**IRELAND IN THE EARLY 1500’S**

**The Pale**: A small area of land around Dublin (from Dundalk to Wicklow Mountains and west to Kells) controlled by the king of England – people there were descended from the Normans and kept close ties with England – spoke English and followed English law and English dress

**Two types of Irish Lords**: Gaelic Lords (Mac or O) and the Anglo Norman Lords (Butlers (Ormond) & Fitzgeralds(Desmond & Kildare)

**Brehon Law**: Ancient Gaelic Laws – judges administered the laws – courts held on hillsides – no gaols – no executions – punishment = eric or fine – wives could keep own names and property on marriage – divorce was allowed – children born outside of marriage entitled to a share in their father’s property

**Cattle** – a sign of a person’s wealth – belonged to the freemen of the clan – tenants and labourers did all the hard work

**Dress** – wore long tunic (women) or knee-length tunic (men) and Irish mantle (thick cloak, long moustache and a fringe called a glib – barefoot

**Anglo-Norman lords** who accepted the king as their overlord, gradually became like their Gaelic neighbours and took on their customs and married them.

**Common Law** – the English system of law – courthouses – harsh sentences – executions, hangings, prison – divorce forbidden – children born outside marriage could not inherit father’s property – wives took husbands name and lost control of her property and money.

**People of the Pale** – hated Gaelic Irish and Anglo-Normans – paid ‘black rent’ or protection money to the Gaelic Irish raiders who tried to steal their cattle – wars common between them - difficult to do business

**THE BEGINNING OF THE PLANTATIONS**

**Lord Deputy** – The king’s representative in Ireland

**Surrender and regrant** developed because if was too expensive to keep an army in Ireland the whole time – lords surrendered their lands to the king – promised to speak English, follow English laws and customs and swear loyalty to the English king – king then granted back the land together with English titles such as baron or earl – only 40 lords took up the offer.

**Plantations** – bringing people from one country to another country to take land and to live and work there

**Plantations** began because (a) cheaper than funding an army in Ireland (b) settlers would bring English laws and customs which would spread (c) they would set up towns and improve trade and the economy, (d) settlers would be Protestant and this would spread

**First Plantation** – Laois-Offaly – **Queen Mary** 1553 – confiscated land from the O’Connors and O’Mores – appointed a sheriff to enforce common law – set up courthouse and gaol and regular markets **– results** = not a success – only 88 families arrived – but blueprint for further plantations

**Second Plantation (background)** – Munster – **Queen Elizabeth 1558** – ruled for 45 years to 1603 – wanted Irish to have the same religion as their ruler – quarrelled with the most powerful families in Ireland – Fitzgeralds of Desmond – they did not like her interference – did not want to be Protestant – Elizabeth allowed adventurers to arrive in Ireland and claim land in Muster for themselves – Fitzgeralds and others rebelled – 8000 men sent to Ireland to crush them – viscious war for 4 years – thousands die and flee abroad – Fitzgeralds defeated – their land is confiscated

**Second Plantation begins –** land divided into 35 estates of 12,000, 8,000 and 4,000 acres – Undertaker appointed to each estate – he agreed to (a) bring in English families (b) build a castle and pay soldiers to protect it (c) not to employ Gaelic Irish as servants or to rent land to them (d) to follow Protestant religion **– results** – failed because only 4,000 instead of 20,000 arrived, undertakers *did* end up renting to Gaelic Irish and employing Irish servants (lower wages) – the estates were too big to defend properly – HOWEVER – new towns were built (Killarney, Glin and Mallow) industries set up (timber, mining and fishing) – many descendants of the settlers still there today.

**KING JAMES 1 STARTS THE ULSTER PLANTATION**

**By 1590’s English controlled all parts of Ireland except Ulste**r – most powerful Gaelic lords there were Hugh O’Neill and Hugh O’Donnell – went to war with the English because the English officials were telling them how to run their territories (9 YEARS WAR 1594-1603)

**Ulster Lords sought help from King of Spain** – claimed they needed help to defend the Catholic faith against the Protestant Elizabeth – they agreed – help came in 1601 – landed in Kinsale – O’Neill marched south to meet them but English got there first – fierce battle – English win

**Flight of the Earls** – after the war Gaelic lords found it hard to accpt English rule – they were in debt cause had no power to collect rents or taxes – decided to leave Ireland and go to Europe

See attached sheets for rest of information on the Ulster Plantation

**CROMWELLIAN PLANTATION**

**Peace for 30 years (to 1641)** but tensions under the surface – Gaelic Irish take opportunity to attack settlers when Charles I is busy with a row between the English parliament and the King’s supporters (royalists vs parliamentarians) – 4,000 to 12,000 killed – settlers fled from Ulster to Dublin and England bringing stories of great hardship – English believed that 200,000 Protestants had been killed by the Gaelic Irish – furious

**After civil war in England** Cromwell defeats King Charles (executed) and wants to punish the Catholics in Ireland for the massacres of 1641 – 12,000 soldier arrive and siege Drogheda – slaughter entire population there – then captures Wexford – then by 1653 he has captured whole of Ireland – thousands dead – many widows and orphans rounded up and sent to plaantations in the West Indies – Irish soldiers sent to join foreign armies

**Plantation – biggest plantation** – Act of Settlement brought in which meant that only those who could prove they were loyal to Cromwell during the civil war could keep their land – catholic landowners had to leave their land and move across the Shannon (about 40,000 people) – priests were executed in an effort to wipe out Catholicism – **results** – Catholic landowners were replaced with Protestants – By 1660 Catholics only only 20 percent of the land (mostly in the poor land in Connacht – HOWEVER – the Catholic farmers and labourers who remained working the land outnumbered the Protestants settlers so Cromwell did not succeed to turn Ireland into a Protestant country.