

Jersey, Pennsylvania, in many coastal cities in the South and in mountain areas to the west. Knowing there were many Loyalists in various parts of the colonies, Great Britain expected them to rise up and strengthen their armies. However, communication among groups of Loyalists was poor, and when they formed military units or joined British forces as individuals their integration with other troops was not good.

In the Thirteen Colonies the struggle between Patriots and Loyalists in some areas was truly a civil war. The First Continental Congress began meeting in September 1774, and after adjournment local committees of inspection in many of the colonies began to enforce compliance with the association. In some locations the whole population signed an oath. Loyalists were forced either to acquiesce or to declare themselves "enemies of American liberty" and face ostracism. On January 2, 1776, the Continental Congress resolved to disarm all United Empire Loyalists, Tories as they were called. Some fled the country, but many sought refuge in cities where the British were in control. Such cities were Boston during the first months of the war, New York City, Philadelphia and southern coastal cities.

As both British and American armies gathered around New York City its population of 26,000 swiftly declined to about 5,000 but when British forces established themselves a stream of refugee Loyalists added another 12,000. In the next few years the City's population grew to 37,000, and others crowded into the surrounding area all seeking the protection of British ships and troops. The Loyalists eventually were in pathetic circumstances depending on a dole and on gifts from soldiers.

Many Loyalists Are Exiled; Some Crowd into Nova Scotia

The final peace agreement between the United States and Great Britain was written by John Adams and Lord Shelburne, approved late in 1782 and incorporated into the Treaty of Paris in 1783. Americans got what they wanted—full share of fisheries off New England, trans-Allegheny land south of the Great Lakes and navigation on the Mississippi—without giving a *quid pro quo* for the Loyalists. A weak clause pledged that the United States Congress would recommend to each of the states that they restore seized property, redress grievances and permit Loyalists to return home. "Congress duly and without fanfare approved the recommendation but neglected to publish it, and none of the states paid the least attention. Most were busy passing new laws to supervise the eviction of Loyalists and the transfer of their property to friends of the revolutionary government and veterans of the continental Army."¹² Many Loyalists left the United States going to Canada, the West Indies and other places.

Relative to the total population, this was one of the largest movements of its kind in modern history. Hamilton's comments on the popular frenzy against these refugees suggest a situation similar to the flight of the Huguenots from France just a century before. Robert R. Livingston, secretary for foreign affairs, agreed that sordid personal motives were involved, and he regretted the loss of these people.¹³

With the coming of peace around 14,000 United Empire Loyalists arrived in western Nova Scotia from the United States. Major Gilbert Studholm, commandant at Fort Howe, and Lt. Samuel Street found themselves in charge of settling thousands of newcomers. Assisted by the leaders of the migration, they surveyed plots, distributed food, timber and tools by the ton, all these supplied by the government. The new settlers found fertile land in many bays and along

¹² Christopher Moore, *The Loyalists: Revolution, Exile, Settlement*, 1984, 148

¹³ Richard W. Van Alstyne, *Empire and Independence*, John Wiley, NY, 1967, 221