their illustrator, James Mahony; it included sketches of the atrocities he saw. This primary source painted a visual image of the terrible condition Ireland was in the year the USS *Jamestown* docked in Cork.
Audio/Video


This video explained both military and civilian modern relief efforts and the important things they must consider when helping. It stressed the importance of humanitarian efforts and the importance of long-term corrective efforts. I used a segment of this video in my documentary to show the importance of these long-term goals.


I used this video highlighting the Red Cross' work around the globe to show the kind of work humanitarian organizations, specifically Red Cross, do to help those in need.


I used clips from this video of Navy humanitarian efforts to show examples of the types of humanitarian operations that the United States Navy is involved in.


I used this video of humanitarian efforts in action to show modern-day famine help the United States is involved in.

Images


I used this lithograph of the victory at the Battle of Buena Vista to illustrate how the war-time condition of the United States of America had an effect on the debate over the USS Jamestown's mission to Ireland.

Billings, H., and D. G. Thompson. The Battle of Vera Cruz. 1863. Naval History and Heritage Command,
I used this engraving of the Battle of Vera Cruz during the Mexican-American War to demonstrate the political nature of the country at the time and the historical context that influenced heavily the decision-making made by those debating the feasibility of the Jamestown's mission.


This webpage provided three primary source photographs and a painting that I used in my video to show Captain Forbes and some of the gifts received from Ireland.


I used four pictures of the senators I quoted in my documentary, John Fairfield, John Calhoun, Arthur Bagby, and Edward Hannegan, in order to display who they were and what their perspectives were on the Irish Relief Bill.


I used this painting of the Battle at Vera Cruz in order to show the war-time condition of the country and how it was an influence on the debate over the USS Jamestown's mission.


I used this drawing of President Zachary Taylor's death from cholera to depict the fears of Boston society that the Irish would spread the disease.


I used this lithograph illustration of the United States Capitol building to provide imagery for the debate occurring in Congress over the proposed Irish Relief Bill.
I used this illustration of the National Treasury building to demonstrate the debate over who would fund a voyage to Ireland and whether that decision would fall on the Treasury Department.


I used this illustration of the Hall of the House of Representatives to visually depict the debates that occurred regarding the use of the *Jamestown* and the future debates that surrounded humanitarian diplomacy.


I used this map of the population of Irish immigrants to demonstrate the huge numbers of Irish immigrants in the United States, especially in port cities.


I used this map of England to give a geographic representation of the country while I was explaining the devastation that occurred in the land of Ireland, which was under its control.


This is an illustration of starving Irish people wandering and searching for food in the ground. I used this image to show the suffering the Irish Potato Famine caused.

I used this picture to demonstrate the numbers of immigrants coming to the U.S. from Ireland and to explain the average American's thoughts and feelings toward them. I also used a zoomed in version of this illustration later in the video to reiterate the same points.


This is an illustration of the poor, starving Irish losing their homes. I used this illustration in my video to depict their poverty; although it is from the year after the Jamestown's mission, it depicts a common occurrence throughout the entirety of the famine.


I use this illustration of starving Irish citizens in my documentary to show the terrible state that people were living in due to the famine.


I used this wood engraving of the USS Macedonian to provide a visual example of one of the other warships from the United States sent to Ireland, the only other Navy frigate to make the trip.


This is a picture of President James K. Polk's diary, in which he writes about his displeasure with the proposed Irish Relief Bill. I used this image in my documentary in order to show his perspective on the bill.


I used this map to show the difference between Cork city and Cork county and support the debate that arose over who should receive the food delivered by the USS James-town.

This illustration, from the book The Life and Times of Queen Victoria by Robert Wilson, depicted an Irish family in their home during the famine; it showed their horrid living conditions, as a boy appears dead in the corner. I used this image in my documentary to illustrate the poor situations to which the Irish were subjected.


I used this picture of Senator John Crittenden while discussing what his original Irish Relief Bill stated and what started the debate in Congress over such an appropriation.


