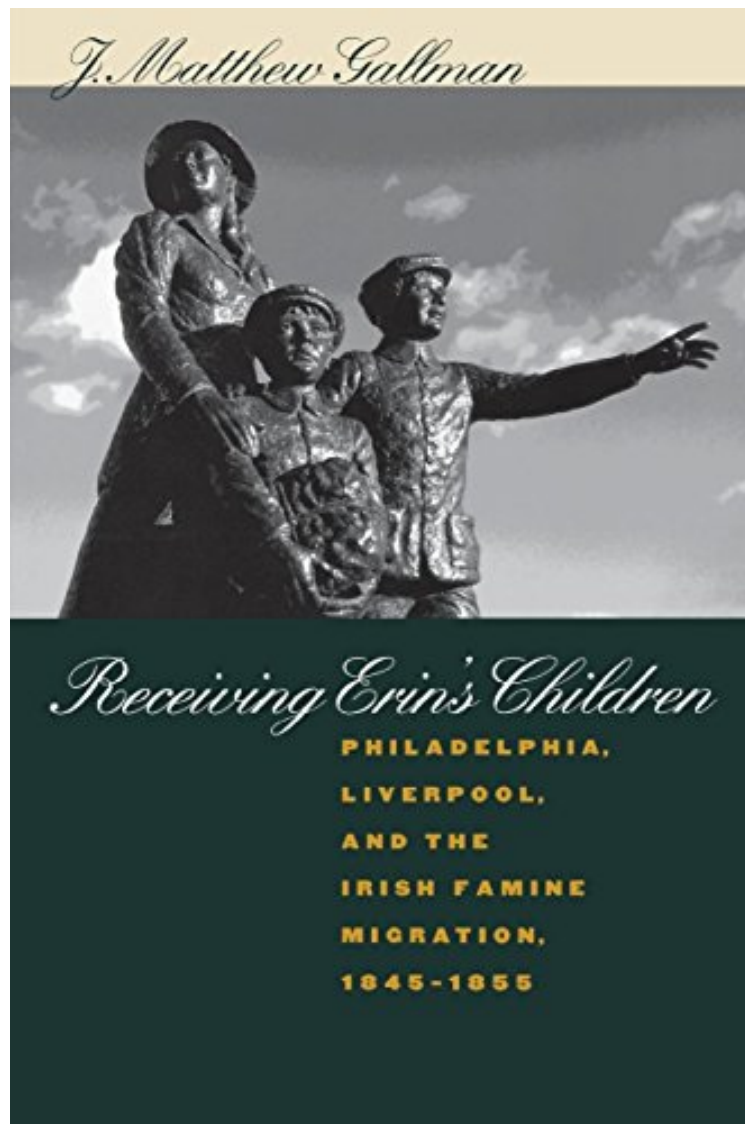


(Free) Receiving Erin's Children: Philadelphia, Liverpool, and the Irish Famine Migration, 1845-1855

Receiving Erin's Children: Philadelphia, Liverpool, and the Irish Famine Migration, 1845-1855

J. Matthew Gallman

**Download PDF | ePub | DOC | audiobook | ebooks*



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#1720218 in Books The University of North Carolina Press 2000-05-29 2000-05-29 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.28 x .81 x 6.16l, 1.00 #File Name: 080784845X320 pages | File size: 79.Mb

J. Matthew Gallman : Receiving Erin's Children: Philadelphia, Liverpool, and the Irish Famine Migration, 1845-1855 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Receiving Erin's Children: Philadelphia, Liverpool, and the Irish Famine Migration, 1845-1855:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Philadelphia: Microcosm of AmericaBy CustomerJ. Matthew Gallman, in Receiving Erin's Children, analyzes how two demographically similar cities, Liverpool, England, and

