



The Irish: 200 years of
rebellion, from the Act of
Union (1800) to Brexit



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Summer session

Tuesdays & Wednesdays (Noon – 2pm) – 6 weeks

**The Loire Valley: the
cradle of the French
Renaissance**

**The Bonaparte Saga
(revised and updated
version of 2016
course on Napoleon)**

Fall session

**The history
of Korea**

**Paris: a
history**



Course outline

1. Introduction: the conquest of Ireland
2. An imperfect union
3. Easter 1916 and the path to independence
4. 1922-1998: a “century” of tensions
5. 1830-1914: the great Irish migration
6. The Good Friday Agreement of 1998 & what it meant for Ireland
7. Brexit, Ireland’s revenge?

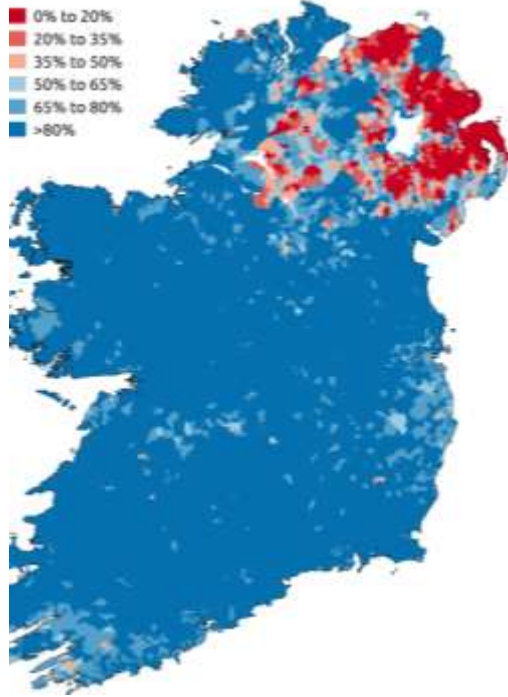
Brexit

THE IRISH
QUESTION ?





The conquest of Ireland

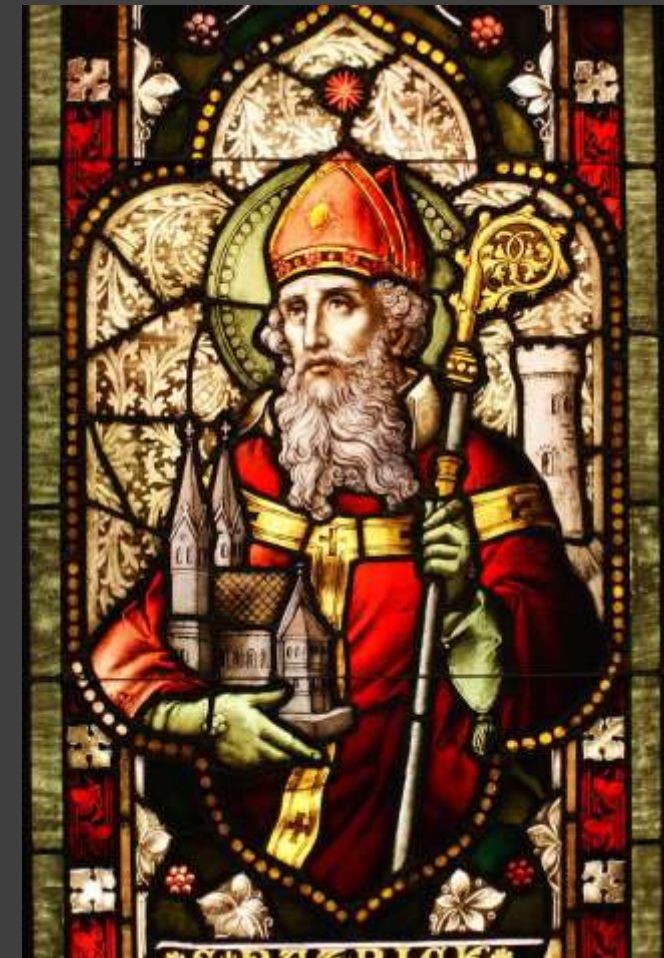


The origins of Christianity in Ireland: a mystery

431: A bishop sent to Ireland by **Pope Celestine** (422-432) to administer « *the Scots believing in Christ* »

The Irish never conquered by Rome

A most likely **slow, peaceful conversion** prior to 431



Saint Patrick (the “Apostle of Ireland”): what role?

A missionary from Great Britain (likely Wales)

Captured by Irish pirates at the age of 16

Patrick's mission limited to the North of Ireland

Christian teachings in Italy & France

A “vision” summoning him back to Ireland

The founding of the church of **Armagh** (the seat of the Archbishops of Ireland)

