

1798 Rebellion. Short Term Impacts and Long term impacts

Short term impacts

1. **Growth of Sectarianism:** The rebellion intensified sectarianism -catholics v Protestants. News of events in Wexford spread (rebels had burned 200 protestants in a barn, contradicting Tone's hope for religious equality). The Orange order claimed the rebellion was a Catholic plot. Irish politics became increasingly divided by religion.
2. **Violence:** The British government and loyalist militias responded harshly with mass executions, floggings, and burning houses.
3. **Failure to achieve independence:** The rebellion failed to overthrow British rule or gain Irish independence. French military aid was insufficient and arrived too late to be effective.

Long term impacts

1. **Act of Union (1801):** After two attempted French invasions and a failed rebellion, the Government of London felt they needed to take action. They decided to bring Ireland back under direct control, It used a mixture of bribery and threats to get the Dublin parliament to pass the Act of Union. This abolished the parliament in Dublin and Irish MPs took their seats in Westminster.
2. **Irish Republicanism:** The rebellion failed, but Wolfe Tone inspired many. He became known as the 'Father of Irish Republicanism'. He inspired many future Irish movements such as the leaders of the 1916 Easter rising.