



Unit 2:

Cultural Nationalism & the Gaelic Athletic
Association, 1884-1901

SENIOR CYCLE WORKSHEETS

Cultural Nationalism

1884-1908

IRISH SPORTS FOR IRISH PEOPLE, WITH
IRISH RULES.

MICHAEL CUSACK FOUNDED THE GAAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (GAA) IN ORDER TO PRESERVE GAAELIC GAMES FROM EXTINCTION IN IRELAND.

1884

GAA was founded in Thurles on 1 November 1884 to provide for 'the preservation and cultivation of the national pastimes of Ireland'

1885

The GAA published its first set of rules for hurling and football

GAAELIC Athletic Association.
Football Rules,
AS
REVISED AT THURLES,
JAN., 1888.

1886

GAA members banned from playing 'foreign games such as soccer and rugby

1887



First All-Ireland Championships in hurling and Gaelic football

At the GAA Convention in Thurles Maurice Davin is removed from the Presidency of the GAA and replaced by an IRB candidate.



1888

GAA Convention in Thurles in Jan 1888 - Davin re-elected as president and the IRB members ousted from important positions

1892

Douglas Hyde's famous essay, 'The Necessity for De-Anglicising Ireland' called for a revival of the Irish language and Irish culture.

1893

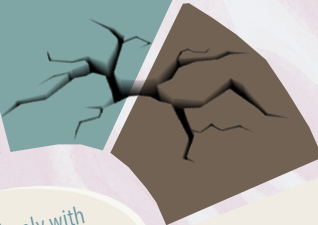
Antrim-born scholar Eoin MacNeill and Protestant-Irish gentleman Douglas Hyde found The Gaelic League [Conradh na Gaeilge] in Dublin Eoin to support the Irish Language

1891

GAA stood firmly with Parnell leading many anti-Parnellites to leave the organisation.

The Parnellite Split
1890

Members of the police, the Royal Irish Constabulary barred from GAA



1897

Gaelic League's first national Oireachtas

1897

Irish Literary Theatre established by W.B. Yeats, Lady August Gregory and Edward Martyn.



1898

1798 centenary commemorations. An exciting time, full of lectures, publications, parades.



1899

The United Irish League (UIL) founded by William O'Brien

Daniel Corkery founded the Cork Dramatic Society modelled on the success of the Abbey Theatre

1908

Nationalists denounce J.M. Synge's play, The Playboy of the Western World - 'Playboy Riots' in the Abbey Theatre



1900

Gaelic League begins publication of its own newspaper, An Claidheamh Solais



Arthur Griffith begins editorship of the United Irishman newspaper

1907

A new political movement known as Sinn Féin - 'Ourselves Alone' - is founded by Arthur Griffith.



1905

Journalist D.P. Moran publishes The Philosophy of Irish Ireland

1904

English supporter of the Irish Literary Theatre Annie Horniman bought & converted premises in Abbey Street.



Cumann na nGaedheal founded by Arthur Griffith and William Rooney to bring together various nationalist and cultural

Inghinidhe na hÉireann founded by Maud Gonne

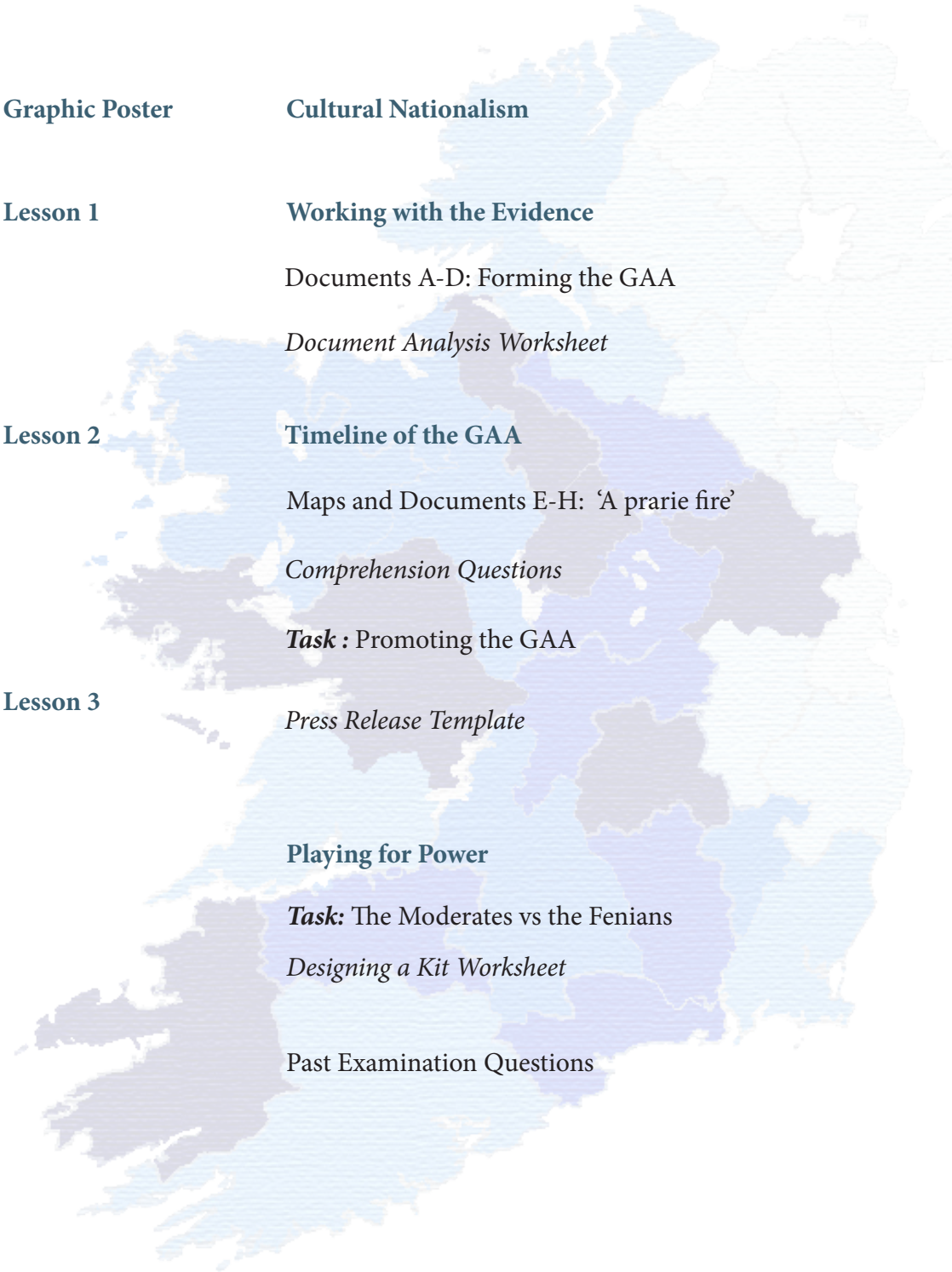
After a decade of division, the Irish Parliamentary Party reunites under the leadership of John Redmond.



