

# "The Day We Celebrate"

*Harper's Weekly*

April 6, 1867

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This cartoon was published in a New York newspaper, *Harper's Weekly* on April 6, 1867, about March 17, 1867 celebration of St. Patrick's Day. It shows the Irishmen having box shaped faces, to make them look alike to apes. The Irishmen are shown beating police and innocent citizens. Yet this cartoon showed how the Americans stereotyped the Irish-Americans.

Americans viewed the Irish as very uncivilized, drunk and violent immigrants. The words rum and blood on the bottom corners signified that Irishmen are all about alcohol and violence. The Irish were also seen as unskilled, where they could only find work in the least wanted occupations and were living in crowded ghettos, and were seemed not to be welcomed in America. Many nativists pushed the police to limit Irish political power and immigrants rights to vote and to hold public office. The Irish was treated so badly and had to stand their ground, they were treated somewhat as the African-Americans were treated.