His method: to convert the aristocracy





The shamrock: the symbol of
Ireland since the 18th century

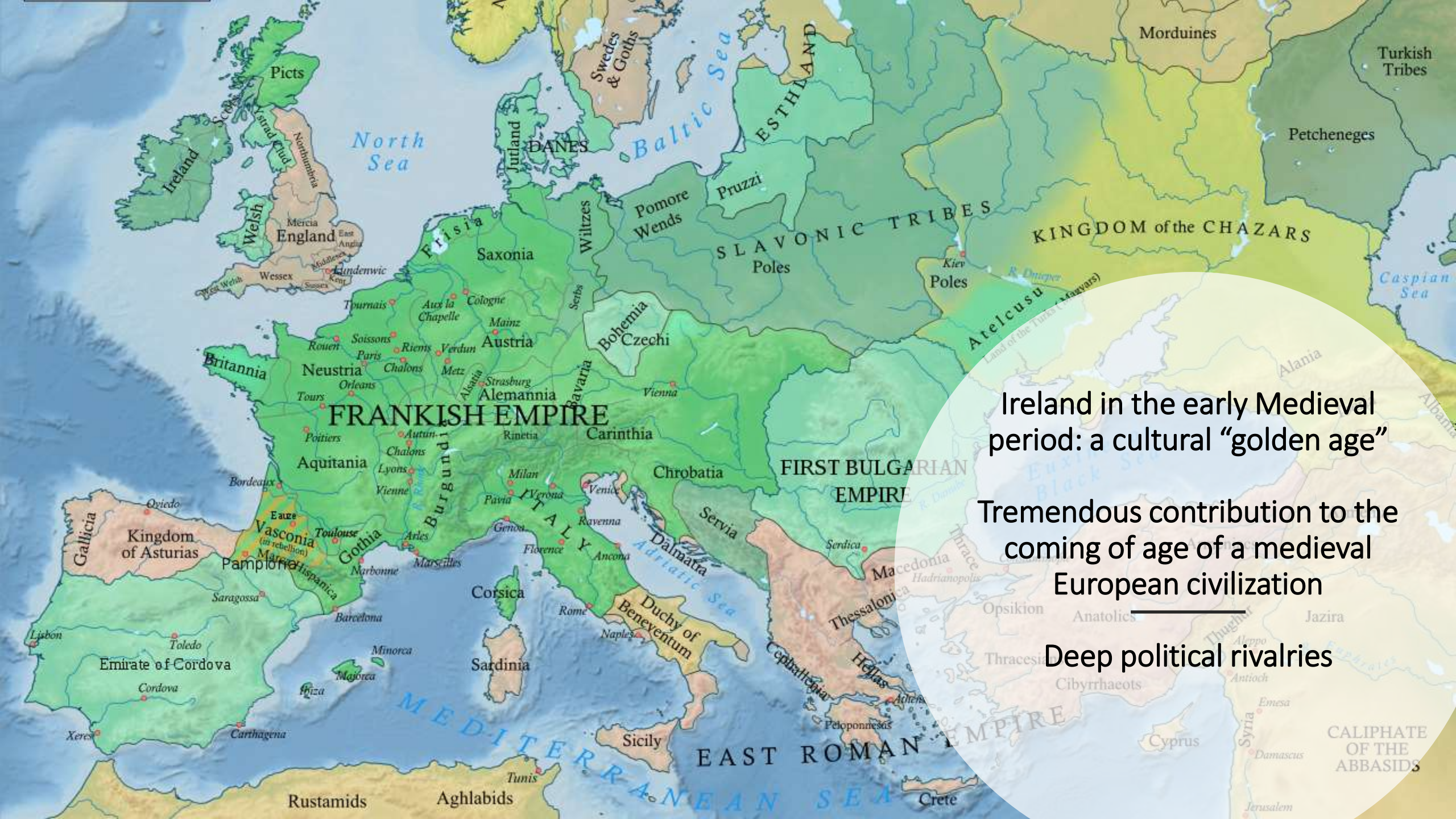


The legend: Saint Patrick used the shamrock to illustrate the **Holy Trinity**

Saint Patrick got rid of invading snakes by planting fields of shamrocks

The shamrock represents the conversion of the Irish to Christianity

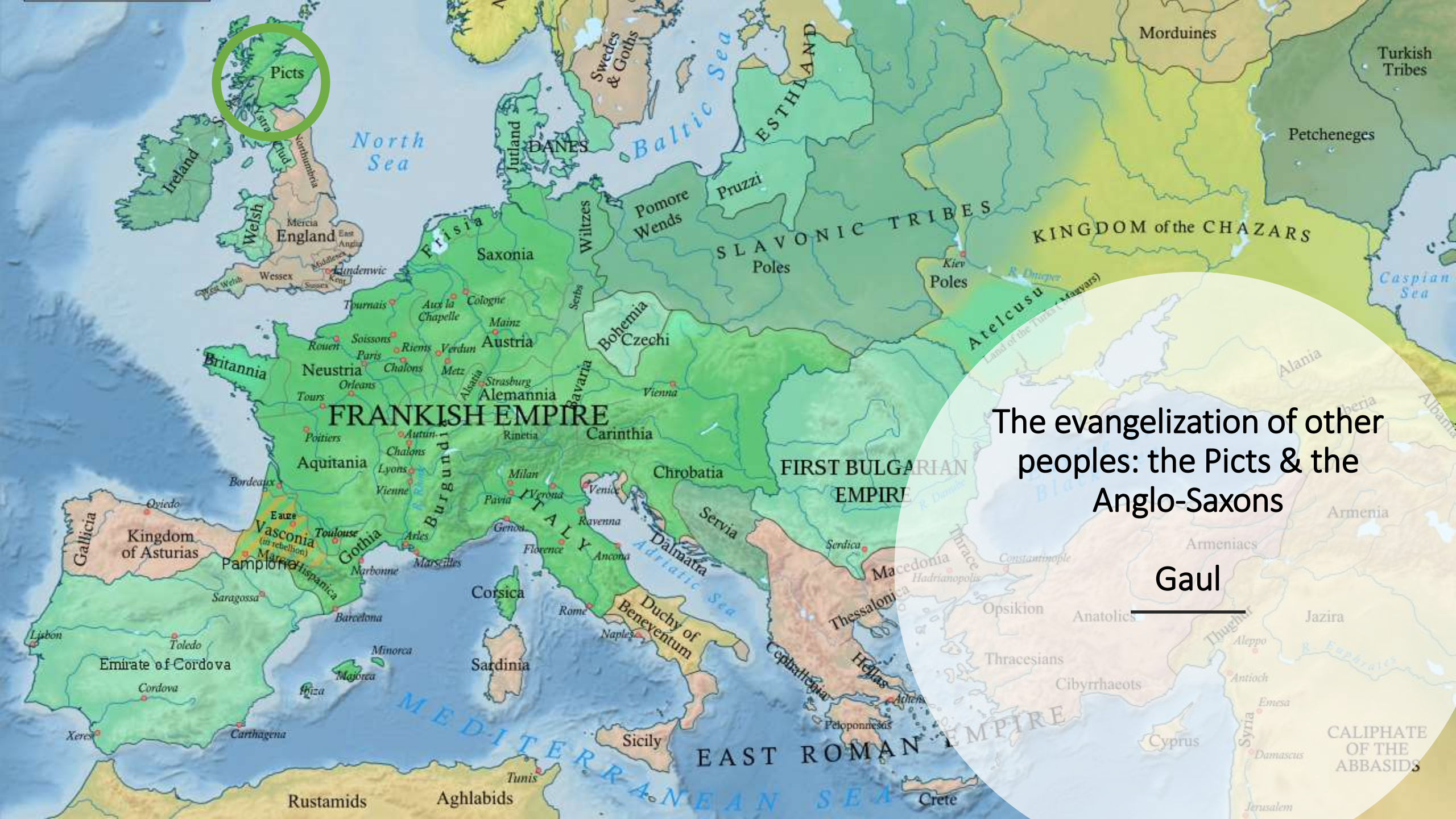