I used this political cartoon from 1920 to show that people were not in widespread favor of governmental charity. Although this picture is from the 1920s, which is after the precedent of the Jamestown mission, I used this picture because the change did not occur all at once and it is a good visual representation of widespread sentiment.


This lithograph of the USS Jamestown leaving Boston was used in my documentary to depict the ship leaving for its successful mission of mercy.


I used this map of the United States to show what the country looked like during the Irish Potato Famine when they were hearing word of the devastation occurring overseas.


I used this picture of a model of the USS Jamestown, built in 1844, during my recap of the mission's importance. I chose this image because there are very few actual paintings or drawings of the ship itself and this model provided a more dimensional view of the vessel. The webpage with it also included a short description of the ship’s history, including its dimensions, past voyages, and its eventual destruction.

I used this political cartoon, published on the cover of *Harper's Weekly*, of someone asking for donations for the suffering Irish with the caption "Beware," to show the displeasure the average American felt towards their migration to the states. Although this cartoon is from 1880, I used it because it demonstrated the sentiment that started in the 1840s and continued.


I used this political cartoon, although drawn after the actual ship sailed, to show the arrival of the *Jamestown* as that was what Thomas Nast drew it about. I classified it as a primary source because, although it was not drawn until decades after the *Jamestown* sailed into Ireland, it showed that the mission was still important and newsworthy that far removed from the event.


I used this picture to show the conditions the Irish were living in after moving to America. Although this picture is from 1900, I used it because there are no pictures of their living conditions in 1840s America and it was the 1840s that started the standard of living seen in the picture.


This picture of an Allied plane flying over Berlin, Germany for the Berlin Airlift was used in my video to provide an example of later humanitarian efforts that the United States government, specifically the United States military, were involved in after the precedent set by the USS *Jamestown's* successful mission to Ireland.

I used this portrait of the Honorable Robert C. Winthrop while explaining his role in the debate surrounding the possibility of sending a warship to Ireland with provisions.


I used this image of a postcard of the United States and Irish flags to display comradery between the two countries as a result of the Potato Famine.


I used this engraving of Charles Trevelyan to provide a visual representation of the British economy. I used his picture because he was the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in England and therefore was in charge of famine relief.


I used this political cartoon of Irish Immigrants, published in *Harper's Weekly*, to show the displeasure the average American felt towards their migration to the states.


This picture, from the book *The Life and Times of Queen Victoria* by Robert Wilson, showed a mob in Ireland trying to force their way into a workhouse, completely neglecting anyone around them, including a woman holding her dead son. I used this image in my video to show the effect the famine was having on the people of Ireland.


I used this map of Ireland to display a cartographic representation while I was explaining the devastation that occurred there.

I used this U.S. flag from the 1840s in a sequence to show the relationship between the United States of America and Ireland after the USS Jamestown's mission.


I used this picture of the USS Abraham Lincoln to show an example of another US Navy vessel that has brought aid to foreign countries through humanitarian diplomacy.


I used this photo of a Compassion International group in Uganda in my documentary to demonstrate the non-governmental organizations in operation today and draw a connection from their efforts to the mission of the Jamestown.

Web Sites


This article was most helpful when discussing the problems humanitarian efforts can cause when trying to help. I used a quote from the article in my video to show the negative effect of dependency that these well-intentioned efforts can cause. I categorized it as a primary source because the author served as the Chief Medical Officer of the International Committee of the Red Cross at the time the article was written.


This webpage explained some of the crises the people in Ukraine are facing with this current conflict and how Direct Relief was providing aid for them. It was very helpful in showing the type of work Direct Relief does. I used a picture from this article to demonstrate their efforts to help the people fleeing and still living in Ukraine.
Secondary Sources

Books


This book was most helpful in explaining how the humanitarian efforts in the United States of America got started and further missions that occurred, specifically that of the warship *Macedonian*. It also explained Captain Forbes' role in securing the *Macedonian*’s trip after he had returned from Ireland.


