

A NEW LIFE IN

NEW BRUNSWICK

ILLUSTRATED BY ALEX DIOCHON

1835, AN ASYLUM* IN ENGLAND.



THEY SAY
THEY CAN'T FIND
WORK FOR ALL
OF US.

WHAT
WILL WE
DO?

STARVE ON
THE STREETS,
MOST LIKELY.

JOHN

JANE

GEORGE

LINGRATEFUL
SCAMPS!

EAT YOUR
DINNER AND
BE QUIET.



*A PLACE WHERE POOR CHILDREN WITH NO FAMILY WERE SENT TO LIVE

1834, ON THE NASHWAAK RIVER IN NEW BRUNSWICK, NORTH OF WHERE FREDERICTON NOW STANDS.



WORKERS FOR THE NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA LAND COMPANY ARE CLEARING LAND TO BUILD A TOWN FOR SETTLERS THE COMPANY WANTS TO BRING FROM ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

E.N. KENDALL,
THE COMPANY'S MAN
IN CHARGE OF THE NEW
BRUNSWICK SETTLEMENT



THIS WILL SOON BE A
FINE TOWN, WORTHY OF ITS
NAMESAKE, LORD STANLEY,
EARL OF DERBY.



EARLY 1835



THERE'S
TOO MUCH
WORK,
SIR!

BACK HOME
IN ENGLAND,
THE LAND WAS
ALREADY
CLEAR.

A MAN
COULD FARM
WITHOUT HAVING
TO GET RID OF THESE
AWFUL GREAT
STUMPS!

AND WITHOUT
SUCH TERRIBLE
WINTERS,
EITHER!

AND THERE
WERE LOTS OF
YOUNG GIRLS
AND BOYS
AROUND WE
COULD HIRE
TO HELP.



I'M
TRYING TO
RAISE A FAMILY,
GROW A GARDEN,
MAKE PRESERVES,
KEEP THE FIRE
GOING . . .



MAY I REMIND YOU THAT
NOT ONE OF YOU COULD EVER
HAVE HOPED TO HAVE YOUR
OWN LAND IN ENGLAND!
HERE YOU ARE KINGS
OF ALL YOU CAN SEE.

KING OF
THE STUMPS,
YOU MEAN!



MY GOOD PEOPLE, I AM WORKING ON A PLAN TO HELP.

WE ARE BRINGING PAUPER CHILDREN WHO HAVE NO FUTURE IN ENGLAND TO BE YOUR LABOURERS AND SERVANTS. THEY WILL HAVE HONEST WORK, AND YOU WILL HAVE THE HELP YOU NEED.



WHY DON'T YOU CALL 'EM WHAT THEY REALLY ARE—

CRIMINALS!



I BELIEVE THAT WITH THE RIGHT TRAINING AND A FIRM HAND, THESE UNFORTUNATE CHILDREN MAY IMPROVE THEIR LIVES.



THEY'RE JUST POOR. THEY DESERVE A CHANCE LIKE WE GOT.



AND I CAN CERTAINLY USE A BOY AROUND THE FARM.



WELL, AT LEAST WE WON'T HAVE TO PAY 'EM.







THE NEW BRUNSWICK AND NOVA SCOTIA LAND COMPANY BROUGHT 35 BOYS AND ONE GIRL FROM ENGLAND IN 1835 TO WORK FOR ITS SETTLERS. THEY WERE NOT PAID, AND WHILE MANY WERE TREATED LIKE FAMILY, OTHERS WERE NOT NEARLY SO LUCKY.



THE IDEA OF BRINGING POOR CHILDREN - MOSTLY ORPHANS BUT SOME WHO HAD FAMILIES - TO CANADA AS UNPAID WORKERS CAUGHT ON. PEOPLE WHO (USUALLY) FELT THEY WERE BEING KIND SENT MORE THAN 100,000 CHILD WORKERS TO CANADA BETWEEN THE 1830S AND THE 1940S.

DO YOU THINK THEY SHOULD HAVE HAD A CHOICE ABOUT WHETHER TO COME? ALTHOUGH THEY HAD CLEAN AIR AND WATER AND A CHANCE AT A BETTER LIFE IN CANADA, MANY WERE MISTREATED AND CRUELLY OVERWORKED. DO YOU THINK THEIR LIVES WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER HERE OR IF THEY HAD STAYED IN ENGLAND?