Ireland in the early Medieval period: a cultural “golden age”

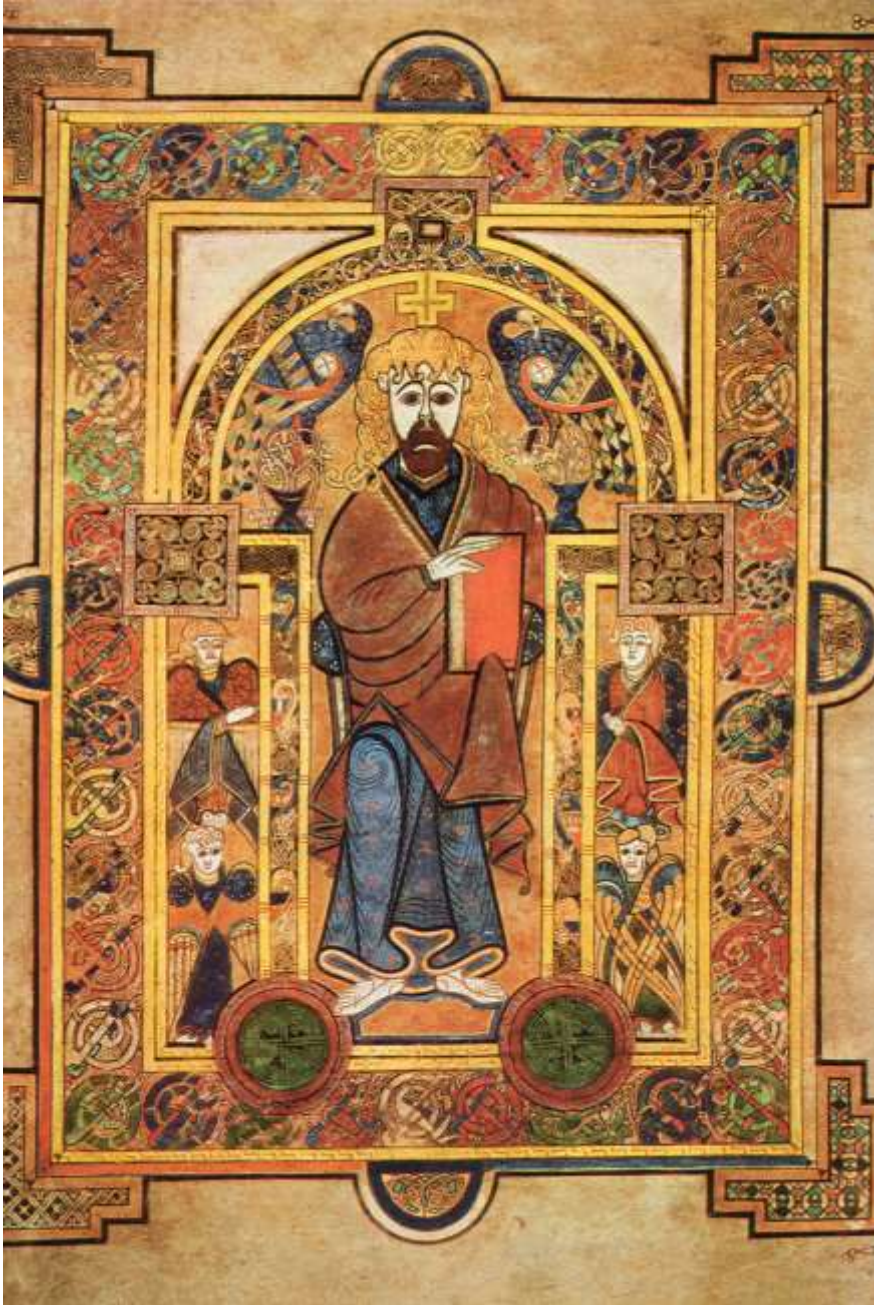
Tremendous contribution to the coming of age of a medieval European civilization

Deep political rivalries



The evangelization of other peoples: the Picts & the Anglo-Saxons

Gaul



The **monastery of Lindisfarne**
(the *Book of Kells* – Illuminated gospel book in Latin)