DUAL MONARCHY * PROTECTIONISM
PARLIAMENTARY ABSTENTION



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Edited extract from an article by written anonymously by thirty-seven-year-old Michael Cusack and published in the William O'Brien's nationalist newspaper, *United Ireland*, 11 October 1884

UNITED IRELAND

A NATIONAL WEEKLY REVIEW

No. 40 Vol. 2]

DUBLIN, OCTOBER, 11th, 1884

[PRICE ONE PENNY

A WORD ABOUT IRISH ATHLETICS

No movement having for its object the social and political advancement of a nation from the tyranny of imported and enforced customs and manners can be regarded as perfect if it has not made adequate provision for the preservation and cultivation of the National pastimes of the people. Voluntary neglect of such pastimes is a sure sign of a National decay and of approaching dissolution ...

The corrupting influences which for several years have been devastating the sporting grounds of our cities and towns are fast spreading to our rural population. Foreign and hostile laws and the pernicious influence of a hated and hitherto dominant race drove the Irish people from trysting [meeting] places at the crossroads and hurling fields back to their cabins where but a few short few years before famine and fever reigned ... Originate with those who have ever had sympathy with Ireland or the Irish people. According to the labourers, tradesmen, artists, and even policemen and soldiers were excluded from the few competitions which constituted the lame and halting programme of the old promoters.



A few years later a so-called revival of athletics was inaugurated in Ireland. The new movement did not Two years ago every man who did not make his living either wholly or partly by athletics was allowed to compete. But with this concession came a law which is as intolerable as its existence in Ireland is degrading.

The law is that all Athletic Meetings shall be held under the rules of the Amateur Athletic Association of England, and that no person competing should be ineligible to compete elsewhere.

The management of nearly all the meetings held in Ireland since has been entrusted to persons hostile to all the dearest aspirations of the Irish people. Every effort has been made to make the meetings look as English as possible - footraces, betting and flagrant cheating being the most prominent features ... We tell the Irish people to take the management of their games into their own hands, to encourage and promote in every way every form of athletics which is peculiarly Irish, and to remove with one sweep ever thing foreign and iniquitous in the present system. The vast majority of the best athletes are nationalists. These gentlemen should take the matter into their hands at once, and draft laws for the guidance of the promoters of meetings in Ireland next year. The people pay the expenses of the meetings, and the representatives of the people should have the controlling power. It is only by such an arrangement that pure Irish athletes will be revived and that the incomparable strength and physique of our race will be preserved.

- Anonymous -

A letter from Archbishop Thomas William Croke to Michael Cusack, indicating his acceptance of the role of patron of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Printed in *United Ireland*, 27 December 1884. Croke saw the establishment of the GAA as part of a wider nationalist agenda

The Palace
Churlas



December 18th, 1884

My Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your communication inviting me to become a patron of the 'Gaelic Athletic Association,' of which you are, it appears, hon. Secretary. I accede to your request with the utmost pleasure.

One of the most painful, let me assure you, and, at the same time, one of the most frequently recurring reflections that, as an Irishman, I am compelled to make in connection with the present aspect of things in this country, is derived from the ugly and irritating fact that we are daily importing from England not only her manufactured goods, which has practically strangled our own manufacturing appliances, but, together with her fashions, her accent, her vicious literature, her music, her dances, and her manifold mannerisms, her games also her pastimes, to the utter discredit of our own grand national sports, and the sore humiliation, as I believe, of every genuine son and daughter of the old land.

