

Do you want to know more about Parnell?

Visit the following websites for more information:

“Charles Stewart Parnell.” Clare County Library 05 Aug. 2006 <<http://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/coclare/people/parnell.htm>>.

“Charles Stewart Parnell.” The Information about Ireland Site. 5 Aug. 2006 <<http://222.ireland-information.com/articles/charlesstewartparnell.htm>>.

“Historic Figures: Charles Stewart Parnell.” bbc.co.uk. BBC. 5 Aug. 2006 <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/parnell_charles.shtml>



Use online resources to learn more about Charles Stewart Parnell, Irish history, and Irish literature.

Answers to the True/False Quiz

1. True
2. True
3. True
4. True
5. True
6. True
7. True
8. True

Additional Works Cited

- Abels, Jules. The Parnell Tragedy. New York: Macmillan, 1966.
- Gerard-Sharp, Lisa and Tim Perry. Dorling Kindersley Travel Guides: Ireland. New York: Dorling Kindersley, 1995. 41.
- Healy, Elizabeth. The Wolfhound Guide to Dublin Monuments. Dublin: Wolfhound, 1998. 6-7.



Scottsboro High School

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History permeates every inch of the Irish landscape. One of the biggest names in this city was Parnell. A monument now honors him in Dublin's city center.



Brochure Prepared by Leilani Kesner

“The Uncrowned King of Ireland”

A “former friend” and “bitter foe” of Charles Stewart Parnell, Michael Davitt “wrote of him, ‘To deny his greatness would be like denying the existence of a mountain’” (Abel 7). A formidable and “charismatic” leader, Parnell entered the parliament at age 29 “as a member of the Home Rule League, pressing for Irish autonomy,” according to his “Historic Figures” biography at bbc.co.uk/history.



**Charles Stewart Parnell
1846-1891**

After “two British diplomats” were murdered in Dublin’s Phoenix Park, a forged letter asserted Parnell’s support for these violent acts, but “proof that the letter was a forgery transformed Parnell into a hero in the eyes of English liberals. It was the peak of his career” (bbc.co.uk, para. 4).

Certainly, Parnell provides a study in contrasts. As a landowner, Parnell did not stand to benefit personally from agrarian reforms he proposed. His mother, an American, was “violently—if not pathologically—anti-English,” (Abels 11), and Parnell became the voice of the Irish national movement. However, there is an old Gaelic saying that “even wise men have flaws.” Charles Stewart Parnell’s politically-fatal flaw involved a scandalous association with a married Englishwoman named Kitty O’Shea in whose divorce he was named.

Test Your Knowledge about Charles Stewart Parnell

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| An affair with a married woman led to Parnell’s losing his political position. | True
or
False |
| Parnell’s mother was an American who had strong anti-English feelings. | True
or
False |
| Parnell entered parliament when he was still in his twenties. | True
or
False |
| Parnell died at the age of forty-five. | True
or
False |
| W.B. Yeats wrote a poem titled “Parnell’s Funeral.” | True
or
False |
| Parnell is credited with bringing “The Irish question to the forefront of British politics” (www.factmonster.com). | True
or
False |
| <i>Star of Gone with the Wind</i> , Clark Gable once played Charles Parnell in a Hollywood movie made about his life. | True
or
False |
| For his activities, Parnell served time in jail. | True
or
False |

Who designed the Parnell monument?

“The monument was executed in New York by Dublin-born sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens” (Healy 7) and now “stands on the central island where Parnell Street crosses the top of O’Connell Street” (Healy 6). John Redmond, Parnell’s successor “as leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party” was responsible for instigating the Parnell monument, “partly as a symbolic gesture to honour the ‘uncrowned king of Ireland’ and to consolidate his aspiration to reunite the constitutionalists under his own leadership” (www.dublincity.ie/Images).

Also according to www.dublincity.ie/Images, Parnell attended the “unveiling ceremony for the O’Connell Monument accompanying the archbishop in his ceremonial carriage” (17).

The inscription listed below appears on the monument, which includes a bronze figure of Parnell on a pillar of Ashlar granite. On the day of the unveiling, “Dublin Corporation changed the name of Great Britain Street to Parnell Street” (Healy 7).



“...no man has the right to say to his country, ‘thus far shalt thou go and no further’ and we have never attempted to fix the ne-plus-ultra to the progress of Ireland’s nationhood, and we never shall. Go soirbhídh Dia Éire dá clainn. [That God may make Ireland flourish for her people.]”

—Charles Stewart Parnell