Missionaries, philosophers, mathematicians & poets

No invasion since 600 BCE

Viking raids (8th -10th centuries)

A network of coastal cities (Dublin)

Less political divisions

(3 Celtic dynasties – A “Game of Thrones”)



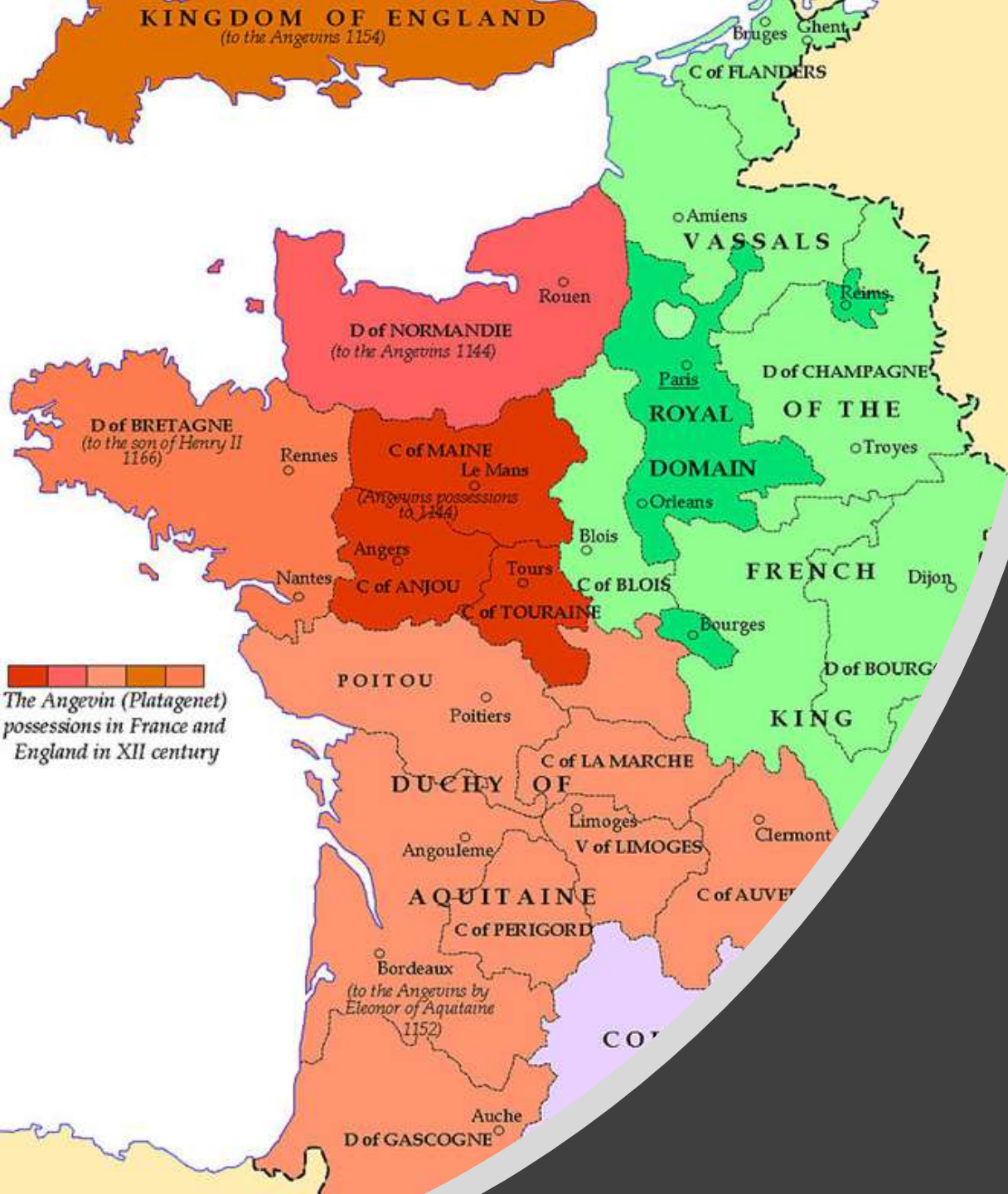


1066: the Norman conquest

The English conquest of Ireland began in the late 1160s

Dermot MacMurrough (King of Leinster) driven into exile





Henry II's priority: the fight against the King of France

MacMurrough authorized to gather troops in England & Wales





1171: Henry II declared Ireland to belong to his empire

Permission to conquer Ireland granted by Pope Adrian IV

