

SKETCH OF THE CITY OF HALIFAX.

THE City of Halifax—the Capital of the Province of Nova Scotia—is situated on the western side of one of the finest harbors in the world, on the declivity of a commanding hill, the summit of which is 260 feet above the level of the sea, surmounted by the Citadel known as Fort George, which, from its position, commands the whole city and harbor, and is considered impregnable.

The city extends about two and a half miles from north to south, and its average width is about three quarters of a mile. The population, according to the Census of 1861, was 25,026. Halifax was founded by Lord Cornwallis on the 21st June, 1749, when, having been appointed Governor of the Colony, he arrived at Chebucto, as the Bay was then called. It was incorporated in the year 1841, and its municipal affairs are under the supervision of a Mayor and Recorder, with a Board of 18 Aldermen, annually returned from the six Wards into which the city is divided.

The streets are well lighted with Gas, and are laid out as systematically, at right angles, as the nature of the ground will allow. Large sums of money are now being expended in improving the roadways, and in laying the sidewalks with brick or stone. The city has suffered repeatedly from extensive fires; but these disasters have resulted in the erection of a very handsome style of stone and brick buildings in place of the wooden structures, of which formerly the whole city was nearly built. The southern portion of the city, with its extension to the westward, known as Spring Gardens, is a most delightful district, devoted principally to private residences, all of which denote the comfortable circumstances of the occupiers; while those of the more wealthy, surrounded by delightful grounds and shrubberies, exhibit an elegance seldom met with in the Lower Provinces.

Between this district and the north end of the city, and immediately in the rear of the Citadel, lies the district known as the Common—a splendid tract of land, 250 acres in extent, devoted to Cricket and other games, and where the military reviews are held. The district known as New Town, in the neighborhood of the Wellington Barracks, is growing rapidly. Here are many fine private residences, which, with their charming gardens, the splendid view of the harbor, and the opposite wooded hills of Dartmouth, render this a delightful portion of the city. In fact, which ever way the eye turns, it is evident that the