

8s. per day for masons, 6s. for carpenters, and 1*l*. per week, besides board and liveries, for men-servants, numbers of ragged children are to be seen running about without shoes or stockings, particularly among the coloured race, whose numbers amounted, by the last census (of 1851) for the province, to 4908, in a population of 276,117, being about $\frac{1}{55}$ th of the whole. Trade does not seem to thrive here. The houses appear slovenly kept and dirty; nor even in the suburbs did I see a trace of the neat little flower-gardens I should have expected from people of English descent. Halifax is a great place for the army and navy; and whether the example of a life of idleness and amusement, balls and horse-races, parties and gossiping, be, or not, prejudicial to the sober and business habits of a mercantile community, it is impossible to say. Certain it is that the newspapers complain grievously of the quantity of drunkenness and prostitution; and in this respect the place probably resembles Portsmouth, Plymouth, Woolwich, and other garrison towns of England. There are, moreover, some physical obstacles to its prosperity. The soil is poor and rocky in the country round, and it has no water or railway communication with the interior. The timber, too, which grows near is small, probably in consequence of the influence of the ocean, and ill adapted for exportation.

We set out for Truro by the stage-coach, an old-fashioned affair, painted crimson, and drawn by six lean rats of horses, the usual size of the country breed, which is not much bigger than ponies. After starting, the first operation was to drive the whole concern on board the steamer without unharnessing, and we