

Mr. White
Local Businessman



I am against this proposal! Our town already spends too much money on schools. I will have to pay more taxes if we have to pay for a school for the Irish children.

Father Mahoney
Priest



It is important to our community that all of our young people, including the Irish children, are educated. The town must fund a school for the children of the Irish families in our community.

Reverend Edson
Minister



Lowell's streets are filled with misbehaving Irish children who should be in school, so that they can become good citizens. The town should use tax funds to pay for a school for the Irish children.

Mr. Ayer
Local Businessman



I think that the Irish children should have a school in their own neighborhood, but I am not sure that the town's tax money should pay for it. The Irish should pay for their own school.

Betsy Coburn

Wife of Local Businessman

- I live on the edge of town, near the Irish neighborhood called the Acre.
- I am often disturbed at night by loud Irish children who sleep all day because they do not have jobs or schools to attend.

Mary O'Brien

Irish Immigrant

- I have four young children that attend the school taught by our local priest.
- I am concerned that their classes are crowded and there isn't room for all of the Irish children.

Lucy Mellon

Mill Worker

- I work as a weaver in the mills.
- I am concerned that so many Irish immigrants are moving to Lowell and might take my job. I wish they would go back to Ireland.

Nora Kennedy

Bobbin Girl

- My parents came from Ireland, but I was born here.
- I work as a bobbin girl at a mill, but I want to go to school.

Sarah Wise
Mill Worker

- I work with several Irish girls at the mills.
- I find them to be very smart and kind, and their children deserve an education.

Nora McDonald
Irish Mill Worker

- I recently came to America to join my brother who works in the mills.
- I cannot read the rules and regulations, so I am not always sure what I am supposed to do.

Megan Sullivan
Irish Mill Worker

- As an Irish immigrant, I was lucky to get a job in the mill so I am not home during the day to look after my son.
- He has recently been getting into trouble on the streets. I wish he had a school to go to.

Mary Winter
Mill Worker

- I work in a mill as a weaver.
- I believe education is the key to a successful and productive life.

Rachel Hill

Shopkeeper

- I work at a bookstore in Lowell.
- More supplies for schools mean more business for my store.

Mary Young

Boardinghouse Keeper

- I work as a boardinghouse keeper for the Yankee mill girls.
- My children's classes at the public school are quite large and crowded. Our Yankee kids need a bigger school before we build one for the Irish.

Polly Place

Mill Worker

- I must send most of the money I earn home to help with my family farm.
- If the Irish get to go to school, they might get smarter than me. I hope an Irish girl will not take my job.

Ann Farrell

Mill Worker

- I work as a spinner in a mill.
- I am worried that an Irish girl will take my job. They should go back to Ireland.

Bridget O'Neal

Recent Irish Immigrant

- I live in the Irish neighborhood and have two children.
- My children and I have difficulty understanding Americans when they talk. School would help my children learn to speak English.

Sara Holt

Mill Worker

- I am employed as a spinner in a mill.
- I am concerned that so many immigrants are available to replace me.

Rebecca White

Shopkeeper

- I sell dresses and bonnets to mill workers.
- I need to hire a girl to help me with my bookkeeping.
- I might hire an Irish girl if she had a good education.

Ann Page

Teacher

- I teach in one of Lowell's public schools.
- During one of my classes, there was a fight between two of my students, one Yankee and one Irish.
- I wish there was a separate school for the Irish children.

Joseph Hill

Farmer



- I had very little schooling.
- My children will be farmers, so they will not need to go to school.
- Irish children don't need schooling either.

Henry Fletcher

Farmer



- I sell milk, apples, and corn to many stores and residents in town.
- I have six children. I hope some of them will get an education and find good jobs away from the farm.

John Booker

Local Businessman



- I only make a small profit at my business in town.
- I do not want to pay more taxes.

Robert Singer

Mill Overseer



- I need to hire three new workers due to increased production.
- I don't want to have to pay my workers more money. More education equals more pay.

Patrick Lacey

Irish Cloth Inspector

- I arrived from Ireland two years ago.
- I support myself, and my younger brother who arrived from Ireland just last week.
- My brother deserves to go to school.

Patrick O'Brien

New Irish Immigrant

- I recently arrived in America.
- I work digging the canals but hope to get a better job someday.
- Education could help me get a better job.

Father Joseph O'Malley

Irish Priest from Boston

- I want to help the Irish people adjust to life in America.
- The bishop in Boston says our children must be taught by Irish Catholic teachers.

James O'Malley

Irish Immigrant

- I work hard at my job in the mill.
- I am doing just fine, and I did not go to school. My children will work in the mill too.

Luke Case
Mill Worker



- I have lived here all of my life, and I make just enough money to get by.
- If the Irish children are going to work in the mills like me, they won't need much education.

Daniel Muldoon
Irish Laborer

- I have worked several years building and taking care of the canals.
- I was able to save enough money to bring my wife and children from Ireland.
- I want my children to go to school.

Thomas Parker
Shopkeeper



- I employ young men to help at my shop.
- Most mornings I see Irish boys hanging around outside my store.
- I might hire a few if they could read and write.

Henry Ward
Mill Worker



- I have lived here all my life.
- I have seen many workers from other areas come and go. I do not want to build more schools if these families may not stay in Lowell.

Oliver Ford

Local Businessman



- Irish children with nothing to do are spending all day in our streets.
- I think we should be spending our town's money on hiring more police officers.

Kirk Cook

Mill Manager



- Our mill can't be expected to pay more tax dollars to support new schools.
- We will train our workers. They do not need to go to school.

James Fitts

Mill Worker



- I work as a loom fixer in a mill.
- I have two sons who attend school.
- If the Irish have a school of their own, then my sons' classes would not be crowded.

John Hill

Constable



- I am a police officer, and I have to keep the peace in town.
- I wish the Irish children had a school to attend so they would not be causing trouble out on the streets.