Little opposition at first

English newcomers seized best land & controlled coastal cities

Irish population largely excluded from English institutions



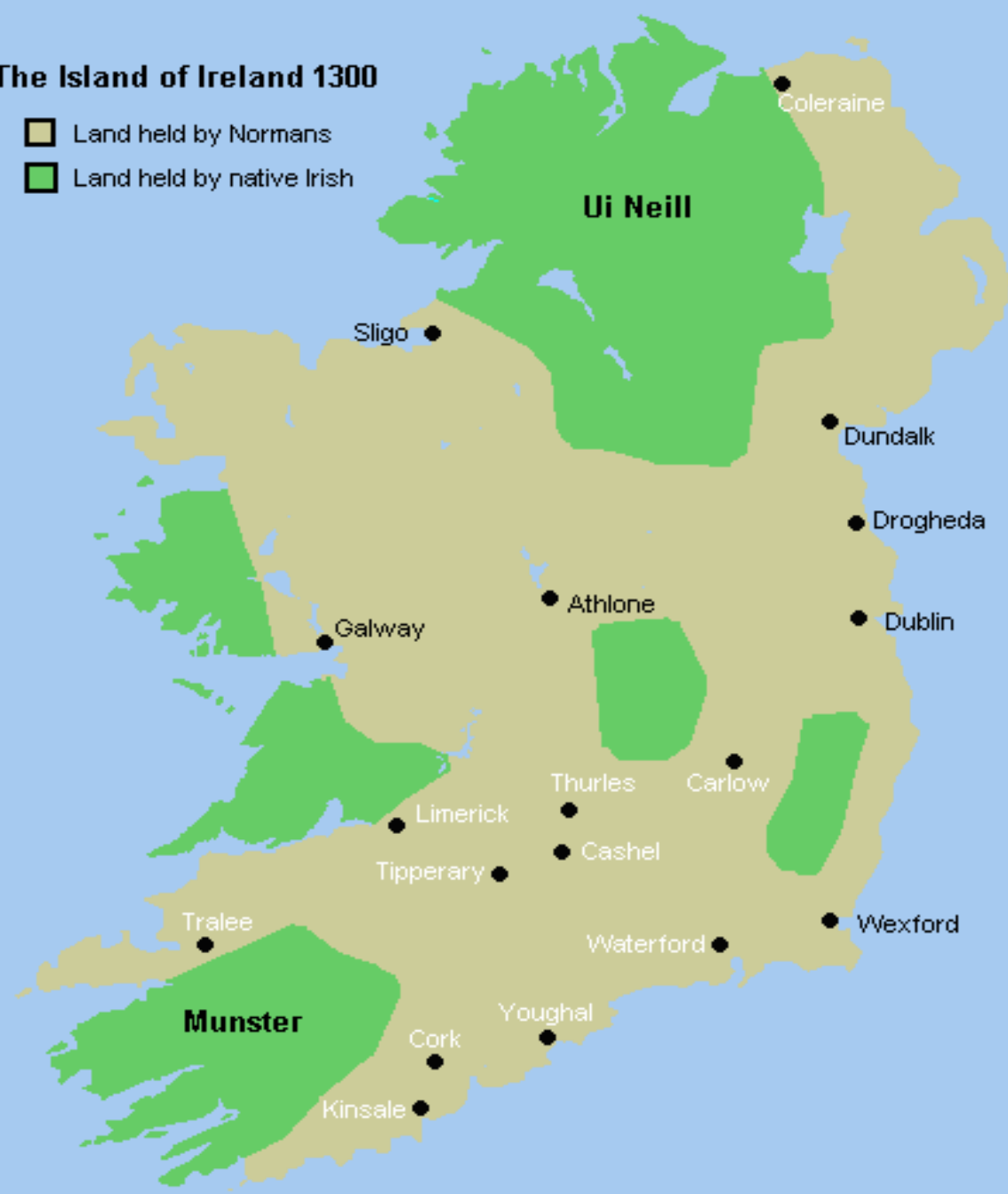
The Island of Ireland 1014

Main Kingdoms



The Island of Ireland 1300

- Land held by Normans
- Land held by native Irish



14th century: the decline of
the English settlements in
Ireland

Ireland never a priority

The **Great Plague**

Climate change

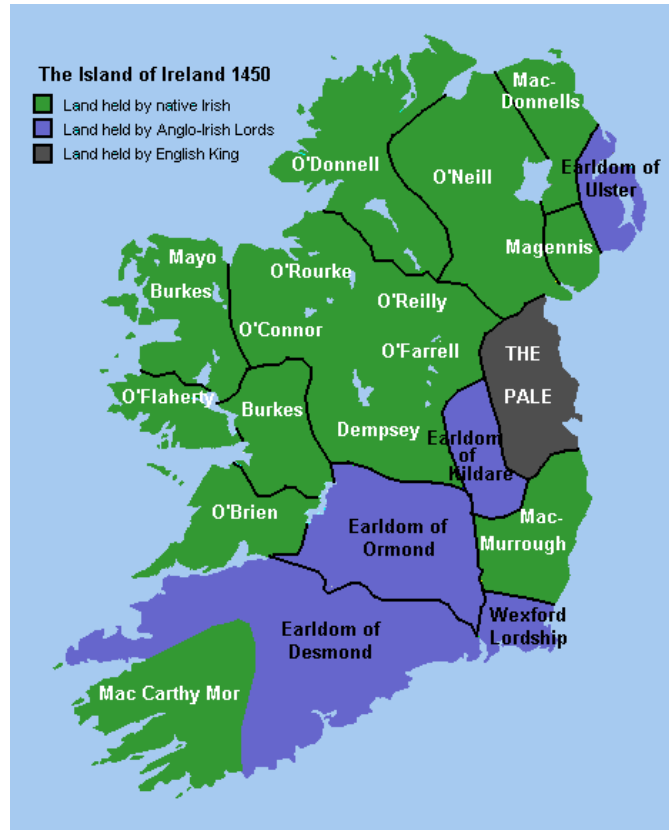
Economic recession



1346 1347 1348 1349 1350 1351 1352 1353

Approximate border between the Principality
of Kiev and the Golden Horde - passage
prohibited for Christians.