This book provided historical context by detailing the history of Ireland. It also included detailed information on the famine focusing on outsiders' perspectives of the famine and the input they gave.


This book was incredibly beneficial in providing a detailed description of the entire story, including context, cause, and effects. It provided reliable information which I used in various ways throughout the entire course of the project, such as in base level research, compiling the script, and quoting the author in my documentary while discussing the American view of Irish immigrants coming to the United States and the previously widespread belief that charity made a country seem less formidable in the eyes of others.

Audio/Video


This documentary contextualized the causes, effects, and agitators of the Irish potato famine. It also examined the traditional areas in which the blame has been laid, and it further explained that it is not so simple as to blame one institution because mistakes were made on all fronts.


This podcast highlighted letters written by Irish sufferers to their landlord to ask for paid passage to Canada. It was helpful in providing primary feelings of despair and
desperation that those in Ireland were facing and in explaining the effects such high levels of immigration had on the economy and families.

Images


I used this calendar to highlight the amount of days that the Jamestown stayed in Ireland. Although this is a calendar from 2021, the days of the week corresponding with the dates in April 1847 match; I decided to use this calendar because finding an antique April 1847 calendar was next to impossible.


This painting of Captain Robert Forbes was used in my video while quoting his feelings toward the possibility of a trip to Ireland with provisions. I categorized this as a secondary source because there was no date included.


I used this picture of the ocean and the sky as the background for my title page because it simply, yet effectively, represented the nautical aspects of my project.


I used this map to establish the fragile interstate relations in the United States at the time of the Jamestown mission in order to provide historical context that would have had a bearing on the outcome of the debate. I classified this as a secondary source because it was not published until 54 years after the Civil War ended.


This picture of the coast of Ireland was used in my video to close the documentary and to give the eye a break during the video.
Coast of Rathlin Island. *Irish Times*,

This picture of the coast of Ireland was used to conclude the documentary and give a pleasing scene of Ireland's coast during the video.

*Collection of Photos of Irish Famine Memorials. Irish Famine Memorials*,

I used two images in my video of two different Irish Famine memorials to depict American feelings toward the Irish, both at the time and now.

*Dun Aengus, Inishmore, Aran Islands, County Galway. Irish Central*,

This picture of Ireland's coast was used to view a modern picture of the area both during the video and at the end of the documentary.

Group of Non-Governmental Organizations Logos. *SaferWorld*,

I used this image of different non-governmental organizations (NGOs) logos in my documentary to provide examples of different NGOs.

A Habitat for Humanity Worker Helps Build Abroad. *Habitat for Humanity*,

I used this photograph in my video to demonstrate the type of work Habitat for Humanity is doing around the globe. I classified it as a secondary source because no date or information was included with the photograph.

*Help the Hungry of Volga Region! 1921. Air Mail*,

This illustration is of starving people in Russia during their famine in the 1920s. I used it in my documentary to give a visualization of their suffering while talking about the United States' efforts to help them, highlighting the importance of continued humanitarianism. The illustration available on this website is a cropped version of the original poster, which included a title and information written in Russian. I classified this source as a secondary source because it is not the original or full poster.

I used this photo of the Constitution to show the major debate over the constitutionality of the *Jamestown*’s mission.


I used this Navy logo to represent the Navy when introducing the activities they continue to participate in for humanitarian goals.


I used this painting of Ireland's flag in a sequence to show the relationship between the United States of America and Ireland. I classified this as a secondary source because there was no date or artist information included.


I used this picture of Cork city as a visual of the area when explaining that Cork officials debated how to distribute the food and goods the *Jamestown* brought. I categorized this as a secondary source because there was no date or photographer's name to go along with it.


I used this pinpoint to show various countries where the United States Navy has sent humanitarian aid in recent years. It provided a small sample of how the United States continues to assist other countries in need.


