

Why is it called the O'Connell Tower?

Fill in the blank spaces below with words from the Word Bank – cross out each word as you go. When you are finished read this section carefully.

In 1832 _____ opened Glasnevin Cemetery for people of all religions and none. He was very well-known and worked as a _____. He became known as _____ because he tried to achieve better rights and equality for people.

O'Connell was born in Co. _____ in 1775. At the time Ireland was under _____ rule. Laws restricted the rights of Catholics and Daniel was born into a _____ family. When he was 15, he was sent to be _____ in France, as the education of Catholics was restricted in Ireland. When he was there he saw some events of the _____ and this gave him a lifelong hatred of violence.

Catholics were also restricted from becoming Members of Parliament (politicians that the people voted for). O'Connell set up the Catholic Association, large numbers of people joined and paid one _____ a month towards the work of the Association. Its aim was to get the right for Catholics to be Members of Parliament. In 1828 Daniel O'Connell won the vote to become a Member of Parliament for Co. Clare. However, he could not take his seat at the time, because he was a _____. Seeing the strong support that O'Connell had, the British Government decided to give Catholics the right to be Members of Parliament.

O'Connell worked in Parliament for many years. Now that Catholics were Members of Parliament, O'Connell started to work towards getting a government for Ireland that would be based in Ireland. He organised huge '_____ meetings' but was not successful in this aim.

During the Great Irish _____, Daniel O'Connell gave his last speech in Parliament and asked for help for people who were starving. He later travelled to Italy and died in a city called Genoa. He was _____ years old. When he died, a decision was made to build the O'Connell _____ in his memory. It is the tallest Round Tower in Ireland.



The O'Connell Round Tower was built almost 165 years ago. So it is not that old - when compared to other Round Towers.

Do you know of any other Round Towers in Ireland?

Word Bank

Catholic, British, Famine, lawyer, 'The Liberator', Daniel O'Connell, Tower, 71, monster, educated, Kerry, French Revolution, Catholic, penny.