

To the north of the city is Fort Needham, still showing in its grass-grown mounds the abandoned earthworks once thrown up to defend the early settlers against either French or Indian invader. On the south, in contrast to this fort of the past, is Point Pleasant, with two batteries of to-day and manned by the Royal Artillery. Down the harbor's sides and on George's and McNab's islands are a half dozen other strong fortifications.

Halifax is easy of access. It can be reached from Boston in twenty-four hours, from New York in thirty hours, from St. John in eight hours, from Montreal in twenty-four hours, and from Toronto in thirty-four hours. It is midway between Cape Breton's charming lakes and frowning mountains on the east and the Land of Evangeline and Nova Scotia's beautiful South Shore to the west. By finely equipped railroads the traveler may go east, north or west. Easterly, also, he may take passage by steamers, and in that direction, too, taste the pleasure of Atlantic voyaging while feasting the eye on the rugged beauty of Nova Scotia's deeply indented coasts. Loveliness and novelty will greet him at every turn.

Halifax is the seat of government in Nova Scotia. Here the legislature makes laws in provincial affairs, and here the courts administer laws federal and provincial. Here the lieutenant-governor resides. Here the general officer commanding the British forces in North America has his headquarters, and here are stationed the imperial troops. Here in summer rendezvous the splendid fleet of British warships commanded by Admiral Sir John Fisher.

Such is Halifax in location and environment. Her summer days are balmy, bright and breezy—every hot hour tempered by refreshing ocean winds, every night cool enough to make a blanket a source of pleasure to the wayfarer courting Nature's sweet restorer.

If one were asked to name the fairest spot of land less than seventeen acres in extent to be found in North America, it would undoubtedly be the Public Gardens of Halifax. And his choice would be based, not only on the present glory of this pleasure resort, but because that nowhere else could he find such a small portion of Mother Earth which so beautifully shows what Nature and the highest in human nature can together achieve. Thirty years ago these acres that now delight the eye with the radiant beauty of myriads of perfumed flowers and fairest blossoms were but an uncultivated waste, leased by the city to a company for the purpose of raising vegetables. Happily the venture proved a failure, and on resuming possession of the land the city wisely decided to convert it into pleasure gardens for the people. The gardens contain two or



THE BEAUTIFUL NORTHWEST ARM, HALIFAX.