I used these cartoons showing Irish displeasure with British rule and to show the civil unrest occurring at the time. I categorized them as secondary sources because there was no date with them.
I used this portrait of President James K. Polk while explaining his perspective of the USS Jamestown's mission of mercy. I categorized this as a secondary source because it did not include the date the portrait was painted.


This is a picture of a potato inflicted with blight, *Phytophthora Infestans*. I used it in my video to give a visual representation of what the potatoes in Ireland looked like during the 1840s.


I used this image of a $500 bill, from 1847, to represent the debate over the government making a monetary donation in addition to allowing a US Navy ship to go to Ireland with provisions.


I used this red circle in order to highlight key points during my video, once on a map, and twice on a calendar.


I used this Red Cross logo to represent the organization in my documentary while stating a quote from one of its former workers.

I used this digital map of Africa to show modern humanitarian efforts in different locations on the continent and to provide contrast from the archival maps I used previously when explaining what happened in the 1840s.

*Theobald Mathew, ("Father Mathew"), 1790-1856. Apostle of Temperance. 1849. National Galleries Scotland,*

Father Mathew was an important person in Ireland during the famine who consistently worked to keep the Irish alive and raise funds for the starving and sick; I used his picture to support his position on how the USS *Jamestown's* donations should be distributed.

**Journals/Scholarly Papers**


This journal article explained the motives behind the attitude the people in the United States had toward the Irish and the famine in Ireland. It was specifically helpful in examining how the press' portrayal of the famine in the United States was different than the portrayal in the United Kingdom, which attributed to the general sympathies felt by both nations.


This thesis helped in providing background information on military efforts in humanitarian diplomacy, specifically the United States Navy's role. It also mentioned the debates surrounding military involvement in international humanitarian missions.


This journal article examined the French perspective of the Irish Famine while they were also in the midst of one, albeit much smaller, themselves. The Irish Famine was a source of much conversation in France at the time, despite the fact that it was not often discussed in many other European countries.
Web Sites


Browne, Patrick. "Tag Archives: USS Jamestown." Historical Digression, 19 Mar. 2014, historicaldigression.com/tag/uss-jamestown/. Accessed 30 Jan. 2022. This article gave a brief overview of the Jamestown's mission. It was useful in providing two primary source paintings, one of Captain Forbes and one of the Jamestown, that I used in my video to visually represent the Captain and the ship's arrival in Cork.

Cerullo, Bob. "USS Jamestown." Boating World, Nov. 2020, liboatingworld.com/uss-jamestown/. Accessed 28 Dec. 2021. This webpage had a very unforgiving perspective toward the British influence on the Irish Famine; it gave descriptions of the weather during the voyage. It was also most helpful in establishing that Ireland sent foodstuffs to the Massachusetts Bay and Plymouth colonies when they were starving during the First Indian War (1675-1678).


This article gave a broad description and timeline of the Mexican-American War that held most of the United States' attention during the years of the famine. This article helped to provide knowledge of the historical context and a better understanding of the sacrifice of two warships at the time.


This article attributed some of the large number of Irish volunteers in the Union Army during the Civil War to the gratitude they felt to the United States for providing help and refuge during the famine.


This webpage explained what the Irish Distress Papers were and why they were important. This article was specifically helpful in providing some historical context, but mostly in showing the famine through the primary source papers' multiple perspectives, such as from organizers or relief committees, the treasury, and people explaining the extent of the distress in their country.


This article further explained the United States Navy's role in providing successful humanitarian assistance to other countries during disasters. It mentioned both international and national missions the Navy has participated in, including providing assistance to large United States cities during the COVID-19 pandemic. This article also provided many primary source pictures of the Navy participating in humanitarian efforts around the globe; I used several of them in my documentary.


In this article O'Keeffe explained Sir Robert Peele's Relief Commission and his efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Irish during the famine. It detailed the rise and fall of the Commission as well as criticism his efforts caused. Most helpfully, it provided positive feedback for his efforts, when most everything else on the English response was negative.

This article explained the cause of the potato blight and why Irish potato crops at the time were especially susceptible to blight. It provided background information on the disease that was a major cause of the potato famine.


