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The Village of Lipusz

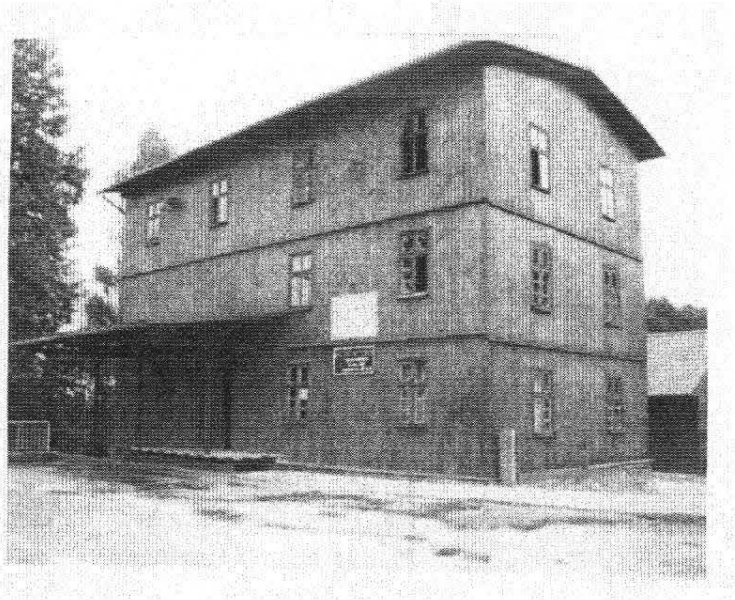
by Peter von Pazatka Lipinsky

The year 2008 marks the 150th anniversary of the first Kashubs coming to Canada. Some of these early Kashubian settlers came from the village of Lipusz and the surrounding area in Poland. This story is dedicated to the descendants of these early Kashubian settlers. A few of these settlers migrated later from Canada to the U.S.A.

In 1988 the town of Lipusz celebrated its 600th anniversary. Church records from the year 1388 show that from the parish of Lyndenpush/Lipusz, tithing was sent to the diocese and then forwarded to Rome. The town of Lipusz is located halfway between the City of Bytów and the City of Kościerzyna. Lipusz is a small town with a present population of about 1800 inhabitants. In 1905 the population was around 1150, so in the last 100 years not much has changed. But today Lipusz offers the visitor all modern services such as good hotels, bed and breakfast accommodations, food stores, restaurants, petrol stations and the large and excellent Kiedrowski Bakery and everything else a visitor may need. In the case of an emergency, the City of Bytów with its modern hospital is only a few kilometers away. Many people travel from far away places, i.e. Canada and the U.S.A., to visit the land of their ancestors. Truly it is a very nice corner of their ancestors' homeland. The mayor of Lipusz, Pan Mirosław Ebertowski, extends a hearty welcome and invitation to everyone to come and visit Lipusz.

For the most part of the last 500 years much of the agricultural land in and around Lipusz was owned by either Polish or Prussian noblemen, depending on the government at the time in history. Most of the peasants were working for the "Lord of the Manor." Serfdom had been abolished in Prussia since the early 1800s. The farm worker was called *Einlieger,* meaning one who would rent his house from the owner of the Manor. In many cases a garden would also come with the rented house. The *Einlieger* would receive a wage and also some *Naturalien* (farm produce for his work.)

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Old Lipusz Flour Mill. today belonging to Kiedrowski

The English translation of The **Life and Adventures of Remus** by Aleksander Majkowski continues on **page six!**