

seems to be limited to the articulation between “the place of the poor in society and the function of poor relief” (p. 12). Reciprocity is confined to the realm of social compacts and does not connect with a wider universe of domination.

The book is a great achievement in referring specific historical conjunctures, but further discussion on long-term structures and meanings could perhaps provide an even better comprehension of poverty in colonial times.

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PARKER, Roy — *Uprooted: The Shipment of Poor Children to Canada, 1867–1917*.
 Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 2008. Pp. 354.

Roy Parker’s *Uprooted: The Shipment of Poor Children to Canada, 1867–1917* examines the remarkable and at times troubling history of British child emigration to Canada in the 50 years after Confederation. The expansion of child emigration schemes in this period was a product of multiple factors, most notably high unemployment in British cities, anxiety over the social consequences of child poverty, and the relatively steady demand for labour, especially agricultural workers and domestic servants, in Canada. Parker’s approach to the topic balances sensitivity to these broader contextual factors with a particular emphasis on the importance of individuals, both emigrationists and the children themselves, in this process. The result is an impressive study that makes an important contribution to Canadian and British imperial historiography.

The scope of Parker’s study is quite broad, incorporating the experience of a wide range of charitable, religious (both Catholic and Protestant), and governmental agencies, as well as the key individual figures involved in child emigration. As if introducing characters in a drama, the author begins his study by detailing the personalities and careers of pioneering advocates of child emigration, including Maria Rye, Anne Macpherson, and Thomas Barnardo. This detailed focus on prominent individuals not only allows the author to examine the diverse strategies and methods adopted by the emigrationists but also effectively illustrates the most striking dimension of the history of this topic — the lack of inspection, oversight, and control over child emigration, especially in the first two decades after Confederation. While alarm bells raised by concerned parties resulted at times in government investigations, none led to a comprehensive system of supervision over the emigration process: neither the emigrationists nor the various layers of government in Canada were willing to assume full responsibility for such oversight. The author illustrates the consequences of this vacuum of authority through the career of Maria Rye, a tenacious advocate of child emigration. Rye was able to sidestep barriers to child emigration posed by the 1869 *Immigration Act*, as well as the active opposition of at least one federal government minister, to land several dozen British children successfully in Ontario in the late 1860s. An investigation into Rye’s

activities nearly ten years later, however, revealed that as many as 30 per cent of the children sent by Rye to Canada could no longer be located or traced from the time of their arrival. Parker thus effectively illustrates through Rye's career how this vacuum of authority presented ambitious emigrationists with opportunities for success, yet at the same time posed serious risks to the safety of the children.

The theme of child vulnerability is central to the book, the title of which effectively captures the sense of trauma and dislocation experienced by the child emigrants themselves. As Parker details, this sense of uprootedness was at once a natural consequence of settling in a new land and a product of conscious efforts by the emigrationists to cut the children off from their own pasts. The primary goal of child emigration was not only to rescue children from poverty and crime, but also to rehabilitate them by sending them overseas for a new start in life; emigrationists were therefore typically determined to isolate children from the corrupting influences of their past, including (and often especially) family relations. Drawing upon correspondence from children and their families, Parker illustrates how emigrationists often refused to respond to letters from children seeking information on their personal backgrounds, at the same time deflecting efforts by parents to locate sons and daughters sent to Canada. These observations about the psychological toll of emigration are anchored by personal testimonies collected from adults who had been sent to Canada (and elsewhere in the British Empire) as part of these youth emigration schemes, testimonies that emphasize a sense of personal dislocation as the main legacy of their experience. These poignant reflections, coupled with the correspondence, strongly convey the private dimension of the history of child emigration, and, despite the paucity of such evidence (a limitation acknowledged by the author), Parker uses it to great effect.

While this focus on the individual is insightful and laudable, at times it comes at the expense of the larger picture, with the work of the emigrationists not always fully contextualized. For example, the first part of the book closes with an acknowledgement that the work of emigrationists was shaped by a wide range of social, economic, and political forces, raising an important theme that has received only limited attention in the previous pages. Also, while one of the concluding chapters offers a strong analysis of the primary factors that shaped child emigration, the author's overall vision of this big picture is largely absent from earlier sections of the book, where the work of the emigrationists is explored in the greatest detail. Thus Parker does not neglect the broad forces at work in the history of this topic; he devotes three chapters, for example, to an analysis of the factors that stimulated support for, and opposition to, child emigration in Canada. However, the analytical dimensions of Parker's study could have been more fully integrated with the earlier detailed examination of the personalities and work of the emigrationists: the balance between the broad dimensions and the more individual experience of the child emigration experience is achieved, but the two elements of the study are often presented in isolation rather than fully complementing each other.

This caveat, however, is one of organization and presentation rather than content, and the author's approach to the topic is well chosen. Overall, Parker's study is a successful and wide-ranging investigation of an important and often neglected dimension of the history of British migration and Canadian settlement.

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PLOKHY, Serhii — *Ukraine and Russia: Representations of the Past*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008. Pp. 391.

This is a readable, stimulating collection of articles on issues relating to the intersection of Ukrainian and Russian historiography. Of the 16 chapters, 13 had been previously published, but they have been modified for the present volume, and they fit together well. Themes on which Serhii Plokhy has previously published monographs figure prominently in this collection, especially Cossacks (chapters 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15), but also the Ukrainian historian Mykhailo Hrushevsky (chapters 5 and 6) and iconography (chapter 4). The chapters are insightful essays based on published sources rather than monographic articles based on archival research.

The last essay in the book, written especially for this volume, is entitled "Beyond Nationality." It analyses the pluses and minuses of writing in the national paradigm, particularly with reference to Ukrainian history. Not only does it sort out what national history captures and misses, but it explains how it positions practitioners in contemporary Ukraine. "Writing traditional national history today means contributing to the isolationism and provincialism of East European historiography," while "younger historians want to be part of the larger European and world community of historians" (p. 284). Plokhy also feels that the multi-ethnic, territorial approach is little better, since it too "is liable to lapse into primordialism, a teleological approach, and the marginalization of non-ethnic groups and institutions" (p. 293). He himself leans towards "transnational history," which operates with larger zones and larger polities. Most importantly, he sees Ukraine as a borderland "not only between Eastern and Central Europe but also between Eastern Europe and the Balkans, the Mediterranean world, and the Eurasian steppelands" (p. 301). I understand this last essay to be a reckoning with or conceptualization of directions his work had been taking earlier, but perhaps more intuitively.

Indeed, there is much in the previous 15 essays that is transnational. The penultimate chapter is in fact entitled "Crossing National Boundaries." This essay argues the utility of studying Ukrainian and Russian Cossacks also within the framework of Cossackdom and not just within the frameworks of Russian or Ukrainian history. Chapter 12 on "Remembering Yalta" is also particularly transnational. It concentrates on the commemoration and lack of commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Yalta Conference in 1945, but it examines the