Ball playing, hurling, football, kicking according to Irish rules...and all such favourite exercises and amusements amongst men and boys, may now be said to be not only dead and buried, but in several localities to be entirely forgotten and unknown. And what have we got in their stead? We have got such foreign and fantastical field sports as lawn-tennis, polo, croquet, cricket, and the like - very excellent, I believe, and health-giving exercises in their way, still not racy of the soil, but rather alien to it, as are, indeed, for the most part the men and women who first imported and still continue to patronise them.

... Indeed if we continue travelling for the next score of years in the same direction that we have been going in for some time, contemning [despising] the sports practised by our forefathers, effacing our national features as though we were ashamed of them, and putting on, with England's stuff and broadcloths, her 'masher' habits and such other effeminate follies as she may recommend, we had better at once, and publicly, adjure our nationality, clap hands for joy at the sight of the Union Jack, and place 'England's bloody red' exultingly above 'the green.' ... [I] authorise you now formally to place my name on the roll of your patrons.

- Document C -

Extract from a three-volume guidebook relating to hurling in Co. Kerry in 1841

The forms of the game are these: - The players, sometimes the number of fifty or sixty, being chosen for each side, they are arranged (usually barefoot) in two opposing ranks with their hurleys crossed, to await the tossing up of the ball, the wickets or goals being previously fixed at the extremities of the hurling green, which, from the nature of the play, is required to be a level extensive plain. Then there are two picked men chosen to keep the goal on each side, over whom the opposing party places equally tried men as a counterpoise; the duty of these goal keepers being to arrest the ball in case of its near approach to that station, and return it back towards that of the opposite party, while those placed over them exert all their energies to drive it through the wicket. All preliminaries being adjusted, the leaders take their places in the centre. A person is chosen to throw up the ball, which is done as straight as possible, when the whole party, withdrawing their hurleys, stand with them elevated, to receive and strike it in its descent;

now comes the crash of mimic war, hurleys rattle against hurleys - the ball is struck and re-struck, often for several minutes, without advancing much nearer to either goal; and when someone is lucky enough to get a clear 'puck' at it is sent flying over the field. It is now followed by the entire party at their utmost speed; the men grapple, wrestle and toss each other with amazing agility, neither victor nor vanquished waiting to take breath, but following the course of the rolling and flying prize; the best runners watch each other, and keep almost shoulder to shoulder through the play, and the best wrestlers keep as close on them as possible, to arrest or impede their progress. The ball must not be taken from the ground by the hand; and the tact and skill shown in taking it on the point of the hurley and running with it half the length of the field, and when too closely pressed, striking it towards the goal, is a matter of astonishment to those who are but slightly acquainted with the play.

[Source: Mr and Mrs Hall, Ireland, Its Scenery, Character etc. (London, 1841)]

- Document D -

The first playing rules of hurling printed in Cusack's column in *United Ireland*, 10, February 1885

Gaelic Athletic Association



Hurling Rules

1. The ground shall, when convenient, be at least 200 yards long by 150 yards broad, or as near to that size as can be got.
2. There shall be boundary lines all around the ground, at distance of least five yards from the fence.
3. The goal shall be two upright posts, twenty feet apart, with a cross-bar ten feet from the ground. A goal is won when the ball is driven between the posts and under the bar.
4. The ball shall not be lifted off the ground with the hand, when in play.
5. There shall not be less than fourteen or more than twenty-one players aside in regular matches.
6. There shall be an umpire for each side and a referee who will decide in cases where the umpires disagree. The referee keeps the time and throws up the ball at the commencement of each half
7. The time of play shall be one hour and twenty minutes. Sides to be changed at half-time.
8. Before commencing play hurlers shall draw up the two lines in the centre of the field opposite to each other and catch hands or hurleys across, then separate. The referee then throws the ball along the ground between the players or up high over their heads.
9. No player to catch, trip or push from behind. Penalty, disqualification of the offender and free puck to the opposite side.
10. No player to bring his hurley intentionally in contact with the person of another player. Penalty as in Rule 9.
11. If the ball is driven over the end-lines and not through the goals, the player who is defending the goal shall have a free puck from the goal. No player of the opposite side to approach nearer than twenty yards until the ball is struck. The other players to stand on the goal line. But if the ball is driven over the goal line by a player whose goal it is, the opposite side shall have a free puck on the ground twenty yards out from the goal posts. Players whose goal it is to stand on the goal line until the ball is struck. N.B. Hitting both right and left is allowable. The hurley may be of any pattern fancied by the player.

Document Analysis Worksheet

SOURCE

Document A

Document B

Document C

Document D

Writer				
Date				
Location				

PURPOSE

Document A

Document B

Document C

Document D

Reason for Writing				
Intended Audience				

LANGUAGE

Document A

Document B

Document C

Document D

Type of Language Used				
Tone of the Document				

VIEWPOINT

Document A

Document B

Document C

Document D

Summarise the Point of View of the Writer				
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PERSPECTIVE

Document A

Document B

Document C

Document D

Objective or Subjective				
Level of Reliability as a Historical Source				

TIMELINE OF THE GAA 1884-1904

A meeting in Cork, on 27 December passed a resolution that the GAA governing body was to consist of the officers already elected, the committee of the National League, and two representatives from every athletic club in the country. The nationalist MP, William O'Brien, offered the GAA space in his newspaper, *United Ireland*, for weekly articles and notices.

Dec 1884

Oct 1884

Gaelic Athletic Association founded in Hayes' Hotel in Thurles Co. Tipperary by Michael Cusack and Maurice Davin.

