

outlet for lakes which contain nearly one-half of all the fresh water on the globe. As the river narrows so that its banks may be seen, he finds them settled by a population gradually growing denser as he ascends the stream.

The river itself is seen to be already one of the important routes of the world's commerce. Sailing-vessels laden with timber or wheat; steamships carrying live cattle, or cargoes of meat, cheese, flour, fruit, or other provisions, pass constantly on their way to Britain, while others from Europe are ascending the stream. Further up, the scenery grows more striking and beautiful, till at last the traveller comes in sight of that which so stirred the enthusiasm of the first explorers of the country—the noble promontory on which are situated the historic city and citadel of **Quebec**.

The Southern Route.

But we must go back to the less magnificent, though scarcely less interesting, approach to the coast of Nova Scotia, the most eastern Province of Canada. This is the route used by the Canadian mail steamers during the winter months. Escaping from the fogs of Newfoundland, we steam towards the harbour of **Halifax**. We see that the channel through which we enter is narrow enough to be well defended by the fortifications armed with powerful batteries by which we pass. To the left, along the sides of the harbour, rises the city, crowned by the citadel, high over which floats the British flag. Ahead of us, stretching inland for some miles, is Bedford