

come down. After some delay, I heard some one descending the stairs, apparently labouring under a distressing cough, it was his poor wife, followed by five of his daughters, ranging in age from three to twelve years. Mrs. J—— had on a very thin faded cotton jacket and a skirt made of an old boat's sail, but perfectly clean. I do not think that she had on any flannel or other warm clothing. She had neither shoes or stockings. In entering the room she made a very lady-like bow, and stood opposite to me near the stove, until I insisted she should occupy the only seat in the room. Mr. Duhamel and myself seating ourselves on the bundle of nets. Oh! what a sad face this woman had, want and suffering were plainly marked upon it, as well as her emaciated figure; she had evidently been very handsome, fair and rosy in younger and happier days. She was about 35 years of age and told me she was Scotch, and born in Glasgow. She came out to Halifax to visit a sister who had been governess in a merchant's family with whom the J——s did business. Some time after her arrival, J—— brother, who was then considered rich and prosperous, married that sister and she came over to Labrador on a visit to them. Here she met and married her brother-in-law, and, for many years, had every comfort and was happy. But what a change has since taken place; starvation frequently stares her in the face, and in consequence, she had become very sickly.

They had nine children, the eldest a girl of sixteen; next a boy of about 14. Both were away with a gun and their last charge of powder, trying to shoot the largest bird they could find, to furnish a scanty meal for the family. They had been living for many days on small trout caught by the children in a stream close by. They had neither pork nor grease of any kind to cook their fish in, nor had they any other food whatever; in fact these small fish and water had kept them alive. The poor children were very thin