Land trade routes
Maritime trade routes



14th century: the English colony of Ireland limited to “the Pale” (Dublin & its area)

Pale (from the Latin *Palus* – Fortification)

Descendants of first English colonists married Irish & spoke Gaelic

“The English living in Ireland” loyal to the Crown



1366-1367: the Statutes of Kilkenny

Legislation to protect English culture in Ireland (Gaelic language forbidden)

Henri VIII & the separation from Rome

Efforts to introduce the **English
Reformation** in Ireland

Opposition from the Irish

The Irish seen as the enemy by English
government

Union Irish – “Old English” settlers
against “New English” (Protestants)



The Island of Ireland 1300

- Land held by Normans
- Land held by native Irish



Early 17th century: Northern Ireland became English & Protestant

12th & 13th centuries: 2/3 of Ireland colonized

Ulster: the only part of Ireland out of English control – The most Gaelic region of Ireland

Resistance to English authority & to the introduction of Protestantism



1593-1603: Ulster's rebellion
against Queen Elizabeth

Alliance with Catholic Spain



of Charles Lord Mountjoy, An. M^o. lieutenant
general of the Kingdom of Ireland.
The Duke began the 17th day of October 1601 and
ended the 3rd of January following.

THOMOND AND O'DONNELL
an Army of 4000 Irish & Don Blasco
del Campo of a Regiment of Spanish
Cavalry to raise the Siege of
Kinsale, were overthrown near
the said Town, by the Lord
Deputy and part of Sir M^o. Jones
the 28th December, 1601.

1601: the Battle of Kinsale

Measures to prevent the Ulster from rebelling again

To transform the Ulster into a loyal Protestant province

The « **Plantation system** »: to re-distribute Catholic Irish land to Protestant English & Scot populations

From the heart of Irish Catholic resistance to Ireland's most loyal & Protestant region

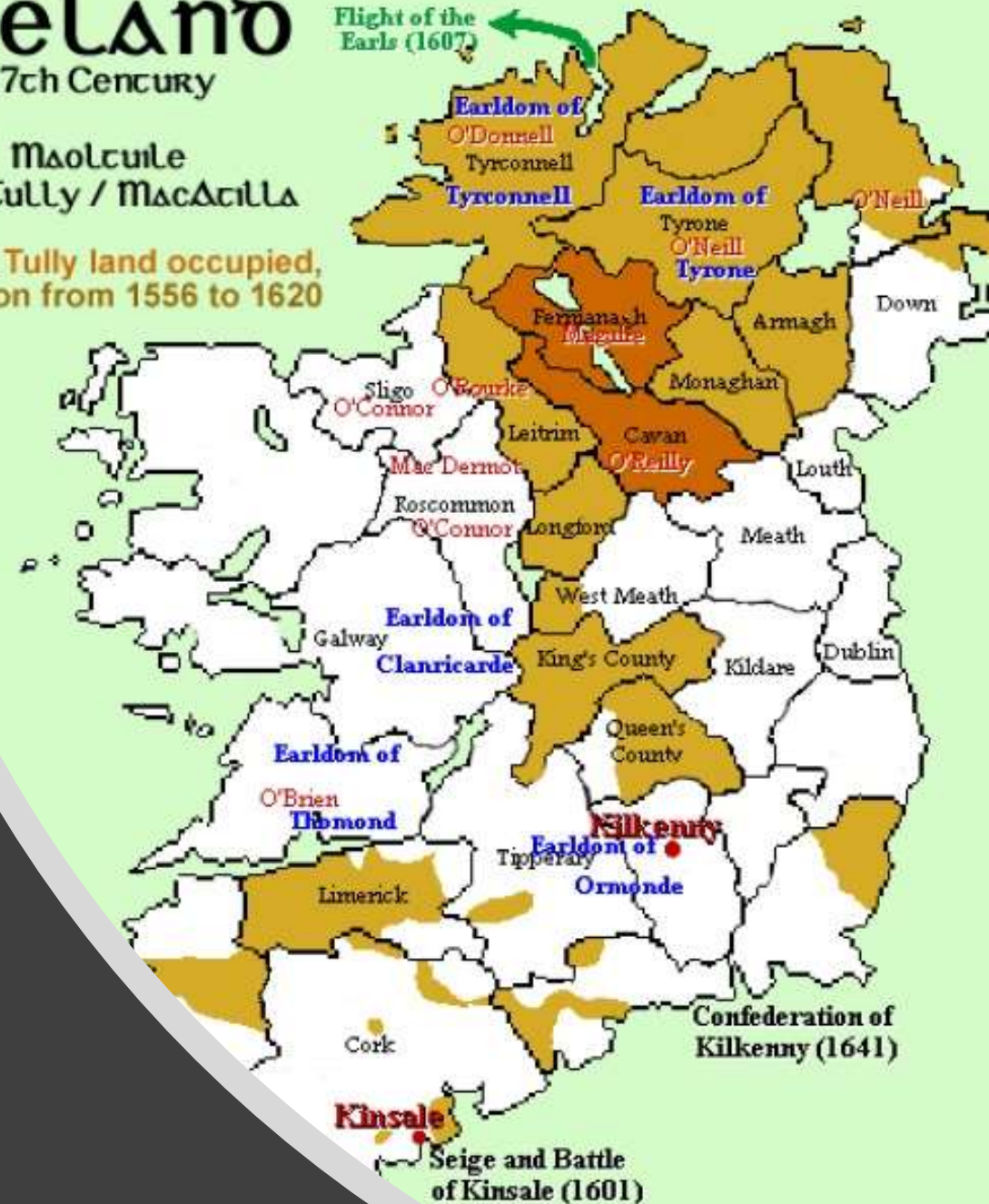
Ireland

17th Century

Maolcuile
Mac Tully / MacAulilla

Flight of the
Earls (1607)

Ancient Tully land occupied,
Plantation from 1556 to 1620





The rebellion of 1641: Ireland under the control of a Catholic **Irish Confederation**