Jan 1885

At a meeting in Thurles, rules were drawn up to regulate Gaelic sports. It was also decided that there could only be one GAA club in each parish, and that members of any other sporting organisation were banned from joining the GAA.

Oct 1885

The first Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the GAA in Hayes' Hotel, Thurles removed the ban on members of other sporting organisations.

July 1886

As general secretary of the GAA, Cusack often came into conflict with other leaders. At a special general meeting in 1886, he was accused of neglecting his administrative duties and removed from the post of secretary.

Sept 1886

At a meeting in Thurles, IRB member, P. T. Hoctor, was elected Vice-President, a motion was passed that veteran-Fenian, John O'Leary, who had just returned from exile, be elected a patron of the GAA. A decision was also taken to raise funds for a memorial to the Irish revolutionary, Charles Kickham. A ban was adopted banning members of the GAA from playing football or rugby.

Nov 1886

Eighty-four clubs were represented at the AGM in Thurles. The GAA wrote a constitution, County Boards were established, and a decision was taken to hold All-Ireland annual hurling and football championships. Davin, read a letter of thanks from John O'Leary, newly-elected patron of the GAA, which concluded with a quote from Thomas Davis, 'When we've skill our strength to wield, Let us take our own again.'

Feb 1887

The Central Executive decided to exclude members of the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) from the GAA, and from participating in sports or tournaments run by it. Davin, who was not present at the meeting, objected strongly and founder-member, John Wyse-Power, resigned his post as assistant secretary.

May 1887

Davin resigned as President of the GAA. Many clergymen were concerned about the power of IRB-dominated executive which was increasingly seen as too extremist.

Nov 1887

Nov 1887

Delegates from over 800 branches attended the annual convention in Thurles on 9 November, when the IRB candidates were elected to key roles in the GAA central executive. Trouble began when the delegates from Dublin clubs, suspended for not following GAA rules, were refused admission. Tensions increased when Father Scanlan of Nenagh objected strongly to vice-president Hoctor's nomination of prominent IRB man P. N. Fitzgerald as candidate for chairman. Angry exchanges followed and Scanlan and his supporters were ejected. They proceeded to hold an opposition meeting with the Dublin delegates, passing resolutions supporting Davin as President. After the convention, Archbishop Croke wrote to the papers to condemning the 'sinister' elements in the GAA and threatening to resign as Patron.

On 22 November, Archbishop Croke invited Davitt and Davin to Thurles to discuss how to reorganise and reunite the GAA. On the same day, Davitt met with P. N. Fitzgerald in an attempt to resolve the dispute. The prospect of a rival organisation prompted Fitzgerald to appeal to the executive for reconciliation. The executive voted to distance itself from any hostility to Croke the clergy, and the National League, and Davin and Wyse-Power agreed to assist in the organisation of another general Convention early in the New Year.

Jan 1888

IRB lost its dominance of the GAA executive at the convention held in Thurles on 4 January 1888. The 'Fenian section' was outvoted, the executive ousted and a new Council appointed. Davin was unanimously re-elected President.

Dec 1890

After the split in the Irish Parliamentary Party, the IRB-dominated central executive of the GAA came out in support of Parnell. This was contrary to majority nationalist and clerical opinion and, as a result, members left the association in vast numbers. Many clubs disbanded, Organised competitions and tournaments lapsed and only 6 counties were represented at the 1891 convention.

1900s

1904

The recovery of the GAA after 1900 coincided with the revival of the IRB and increasing popularity of cultural nationalism. After the formation of the Gaelic League in July 1893, many of its members joined the GAA, raising its membership and broadening its social base to include school teachers, clerks and civil servants.

The game of camogie was established and women began to play a more significant role in the organisation.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GAA 1884-1904

Eighteen months after its foundation, GAA membership was approximately 50,000. Six months later there were around 400 affiliated clubs. Despite clashes among the GAA leadership in the 1887-1899 period, the GAA continued to 'spread like prairie fire'. In 1887, there was a high distribution of parish clubs centered on the 'metropolitan' heartland of Dublin, Meath and Louth. This was second, however, to the crucial heartland of Munster (minus Co. Kerry) and the two adjacent counties of Kilkenny and Galway. Given its foundation in Tipperary, it is not surprising that the country boasted the greatest number of clubs (130) in 1887 followed by Limerick with upwards of 90 clubs, Cork 70, Clare 60 and Waterford 30

