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The Man From Nowhere

UK : 1975 : dir. James Hill : Charles Barker / Children's Film Foundation : 59 min
prod: Jean Wadlow : scr: John Tully : dir.ph.: Desmond Dickinson

Sara Hollis-Andrews; Ronald Adam; Gabrielle Hamilton; Anthony McCaffery; Shane Franklin;
John Forbes-Robertson; Reginald Winch; Robin Keston; Edmund Thomas

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	KBytes	Ω □ ∅ Z ∞	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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Largesse to the poor – circa 1860

Source: *Film Review 1976-77*

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review:

“Circa 1860 an orphan girl is witness to frightening events in the stately home of her grumpy uncle. Atmospheric costume thriller for children distinguished by a fast-paced plot, animated performances and attractive locations. **½”

Film Review 1976-77 review:

“Period Piece - circa 1860 - about a mysterious stranger who threatens the happiness of little orphan Alice when she comes to live with her great-Uncle George, but is defeated just in time by the detective skills of young Spikey and his gang. Dir: James Hill. Pro: Jean Wadlow. Screenplay: John Tully. Made on location in Berkshire. (Charles Barker Films - C.F.F.) Colour. 58 Mins. Cert. U.”



Source: NFT bulletin

NFT monthly bulletin - April '76 - review:

“An unusual C.F.F. film, in its use of a period setting - the date 1860. The movie is distinguished by Desmond Dickinson's photography and James Hill's excellent handling of the fairly dramatic (with mild elements of

"horror") story. The central figure is Alice Harvey, an orphan hounded by a mysterious "phantom man". But she is befriended by four homeless urchins so all is not lost...”

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 1996", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Not to be confused with the 1920 silent Western **"A MAN FROM NOWHERE"** or the 1930 Western of the same name. The reviews above seem to rate this as superior to the run of Foundation productions, though it sounds strongly redolent of **"THE AMAZING MR BLUNDEN"**, released three years earlier, and boils down again to kids outwitting the crooks (this time wicked uncles).

The relative profusion of double-barrelled surnames on the credits of these CFF titles - Simon Gipps-Kent, Bruce Pennington-Richards, Sarah Hollis-Andrews, John Forbes-Robertson - smacks rather of a cosy middle class film club producing smashing movies for children on an annual basis. That may be an unfair conclusion, but at the least it says something about the way they cast their productions.

See subject index under **CHILDREN'S FILM & TV FOUNDATION, FOLLOW THE LEADER (Children's Gangs), HISTORY, KID DETECTIVES, KIDS OUTWIT THE CROOKS, ORPHANS / ADOPTION** and **STREET KIDS** (we don't call them urchins anymore).