Alliance with English Royalists

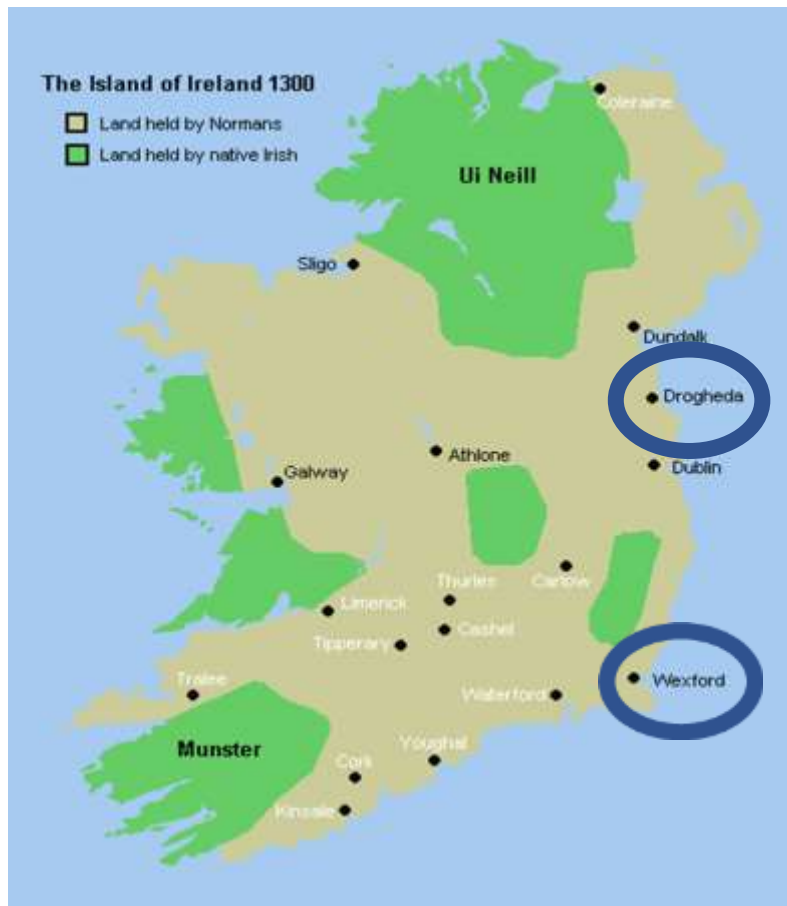
1649: Oliver Cromwell in Ireland – The reconquest of Ireland

12 000 professional soldiers

Cromwell opposed to the Catholic Church



The siege of Drogheda: 3 500 people
("miserable barbarians") massacred

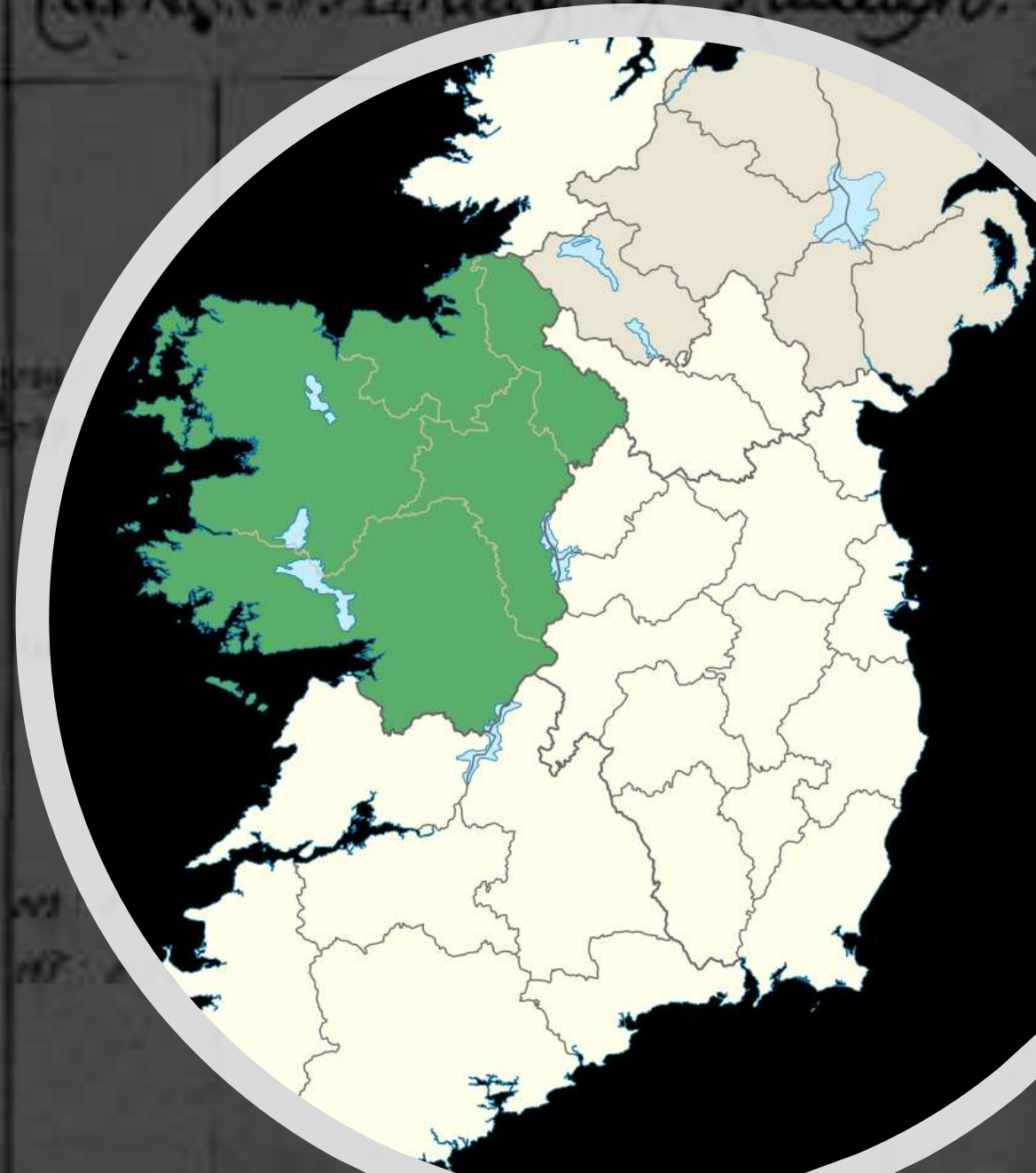


The Act for the Settlement of Ireland (1652)

