<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Agricultural head rents, pre-famine and post-famine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Authors(s)</strong></td>
<td>Ó Gráda, Cormac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Publication date</strong></td>
<td>1974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Publication information</strong></td>
<td>Economic and Social Review, 5 : 385-382</td>
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<td><strong>Publisher</strong></td>
<td>Economic and Social Research Institute</td>
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<td><strong>Item record/more information</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://hdl.handle.net/10197/347">http://hdl.handle.net/10197/347</a></td>
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The economic historian

N o country can ever be held in just estimation, "proclaimed Arthur Young.

Agricultural Head Rents, Pre-Famine and Post-Famine
Our starting point is an appendix to Raymond G. Cronyn's recent work on

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REVIEW
After much controversy and discussion, an Irish Poor Law broadly based on the English model was introduced in 1838. Ireland was divided into new administrative units called Poor Law Unions, and a valuation system similar to the English model was introduced in 1839. Various alternative figures are suggested below.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1943-44</th>
<th>1944-45</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Meth | Town | Widow | Widower | Widow | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widower | Widow
would be of the order of:

Valuation was 5.5 or 6.0 in the £1 under Quarter Value, the usual rural calculation.

The £1 under Quarter Value, the usual rural calculation.

Both valuations—and also allow for the fact that the composite Townland

of the Quarter Value, the usual rural calculation.

account to two-thirds of the Poor Law Valuation, while the Quarter, one of Griffith's

communities, still expressed the view that this valuation, in absolute, would

work was based more directly on convenient figures than on the Griffith's

rather different from those used for poor law purposes. Most important perhaps, the

which Canny referred to as the Government Valuation. Where, until the

in 1943: this is multiplied by 0.79, the percentage of the total accounted for by

Here, £13.187.421 x 0.79 = £11.7 million

Then be calculated as follows:

has been used. Taking Griffith's valuation figure, the absolute land rent can

non-tenement property are unmentionable for 1943, the percentage obtaining in 1942

which distinguishes between those parts of the valuation attributable to land and to

well distinguished, this figure is taken to be satisfactory for our purposes. This

down to 1.7 per cent. Since the union of the results is based on area

where only general statements were made, and obtained in the absence of full

Sir Joseph Stamp combined these figures with the best possible estimate for each

11  more than 20 per cent greater than valuation

9  " " 15-20%

8  " " 10-15%

4  " " 5-10%

5  " " 1-5%

Lettine value — 5 per cent greater than valuation

Valuation equals Letting value

as follows:

Lettine value is given for over seventy unions, and the results may be tabulated:

According to the report the percentage difference between the valuation and the

Lettine value is probably from 10 to 15 per cent above the

the Letting value, but he thought, one or two, that the results exceed the rural.

account, etc., but the raised figure was the Valuation. The

it would be, taking the whole, probably from 10 to 15 per cent below the

the poor law administrators, though the latter, with reference to his own district,

and the current rural levels. One witness, an Assistant Valuer, has informed

land Valuation of 1944, the question of the work of the Poor Law Valuer on Town

completed in 1943. In the course of the work of the Poor Law Valuer on Town-

Britain was put into operation. This required a special Valuation, which was

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REVIEW
The word...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1969-70</th>
<th>1972-73</th>
<th>1973-74</th>
<th>1974-75</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rnt</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.15 i</td>
<td>0.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ompm</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eff-Prod (Fkm)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ompm (Fkm)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The output and input levels combined seem to suggest that average non-farm
producers' inputs have increased in Table 2, and only a few very estimates observations are offered here.

is that this process continues. It may be easier to understand
the output and input levels. If we consider the output of this land use in
or maintain that reduction. If we consider the output of this land use in
landowners' outputs were expanded at rates of depression in order to ward off
landowners' outputs were expanded at rates of depression in order to ward off
initial years may have been the only positive of rents. In this situation
factions may have contributed to the landlords' incentive to improve. An add
factions may have contributed to the landlords' incentive to improve. An add
the small size of holdings, the uncertainty political situation. General economic
the small size of holdings, the uncertainty political situation. General economic
dern whose terms or rent arrangements only a very small fraction of mortgage
Tenn whose terms or rent arrangements only a very small fraction of mortgage
these years, perhaps three per cent of gross rents received over these years.
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Irish landlords, unlike many of their English counterparts, were not enthusiastic
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have posed far more severe problems for the landlord class.
have posed far more severe problems for the landlord class.
the early 1730s then in the early 1730s. A James of 18-8-5 proportions and the
the early 1730s then in the early 1730s. A James of 18-8-5 proportions and the
seem from Table II, their share of total agricultural value added was greater in
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in the post-Frame epoch was one of rising food prices; indeed, as may be
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This substantial increase was not the result of a rich-renting landlord policy.
This substantial increase was not the result of a rich-renting landlord policy.

V

Slovov estimates increase in rents announced to 3.7 per cent, more or less in line with the sample
increase in rents announced to 3.7 per cent, more or less in line with the sample
I have shown that they had risen by at least thirty per cent by
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REFERENCES


E Veale, ed., Accruals of Ireland, Statistical and Social (London, 1831), I, p. 7; Johnson


For an excellent background discussion, see R. C. Black, Economic Thought and the Irish (Cambridge, 1960, pp. 86-133).

F. CROWN, 'The Output of Fresh Water Supplies', 1830-1850. The Annual Calculation of 1870/1880 =


Agricultural Head Rents, Pre-Famine and Post-Famine

The regional disparities were important in the Cliffs and the species. Needless to say, that these are local and that the regional disparities and effects is reason to believe that population was proportionately more important in the post-Famine period.

The problem is that the standards experienced by those who survived did not necessarily improve. In other words, while regional income rose, it may have been largely due to the fact that the remaining population was able to increase substantially the size of the rural community. This was not the result of an increase in agricultural productivity, but rather a direct result of the Famine, but that the increase
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL REVIEW

[14] Loc. cit. Q. 4609. The townland valuation of several southern counties proceeded during the Great Famine, but the results were never published. The valuations were applied to the system as before, using a scale of fixed prices, and the proposal was put forward that a new valuation system should be introduced. It is proposed to make an examination of the records in the Dublin Valuation Office, with the current letting values, to check the accuracy of valuations. The valuations of about one-twelfth of the land were made.


[18] On this see, e.g., T. B. L. O'Sullivan, The Irish Land Question, Q. 1891 (XVIII) and (XIX).


[21] Irish agriculture is based on work in progress. The fall in the share of the potato in the gross national product, however, was a quarter of the agricultural output, but by 1869-71 it was held to be about 13 per cent. There was a significant increase in the proportion of all livestock products, other than milk—on the recent figures by B. C. H. G. Cousins, Emigration and Demographic Change in Ireland 1851-1861, Economic History, Q. 1971 and Q. 1973.}

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