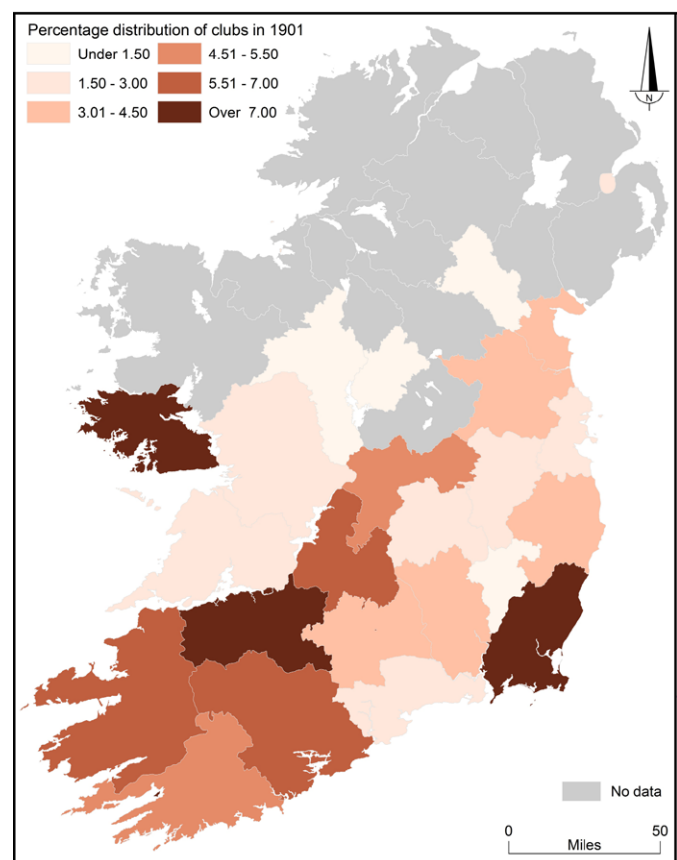
From at least 1887, Dublin Castle saw the GAA as a fully-fledged member of the nationalist movement with links to subversive organisations. Hence it came under the scrutiny of the Special Crime Branch of the RIC. Monthly reports on the GAA's status - compiled with the help of informers and spies in the GAA and the IRB - were sent to the Colonial Office in London. According to these reports, more clubs were founded in Monaghan, Cavan, Sligo, Offaly and Kildare in 1888, bridging the two original GAA heartlands. In the same year, Irish emigrants founded GAA clubs in America. In 1889, the remaining Leinster and Connacht counties were integrated into the association which reported 777 affiliated branches. Seven of the nine Ulster counties remained unaffiliated until 1890 when the GAA boasted 875 member clubs across the country.

The numbers of GAA affiliated clubs plummeted during the difficult early 1890s, falling to 339 in 1891, 122 in 1892 and to 118 in 1893. Protestant membership had almost completely disappeared during the 1890s, frustrating Cusack's original vision of a non-sectarian organisation.

Membership recovered slowly after the formation of the Gaelic League in July 1893. When membership of both organisations became common, the GAA increased its numbers and broadened its social base to include teachers, clerks and civil servants. In 1901, club numbers reached 411, two-thirds of the way back to the original 1880s figures. The map highlights the core of the GAA movement in the south, especially in Munster and adjacent counties in 1901.

- Document E -

Map showing the Distribution of GAA clubs, 1901



- Document F -

An extract from a report, 'Gaelic Pastimes' in the *Freeman's Journal's* subsidiary publication, *Sport*, 6 December 1890

According to the list of affiliation fees the number of clubs affiliated in Ireland during the past season would be as follows –

Kildare, 33; Antrim 6; Queen's County, 40; Carlow, 20; Mayo, 18; Fermanagh, 9; Wicklow, 12; Tyrone, 3; Westmeath, 6; Wexford, 18; Waterford, 6; Monaghan, 3; King's County, 3; Leitrim, 6; Kilkenny, 18; Clare, 16; Longford, 18; Louth, 16; Derry and Donegal, 16; Cork, 50; Galway, 63; Dublin, 60; Meath, 19; Limerick, 30; Kerry, 35 ... The number of clubs in each province is as follows – Leinster, 263; Munster, 137; Connaught, 67; Ulster, 37.

