Outrage in the Age of Reform

In the 1830s, as Britain navigated political reform to stave off instability and social unrest, Ireland became increasingly influential in determining British politics. This book is the first to chart the importance that Irish agrarian violence – instances of which were known as 'outrages' – played in shaping how the ‘decade of reform’ unfolded. It argues that while Whig politicians attempted to incorporate Ireland fully into the political union to address long-standing grievances, Conservative politicians and media outlets focussed on Irish outrages to stymie political change. Jay R. Roszman brings to light the ways that a wing of the Conservative Party, which included many Anglo-Irish, set Irish violence in the context of a wider imperial framework, stressing the ways in which outrages threatened the Union and with it the wider empire. Using underutilised sources, the book also reassesses the ways in which Irish people interpreted ‘everyday’ agrarian violence in pre-Famine society, suggesting that many people perpetuated outrages to assert popularly conceived notions of justice against the imposition of British sovereignty.

Jay R. Roszman completed his PhD in History at Carnegie Mellon University, for which he was awarded the Adele Dalsimer Prize for Distinguished Dissertation from the American Conference of Irish Studies. He has published articles in Historical Journal and Historical Research. He was appointed Lecturer in Nineteenth-Century Irish and British History at University College Cork in 2018. A native Vermonter, Jay earned his MA in Irish Studies at Queen’s University Belfast and his BA in History and Political Science at Gettysburg College. He lives in Cork with his wife and daughter.
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Outrage in the Age of Reform

*Irish Agrarian Violence, Imperial Insecurity,*
*and British Governing Policy, 1830–1845*

Jay R. Roszman

*University College Cork*
For Rachel and Aubrey: My loves, forever
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Abbreviations

BARS  Bedfordshire Archives and Records Service, Bedford
BEM  Blackwood’s Edinburgh Magazine
BL  British Library, London
BNL  Belfast News-Letter
CH  Castle Howard, York
DCRO  Durham County Record Office, Durham
DUM  Dublin University Magazine
ECL  Exeter Cathedral Library, Exeter
EHR  English Historical Review
FJ  Freeman’s Journal
HJ  The Historical Journal
IHS  Irish Historical Studies
JBS  Journal of British Studies
LPL  Liverpool Public Library
MC  Mulgrave Castle, Whitby
NAI  National Archive Ireland, Dublin
NLI  National Library of Ireland, Dublin
PRONI  Public Record Office of Northern Ireland, Belfast
P. P.  Parliamentary Papers
P & P  Past & Present
RCBL  Representative Church Body Library, Dublin
TC  Tulllynally Castle, Castlepollard
TCD  Trinity College Dublin, Dublin
TNA  The National Archives, Kew
UCL  University College London, London
UNSC  University of Nottingham Special Collections, Nottingham
USSC  University of Southampton Special Collections, Southampton
WSRO  West Sussex Record Office, Chichester