

A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens
(adapted by Frederick Gaines)



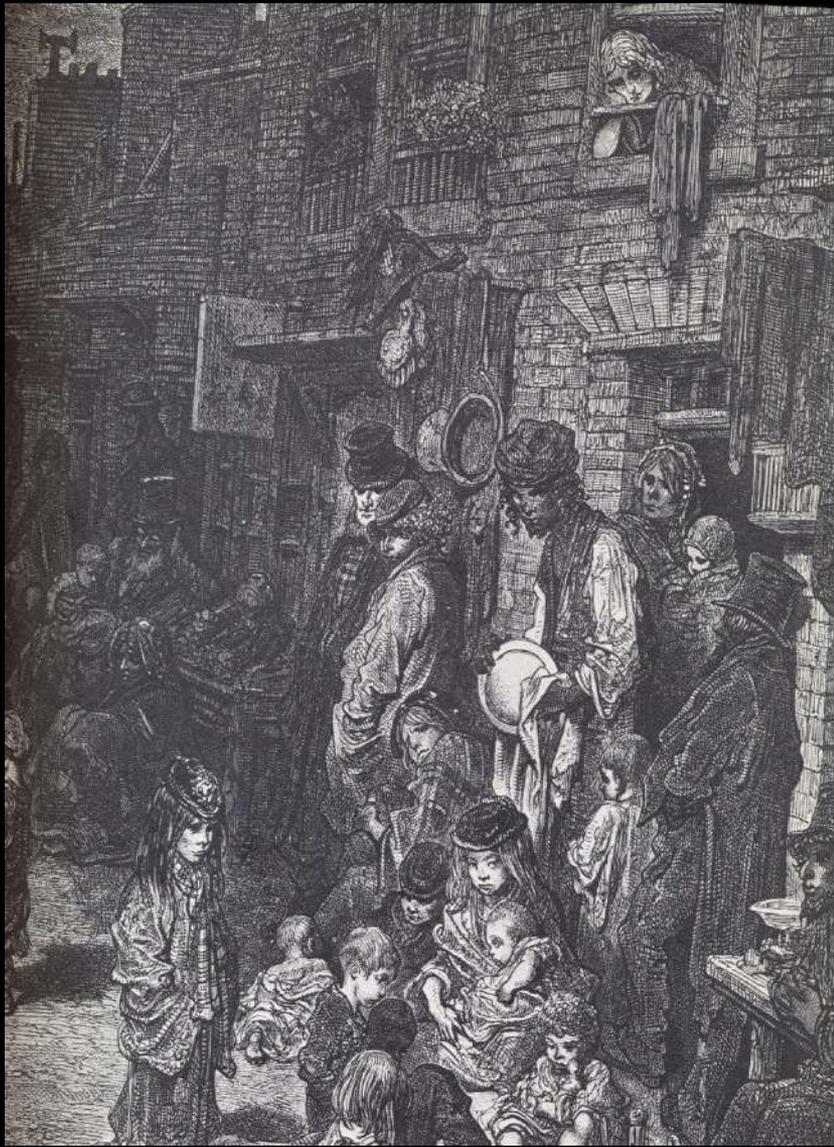
Setting

- London, England
- 1843: about 1/3 of English population lived in poverty
- 24th of December