The goal: to prevent any further opposition

Mass deportation of rebelled Catholic in the
Connacht

Confiscated land offered to English soldiers and
financiers

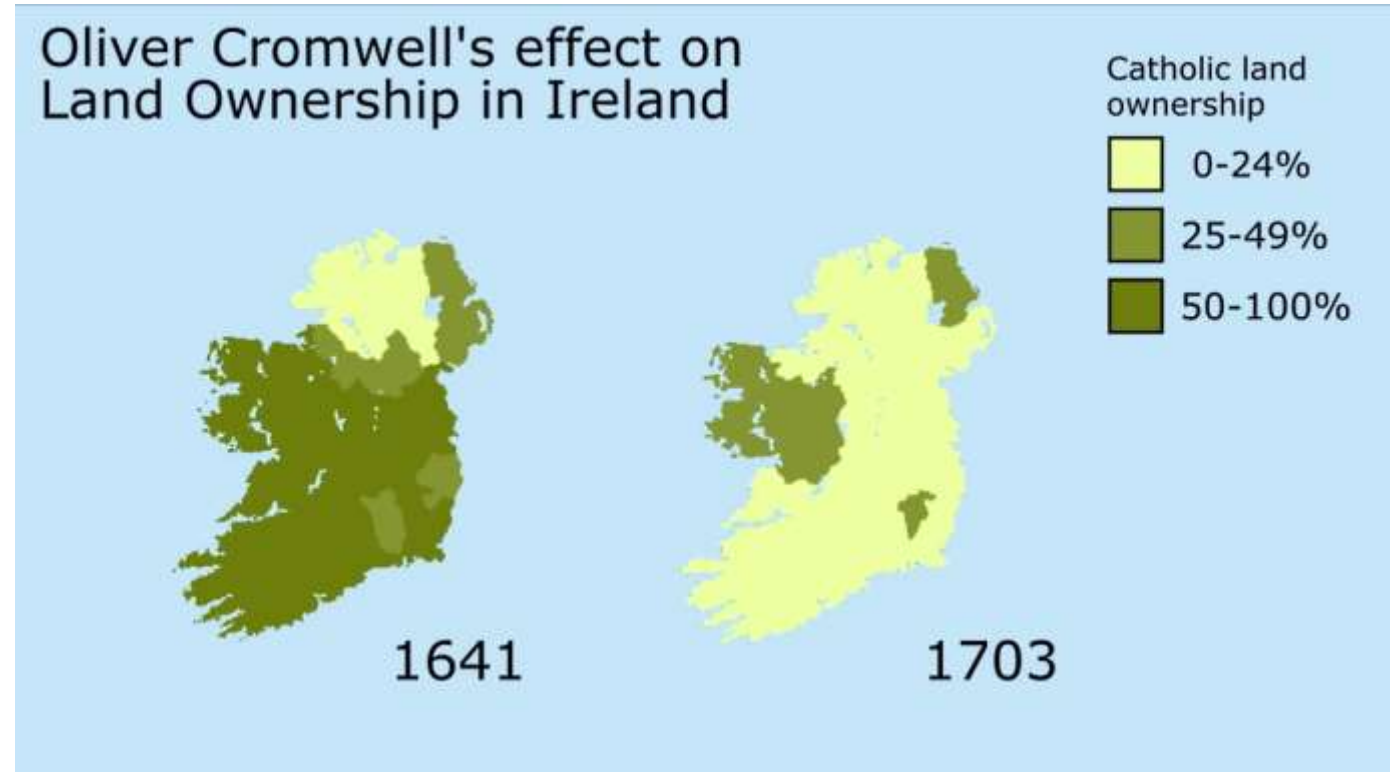


Most of the confiscated land
sold to Anglo-Irish Protestants

Project of mass deportation failed
due to lack of funds

Only 1/10th of the Irish population
forced to re-settle in the West

Most of the land in the hands of a
few landlords





Mass deportations to
the Caribbean
(Barbados)

Forced labor (sugar
plantations)

Charles II and the restoration of the monarchy (1660)

Cromwell's redistribution of the land not reversed

The reunion of the Irish Parliament (1661): only 1 Catholic

A new *Act of Settlement*: restitutions, a case by case affair over a short period of time



The « Glorious Revolution » of 1688

Irish Catholics faithful to James II

James II's goal: to regain his throne with the help of Ireland





The Battle of the Boyne: the triumph
of Protestantism over “misguided”
Catholics?



17th century: massive land confiscations

Most of the land re-distributed to English Protestants

The adoption of « **Penal Laws** »: discriminatory measures against Catholics

18th century: the *ascendency* (Protestant Anglo-Irish aristocracy's domination) in Ireland



The American & French Revolutions: renewed hope for the Irish

The Irish uprising of 1798: the beginning of 200 years of rebellion for independence

