

mosses, and blossoming wild-flowers were spread as a carpet. The mayflower had faded in its cool, mossy bed, but the frail linnæa drooped its bells as the summer winds rifled them of their fragrance. All nature gave a glad and welcoming smile to the brave men who had crossed the sea to make a home in the new land.

When all the ships had arrived, the intending settlers held council, and proceeded to decide what spot should be the site of their future dwelling places. Some advised its location near the end of the peninsular, in the vicinity of what is now known as Point Pleasant. A larger number were in favour of the eastern shore, where now lies the township of Dartmouth, thinking its position more picturesque and suitable.* Finally, however, the site where the present city stands was chosen, and the name Halifax was given to the place in honour of the president of the Lords of Trade and Plantations. Soon the stately trees which had long stood as the

*I have not, so far, been able to find any authority for stating that the eastern side of the harbour was considered by the settlers to be a more favourable location for their future homes. Cornwallis in a letter to the Board of Trade and Plantations, dated 24th July, 1749, says that Sandwich Point (Point Pleasant) appeared to be the best situation for the new town, and that that was the general opinion at first. It was afterwards abandoned in favor of the present site.—*Editor.*