



Doolough Valley

Gleann Dhúlocha

“glan **GOO**-locka”

Cuimhneachán Dhumha Locha
The Doolough memorial



Scáth dubh á chaitheamh *Casting a dark shadow*

Tharla ceann de na heachtraí ba mheasa a tharla sa ghleann seo i rith an Ghorta Mhóir.

Ar lá fuar feanntach in 1849, bhailigh thart ar 600 duine a bhí ag fáil bháis den ocras i gCluain Cearbán, iad ar thóir bia nó ticéid le dul chomh fada le teach na mBocht i gCathair na Mart. Dúradh leo iarratas a chur faoi bhráid oifigigh Dhlí na mBocht a raibh sé beartaithe acu cruinniú a réachtáil an lá dar gcionn in Delphi, breis is deich míle ó Chluain Cearbán.

Cailleadh roinnt daoine i rith na hoíche. Streachail an chuid eile trasna na sléibhte, iad ag leanúint rian na gcaorach agus na sruthanna lapadaíola. Nuair a shroich siad Delphi, bhí lón díreach ite ag oifigigh Dhlí na mBocht, dhiúltaigh siad cabhrú leis na bochtáin agus dúirt siad leo dul ar ais abhaile. Ní fios cé mhéad daoine a cailleadh ar thaobh an bhealaigh den fhuacht, ocras agus tnáitheadh. Cuireadh roinnt daoine san áit ar thit siad.

‘Beidh geonaíl na gaoithe os cionn a n-uaigneanna gan ainm síoraí seasta ag crónán i gcuimhne orthu.’

James Berry, c.1910

This valley witnessed one of the darkest moments of the Great Famine.

On a bitterly cold day in 1849, up to 600 starving people gathered in Louisburgh seeking food or a ticket to the Westport workhouse. They were told to apply to the Poor Law officials who were meeting the next day at Delphi, over ten miles away.

Some died overnight. The rest struggled across the mountains following sheep tracks and wading streams. When they arrived at Delphi the Poor Law officials rose from lunch, refused to help and told them to return. No-one knows how many died by the wayside of cold, hunger and exhaustion. Some were buried where they fell.

‘The sighing of the winds above their nameless graves forever sings their requiem.’

James Berry, c.1910



1 Caith tamall i measc mhuintir na háite maidin Dé hAoine ag Margadh Feirmeoirí Chluain Cearbán. Meet the locals at Louisburgh Farmers Market every Friday morning.

2 Caith tamall ag siúl ar do shuaimhneas feadh Abhainn na hOirimhe ar chuid de bhealach spaisteoireachta Mhórbhealach an Iarthair. Stroll along the Erriff River on part of the Great Western Way walking route.

3 Téigh isteach i measc na sléibhte agus na lochanna agus lean ort i dtreo cheantar rómánsúil Eas Liath. Head through mountains and lakes towards romantic Aasleagh Falls.