This webpage included the Secretary of the Navy's Report on the allowance of the Navy to place Navy ships in the hands of civilians in order to bring civilian donations to Ireland. He explained that he did not think sending the ships as a government vessel would have been possible or prudent because they could not get the crews together in a time of war and that sending them as an act of the government would not have strengthened the "bond of friendship" between the two nations to the same effect.


This article was about Queen Victoria’s second letter to the English people to support the Irish in 1847 and the reactions it caused. People were unwilling to give because they believed the Irish to be ungrateful for their help and they believed the famine to be the fault of the Irish. However, it also pointed out that the English were not in a very stable financial position to help the Irish monetarily and that English landlords of Irish property were forced to evict their tenants because they themselves were facing financial difficulties.


This webpage explained what the Charitable Irish Society of Boston was and its efforts during the famine. It explained their major role in supplying funds and foodstuffs for the USS Jamestown and the USS Macedonian missions.

This article gave a brief overview of the *Jamestown*'s mission. It included two primary source pictures I used in my video, one, a painting of Captain Forbes, and the other a picture of a starving, half-dead family in Ireland, which I used to display the terrible conditions the Irish were in, so much so that they could not even bury their dead.


This webpage gave a list of examples of U.S. Naval Humanitarian efforts as far back as 1949. It showed the scale and successes of Navy humanitarian missions in areas such as disaster relief, rescues at sea, refugee assistance, emergency medical assistance, nation-building activities, and others.


This article briefly described the USS *Jamestown* and Captain Forbes' mission, but it was mostly helpful in providing the true background story for a sketch of the suffering. The story behind the image painted a picture of the complete destitution that the Irish people were living in and the horrors that they faced.


This article included journal entries from James Mahony, an artist for the *Illustrated London News*, when he visited Ireland during the famine; he described the horrific living situations he found and the fact that the living, dying, and dead were all together without discrimination. This secondary source provided a first hand account of the suffering from an outsider's perspective.


This webpage discussed the timeline of events for the beginning of the famine. It also provided information on the charitable efforts made by mostly those in the United States of America before the *Jamestown* sailed.
This article explained the context in the United States that hindered charity efforts when they first started. It explained that the impending war and feelings about immigrants caused a hardening of hearts against the Irish; but it also explained that the country was eventually unified behind helping the Irish.

This article explained how the major relief efforts were started in the United States and the feelings that tales of the famine caused in the hearts of Americans. It also provided a list of original donations and benefactors.

This article detailed charitable efforts to alleviate the devastation of the Irish Famine and was helpful in showing the generosity felt by people not connected to the Jamestown mission. It was also extremely helpful in showing the perspective of women's organizations, Native Americans, and American prisoners who all provided relief in one way or another.

This article explained the U.S. Navy's role in humanitarian assistance across the globe, detailing the debate surrounding the most effective way to do this, without leaving the nation vulnerable. It was helpful in pointing out just how involved the Navy is in providing international assistance and in how widely used the Navy has become in such missions.

Music

This song, performed by Celtic Woman, is in a traditional Irish folk style. I used it as background music in my video to add to the sad tone of the conditions of Ireland and the failure of the United States' responses to Irish immigrants.


This song, by Loreena McKennit, is performed in the style of traditional folk. I chose a portion of it to be background music because it fit the mood of the information I was giving, while calling back to the traditions of the land I was referencing.


This song, written and performed by Johnny McEvoy, is about the Irish famine and one man's journey to America. I used a segment of this song behind my title page to set the tone for the rest of the documentary.


This Irish folk song is about an Irishman who stole corn to feed his family and was arrested. It not only fit the theme of the video, but I used the instrumental in the video to give an undertone of hopeful sadness to the documentary.


This song was played when the USS Jamestown arrived in Cork to honor the people of the United States who sent it. I used it in my documentary while I talked about that and to set the jovial and grateful mood that prevailed at the ship's arrival.