REPORT

DUBLIN CASTLE

Crime Department - Special Branch

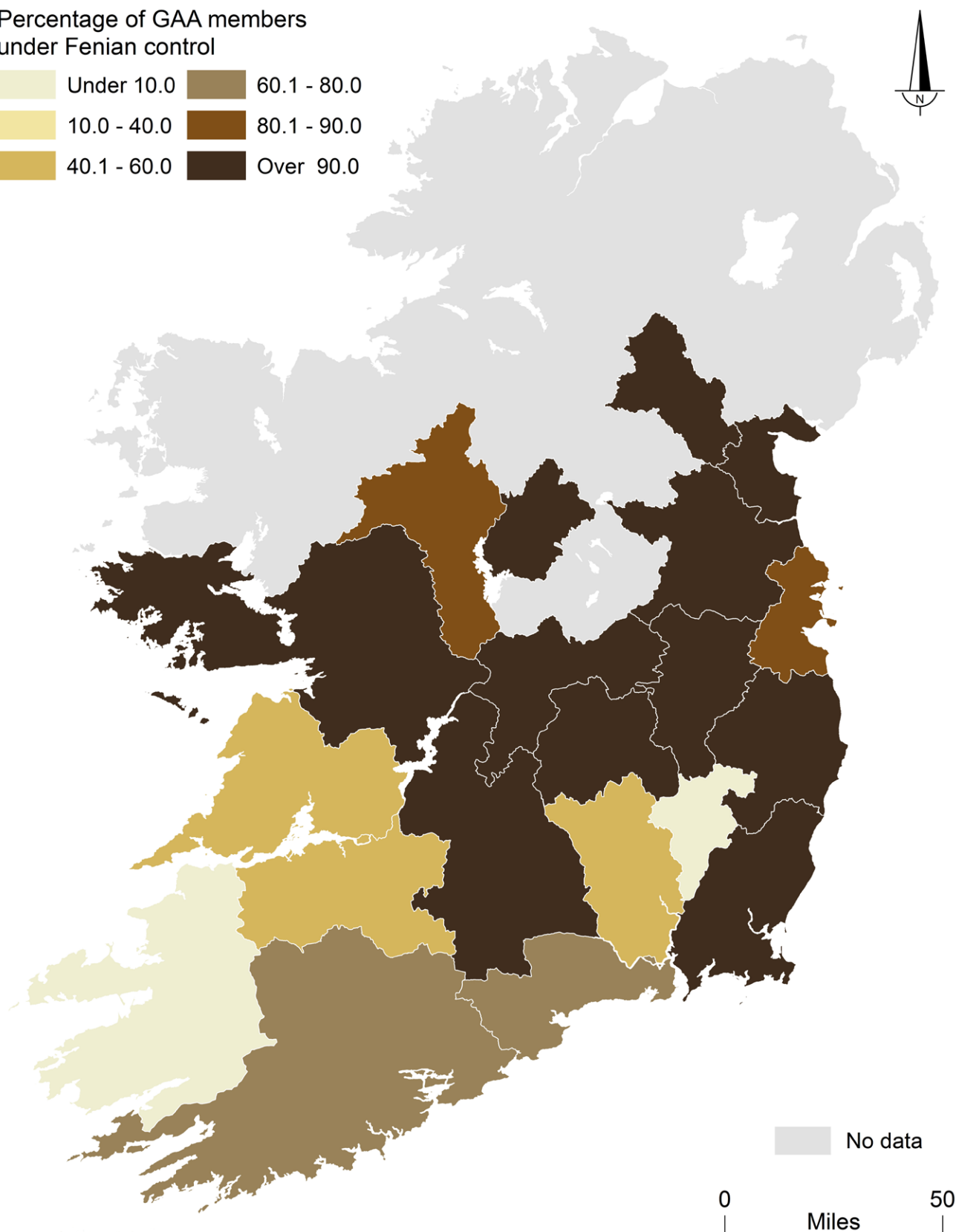
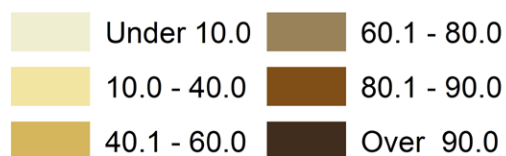
SUBJECT *Approximate strength of the 'Clerical' and 'Fenian' branches of the Gaelic Athletic Association 1889 -91.*

Division & County	Branches Existing in 1889	Under Clerical Control	Under Fenian Control	Total Approximate membership in 1891
Antrim	1	—	—	1
Armagh	5	—	1	30
Donegal	3	—	4	98
Down	3	—	1	30
Fermanagh	11	—	3	217
Londonderry	14	—	2	28
Louth	10	—	—	—
Monaghan	11	—	—	—
Galway E.R.	33	6	19	785
Galway W.R.	26	1	16	1009
Mayo	30	2	1	161
Roscommon	40	4	8	556
Cork E.R.	82	20	28	2276
Cork W.R.	10	5	1	205
Clare	15	1	—	21
Kerry	31	9	8	687
Limerick	49	8	13	710
Carlow	20	—	—	—
Kilkenny	24	—	—	—
Queens County	41	2	12	619
Tipperary N.R.	18	—	4	—
Tipperary S.R.	29	—	—	190
Waterford	14	58	7	218
Wexford	33	—	3	151
Wicklow	27	1	6	431
Cavan		—	39	1898
Kildare		3	16	1060
Kings County		1	17	817
Leitrim	197	—	11	405
Longford		—	26	1426
Meath	Total For Division	—	1	20
Sligo		2	16	1220
Westmeath		—	10	448
TOTALS	777	66	273	15716

Map showing the percentage distribution of the GAA members under Fenian control in 1901

Special Branch files reveal the extent of I.R.B. Involvement in the Association at both local and national level. In 1896 the RIC reported that 86% of the clubs were under 'Fenian [IRB] control' and only 14% under 'clerical control'. This map shows the percentage of the GAA members under Fenian control in each county in 1901.

**Percentage of GAA members
under Fenian control**



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Documents E - H

1. What counties recorded the highest number of clubs in 1889?

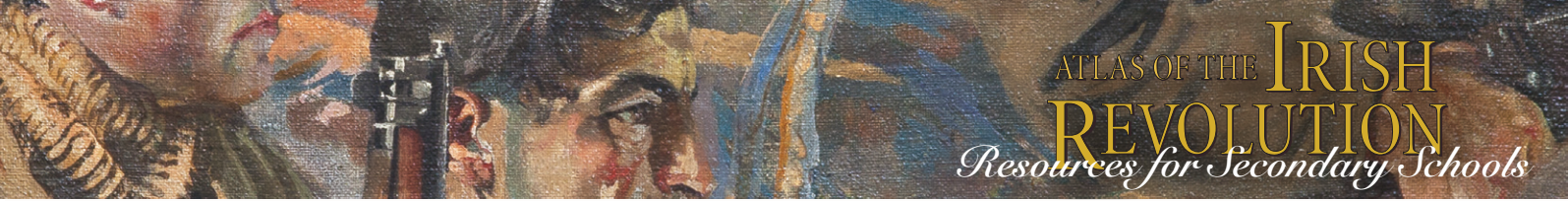
2. What counties recorded the highest number of clubs in 1890?