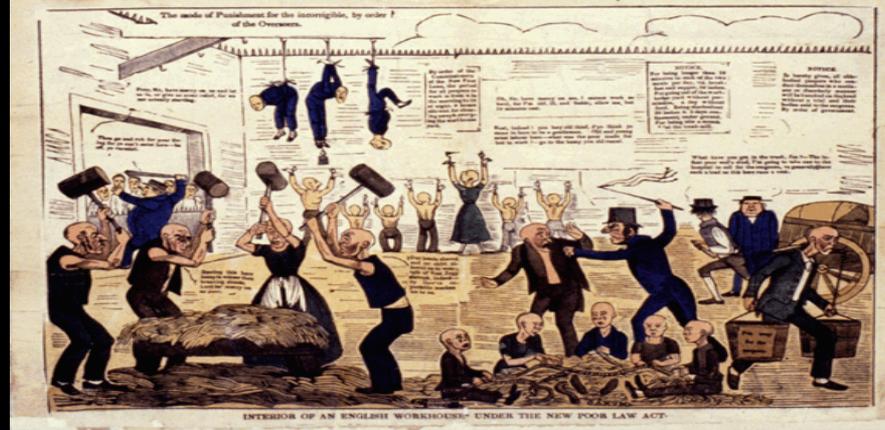




Factory work caused people living in rural areas to flood to the city. The city quickly became dirty and overcrowded. Wages were low and children were hungry. Jobs and housing were in short supply.

The New POOR LAW

with a description
of the new Workhouses
Look at the Picture—See



The Poor Law of 1843 forced the homeless into workhouses that were little more than prisons.

Charles Dickens

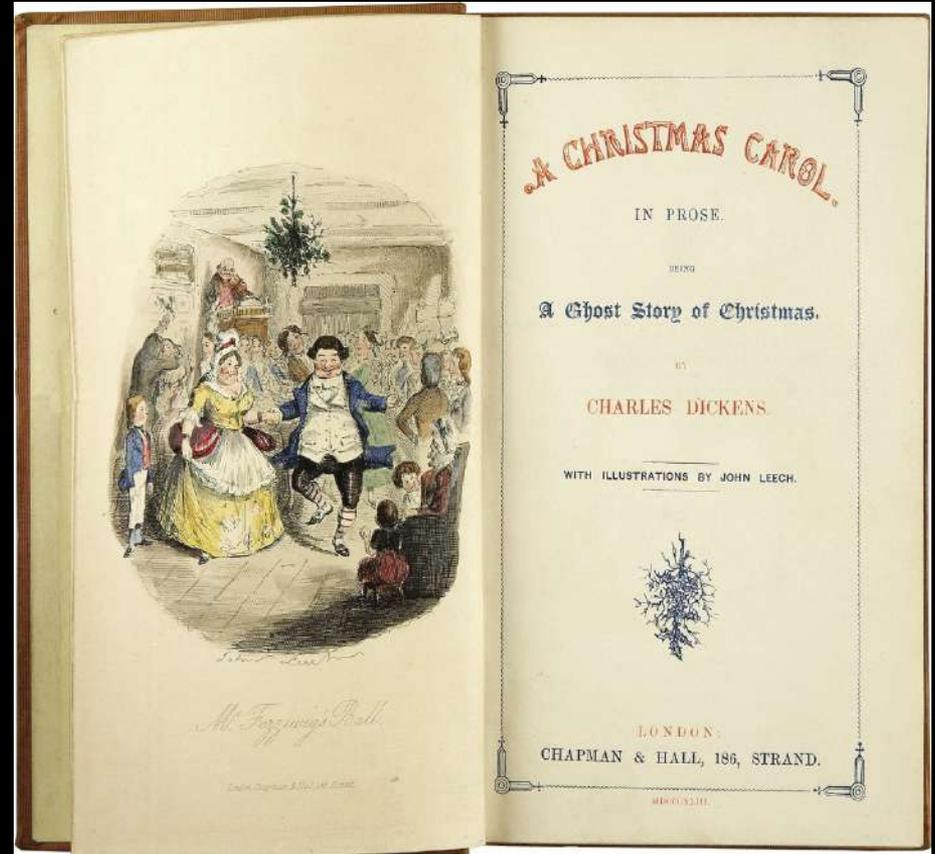
(1812-1870)

- When Dickens was 12, his father was imprisoned for debt
- Dickens had to leave school and go to work in a rat-infested factory
- Hopelessness and shame



Social Crusader

- Intended to write a pamphlet entitled “An Appeal to the People of England, on Behalf of the Poor Man’s Child”
- Instead wrote a story: “A Christmas Carol” (1843)



Adaptation

- Adaptation of Charles Dickens' novel
- Dramatized = live performance on stage; scripts, stage directions

