

New Brunswick is one of the provinces in the Dominion of Canada. It measures about 200 miles in length and 160 miles in breadth. It is larger than Nova Scotia, yet it is not so populous. What was there in the country before the Europeans first came to settle in America? It was inhabited by the Indians, the ancestors of those who come to our houses to sell baskets or beg. They did not build fine houses nor cultivate their gardens like ours. They made their rude wigwams of bark of the tree, and lived by fishing and hunting. There were no railway and carriage-roads there. The whole country was one immense forest the home of wild beasts. Well, our forefathers first coming to settle there, had no material to build nice houses for them; therefore they made humble cottages of log. They had no carriage-roads and travelled long journey on foot. Sometimes they journeyed along narrow ways through the woods on horses; they went over the deep snow upon snow-shoes. Long ago several Frenchmen having sailed on the Ocean to seek their fortune in America, entered the Bay of Fundy, and after visiting places on the south of bay sailed up a river. Entering this river on the festival of John the Baptist they called it Saint John. The country once owned by the French, was ceded to the English in the year 1713, and became a separate province in 1784. The year 1825 opened with the Miramichi Great Fire. The eastern part of the country was laid waste by a great fire. The settlements along the north side of Miramichi suffered very severely. An immense sheet of fire burst down from the neighboring forest upon two towns. The houses were all on fire suddenly. The frightened inhabitants escaped in every direction for life, yet safety was hardly found because everywhere was flames. A large sum of property was destroyed. This was a sad spectacle.

New Brunswick was united to the Dominion of Canada on the 1st of July, 1867. It is divided into fourteen counties. The largest rivers are Petitcodiac, St. John and Restigouche. The Bay of Fundy is noted for its great tide rising 60 or 70 feet high. The country has plenty of forest from which are carried timbers to build ships along the shores. The Capital of New Brunswick is Fredericton, which is beautifully situated, about eighty-five miles from St. John City. The objects of interest therein are the Provincial Buildings, the Government House, the English Cathedral, the Exhibition Building and the University. The largest city is St. John, which is famed for its good harbor, shipbuilding and trade, the Suspension Bridge, and the Lunatic Asylum. The towns of importance are Moncton, St. Andrews, St. Stephen and Newcastle. Moncton is the head-quarters and centre of the railway system of the Maritime Provinces, and increasing very fast. Shipbuilding, lumbering, manufacturing, forming branches of industry, afford sufficient employment for hundreds. The country makes liberal provision for education to my surprise. We have comfortable houses, good roads in the settlements, railways through the country and other advantages. Thank God, we have a country to live comfortably in, and it is not destitute of productions. The province is still at peace. I wish that it may always be prosperous.

W. J. M.

(Born deaf—19 years of age. 3½ years at school.)