3. What counties recorded the highest percentage of clubs in 1901?

4. Comment on any differences you notice between the distribution of clubs during that twelve-year period.

5. In what counties did the IRB control fewer than 10% of GAA members in 1901?

6. Does the evidence in these documents support or contradict the statement that “*the GAA was an exclusively rural and nationalist movement in the late 1880s*”?

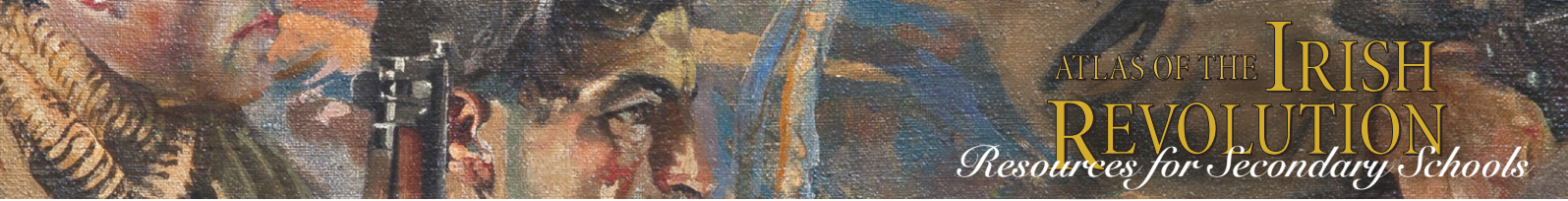


7. Briefly explain why the GAA was so successful in its early years.

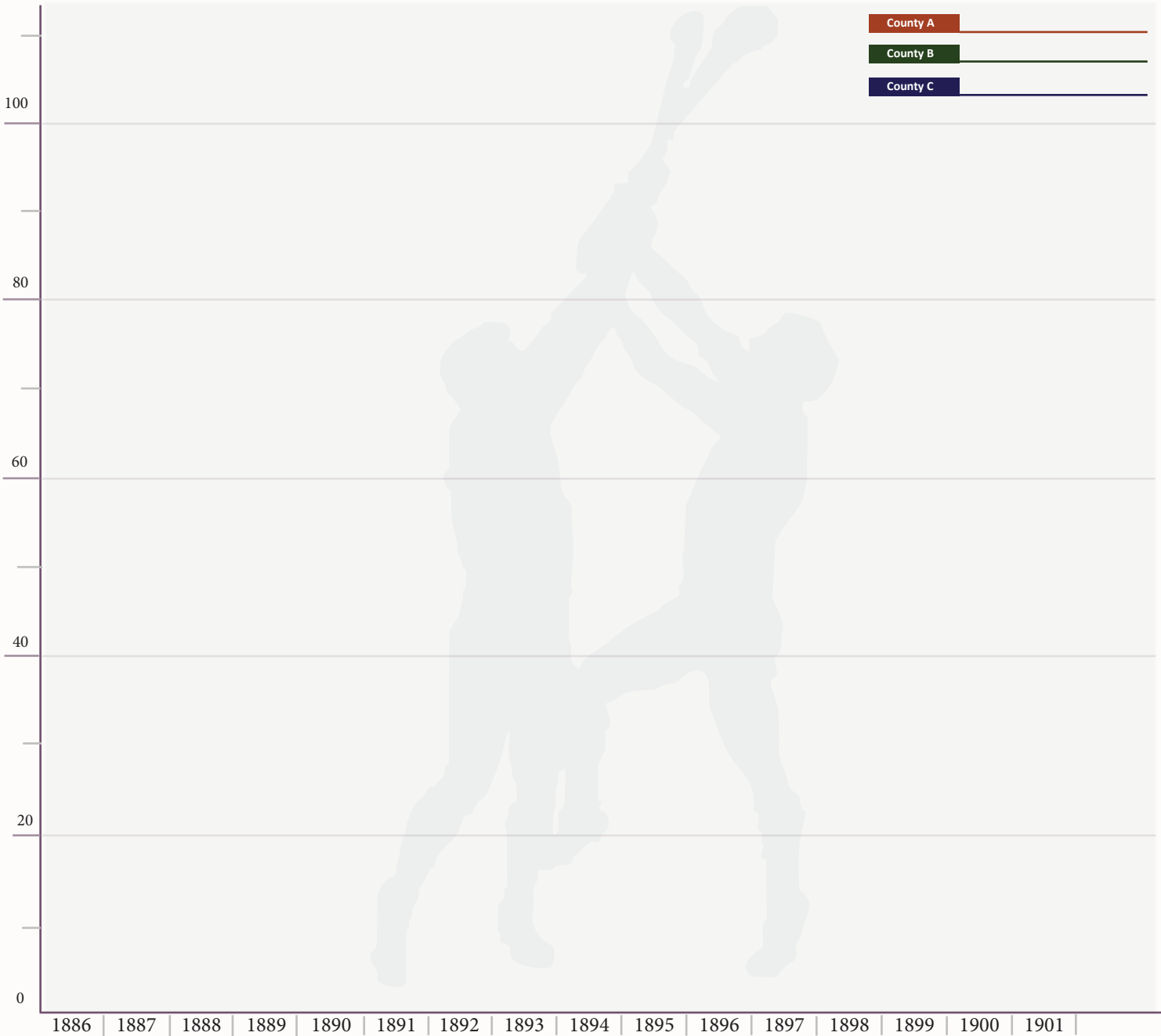
8. Would you consider Doc F or Doc G more reliable as a historical source? Explain your answer with reference to both documents.