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, during the 1840s and 1850s handled the large influx of refugees from the Irish potato famine. Purporting to discuss immigration issues, the book is more a social study of how different cultures responded to similar rising urban problems such as poverty and crime. Both Liverpool and Philadelphia were ports with growing populations. "Poverty, sanitation, housing, disease, sectarian and ethnic conflict, crime and policing, education and delinquency...had been ongoing subjects of public debate in both cities." (pp. 211-12) Gallman found that the resolution of these issues depended upon the "material conditions, dominant ideologies, and the magnitude of the migration in each port." (p. 212) England with its small land mass and large population took a broader more public view of handling social issues. The poor were numerous and encroaching upon the middle and upper classes. Although the poor provided a useful labor force for the cities, their issues were becoming common issues which needed a centralized governmental response. On the other extreme, the United States had a large land mass with most of its population living along its eastern coast. The poor had the opportunity to improve their condition by moving westward. Social problems such as sanitation and crime were viewed as local problems that could be obviated by inducing the poor to move elsewhere. The concept of the frontier was distinctly American and colored the American responses to many social issues. In England, there had evolved an acceptance of a hierarchy. The government was expected to act on behalf of its citizenry. Whereas, the United States had a strong cultural commitment to voluntarism. There was, and continues to be, a common distrust of centralized bureaucracies and of decisions being made in a hierarchical fashion. The United States, and Philadelphia in particular, consisted of numerous philanthropic societies and benevolent institutions that handled in their own ways with little oversight the problems that they found and chose to handle. The United States had little use for a federal form of internal government at this time. Although England had a large immigrant population from Ireland, it did not have the diversity of the United States which was already a melting pot of European and African cultures. The Irish were considered to be outsiders by the English but there was no intention of making them conform to "English" ways. The Irish had always been neighbors living in close proximity to England; their culture was not unknown to the English-their culture was not a threat. The opposite was true in the United States. Immigrants were outsiders but because they all came from far away, their cultures were strange and threatening. There grew an impulse amongst Americans to acculturate immigrants quickly. The Irish also arrived a rung up on the social ladder, with Africans remaining on the bottom rung. This immediate movement upward was also threatening. Traditional animosities between nations continued as a microcosm in the new world. "The crux of this study has been a comparison of choices-as they were made at roughly the same time in two different cities." (p. 224) The methods developed to deal with emerging social issues reflected how the two nations had handled social issues in the past. There was not yet a need to reinvent a new social construct. The English continued to rule and solve problems from the top down and the United States, though growing more democratic, continued to view its issues locally. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Nancy ReebGreat

Between 1845 and 1855, 2 million Irish men and women fled their famine-ravaged homeland, many to settle in large British and American cities that were already wrestling with a complex array of urban problems. In this innovative work of comparative urban history, Matthew Gallman looks at how two cities, Philadelphia and Liverpool, met the challenges raised by the influx of immigrants. Gallman examines how citizens and policymakers in Philadelphia and Liverpool dealt with such issues as poverty, disease, poor sanitation, crime, sectarian conflict, and juvenile delinquency. By considering how two cities of comparable population and dimensions responded to similar challenges, he sheds new light on familiar questions about distinctive national characteristics--without resorting to claims of "American exceptionalism." In this critical era of urban development, English and American cities often evolved in analogous ways, Gallman notes. But certain crucial differences--in location, material conditions, governmental structures, and voluntaristic traditions, for example--inspired varying approaches to urban problem solving on either side of the Atlantic.

"This is a truly impressive study of comparative urban development. Roger Lane, Haverford College" "A book that makes a welcome contribution to our understanding of nineteenth-century urban history." "Historian" "Gallman engages in a fascinating way with big questions of the national characters of the United States and Britain. Jon Gjerde, University of California, Berkeley" "This book makes an important contribution to both immigration and urban history as well as to the history of public welfare." s in American History "This is a truly impressive study of comparative urban development. Roger Lane, Haverford College" "A book that makes a welcome contribution to our understanding of nineteenth-century urban history." "Historian" "Gallman engages in a fascinating way with big questions of the national characters of the United States and Britain. Jon Gjerde, University of California, Berkeley [This book] makes an important contribution to both immigration and urban history as well as to the history of public welfare." s in American History "A book that makes a welcome contribution to our understanding of nineteenth-century urban history. . . . [A] valuable and important study.--Historian This is a truly comparative study that grapples with the meaning of the Irish famine migration in the context of American and English urban development and reform. As he illustrates how the Irish migration influenced urban politics and policies in Philadelphia and Liverpool, Gallman

engages in a fascinating way with big questions of the national characters of the United States and Britain.--Jon Gjerde, University of California, BerkeleyThis is a truly impressive study of comparative urban development. Matthew Gallman has used a rich body of sources to make an argument both careful and imaginative.--Roger Lane, Haverford College[This book] makes an important contribution to both immigration and urban history as well as to the history of public welfare. . . . Gallman's comparison of social policies and programs in Liverpool and Philadelphia is a greatly important tale of two cities to those who study immigration history, urban history, the history of poverty, and the history of public welfare. . . . [He] offer[s] a new way to evaluate and understand the responses of beleaguered municipalities on both sides of the ocean.-- s in American HistoryFrom the Inside FlapThis work of comparative history looks at how two rapidly growing cities, Philadelphia and Liverpool, coped with the urban challenges raised by the influx of Irish immigrants in the mid-nineteenth century.