

surpassed by any city in America, and approached only by a few, it is the ideal resort for the tourist, and each season shows that the people of the cities further south are becoming more and more impressed with the fact. To the cultivated American it is especially attractive, because it has so much which is both novel and instructive to him. With every step he takes he realizes that he is under the British flag, and is more and more favorably impressed with the character of British institutions. He learns something of England's army and navy in this notable garrison town and naval station. The style of the people is English, too, as is their hospitality, if he has the good fortune to have a circle of acquaintances. Even if an utter stranger, however, he can never lack for enjoyment. Apart from what is to be seen within the city itself, and there is much, the excursions by land and water are so numerous and so fruitful of enjoyment that an ordinary summer vacation seems all too short to fully realize the opportunities for genuine recreation.

Governor Cornwallis reached Halifax on the 21st of June, 1749, with 2,576 English emigrants, largely composed of troops who had been disbanded after the conclusion of the war with France. The Imperial government had made a liberal grant in favor of the colonization project, and the conditions were such that the intending settlers were easily procured. The government undertook to support them for one year after their arrival, to supply them with implements of agriculture and material for prosecuting the fisheries, as well as with weapons for their protection and defense. Events soon proved the need of the latter.

Reaching the site of what is now Halifax, operations were begun and vigorously carried out for clearing the ground and erecting houses, under the direction of Governor Cornwallis. A careful survey had been made and the plan of the streets defined, and the first rude fortifications were erected by the construction of block-houses and a stout line of palisades. The main settlement was thus well secured against attack by the Indians, who from time to time committed hostile acts when opportunity offered. There were isolated instances where men, and sometimes women and children, ventured into the woods and disappeared by the craft of their savage foes. Now and then a house which had been built at a distance from the settlement was attacked and burned, and the family carried away captives. The most fearful event, however, was the attack on the small village at Dartmouth, a large portion of which was burned by the Indians one night, and many settlers murdered while endeavoring to defend their families and homes.

So much for the beginning of this fair and flourishing city by the sea. It is not the object of these pages to deal with historic matters, but to speak of Halifax and its places of interest as they are to-day.