9. Based on Document G and H (a) identify the three locations in Ireland where the Fenians (IRB) had the highest level of control in the GAA in 1889-91 (b) comment on whether this had changed by 1901.

10. Explain why the IRB/ Fenians may have found the GAA an attractive recruiting ground in the 1890s.



11. Choose three counties - one each from Munster, Leinster and Connacht - and draw a line graph indicating the rise or fall in GAA branch numbers during the 1887-1901 period.



YOUR TASK: PROMOTING THE GAA

In July 1888 it was decided to send athletic and hurling teams to the United States to secure publicity and funding for the GAA. In advance of the trip, you have been asked to write a press release for American newspapers. Using the Template on the next page, provide as much factual information as possible, while also encouraging the American audiences to attend the planned display games. Remember that you are appealing particularly Irish emigrants and supporters of the nationalist cause.

Press Release Template

HEADLINE

SUBHEADING

DATE LINE :

City, Month, Day, Year

HOOK: *grab the attention
of your readers with an
engaging first sentence:
WHO, WHAT, WHEN etc.*

DESCRIPTION:

*a clear, concise, compelling
description of the GAA &
the proposed trip*

QUOTE: *add a human
element with a supporting
quotation - fan, captain,
leadership etc.*

CALL TO ACTION:

*direct readers to where
they can attend a game,
or donate to the GAA*

CONTACT:

*How can American
journalists contact you?*

Image or Logo

YOUR TASK: PLAYING FOR POWER

Between 1887 and 1899, a battle was waged between the moderate-nationalist /clerical wing of the GAA and its extreme nationalist wing, for control of the Association.

Imagine that power struggle as a game of football between two teams - the 'Fenians' and the 'Moderates'. Each team have their own tactics, supporters and star players, and each gained control of the game at different points.

As coaches, your role is to bring your teams through the post-match analysis.

PART 1.

- Step 1:* Your teacher will divide the class equally into **Moderates** and **Fenians**.
- Step 2:* Using the information in Docs A-G and your own research, individually design a crest and a team jersey for your assigned team. The colour and symbols used in your design should represent the ideology/politics of your team.
- Step 3:* Draw your final designs on the Template provided in this worksheet and, write a short paragraph justifying your choice of colour and symbolism in the crest and jersey.
- Step 4:* Once you have completed your individual design task, students assigned to the same team (e.g. Fenians) should gather into groups of four/five.
- Step 5:* Each group member should present his/her designs to the other members of the group, justifying their choice of colour and symbolism.
- Step 6:* Once all four students have presented, the group should vote on one design to represent their team.



PART 2.

- Step 7:* Each group should next appoint a Head Coach and a Club Secretary.
- Step 8:* Using the timeline, sources A-G and the introductory essay in this worksheet as references, the head coach will lead a group discussion about 'playing for power'. Students should discuss what events between 1884 and 1887 might represent a 'gaol', 'a try', 'a foul', etc. The secretary will take note of the significant moments identified during the discussion.

Step 9: Once the group is happy with their selected details, they should choose **one key moment** from the game between the Moderates and Fenians to analyse at the post match meeting with the full team.

Step 10: The group should work together to represent this key moment on the diagram of the playing pitch in this worksheet.



- ☐ Arrange the players on the field (your team represented by your chosen colour)
- ☐ Consider which team is defending the goal
- ☐ Identify your star players using text
- ☐ Use arrows to signify movement
- ☐ Include any other elements you consider important such as numbers of supporters on each side, scoreboard, dates etc.

PART 3.

Step 11: The Head Coach and Club Secretary of each group will then present their post-match analysis to the full team (the rest of the class).

The Club Secretaries will begin by unveiling the new Team Crest and Jersey, justifying the choice based on how the colour and symbolism matches the team's ideology politics.

Using their diagrams for reference, the Head Coaches will explain the key moment in the match pointing out the tactics used and the success or failure of the team as a result.

Step 12: At the end of each presentation, the players may disagree with their coach, but must justify the challenge. They may also pose a question to the Secretary about the new kit.

Step 13: Once all the presentations are finished, all the Moderates in the class should vote on the most suitable team jersey and crest. All the Fenians should do the same.

PART 4.

Essay Question: What were the main issues facing the GAA in the period 1884-1891?

Team Name: _____

Your Name: _____

Crest Design

Justify

Justify

PAST EXAMINATION QUESTIONS ON THE GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

1. Explain the main motives behind the founding of the GAA in 1884?
2. What were the main issues facing the GAA in the period 1884-1891?
3. Discuss the role played by Michael Cusack in the establishment of the GAA.
4. Why would the GAA have attracted IRB elements?
5. Why did some in the GAA want to ban members playing foreign sports?
6. What impact did the GAA have on the development of Cultural Nationalism?
7. In what ways did the internal struggle in the GAA reflect the broader debate within Irish nationalism at the close of the nineteenth century.
8. What did one or more of the following contribute to cultural revival during the period 1870-1914: the GAA; the Gaelic League; the Anglo-Irish Literary Revival?
9. What did Michael Cusack and/or W.B. Yeats contribute to cultural life in Ireland?
10. Which organisation was more effective, the GAA or the Gaelic League? Argue your case, referring to both.