

INTRODUCTORY.

The following sketch is presented to the British and continental ship-owners with the belief that it is profitable to know of coaling stations, by the use of which steamers frequenting the waters of the Atlantic ocean can cheaply, rapidly and conveniently obtain supplies of bunker coal. A brief description of Nova Scotia is included, because, as a rising country, even now contributing largely to the wealth of the world, it is exciting more and more attention among shipowners, investors and speculators. The contained information will be found valuable. It is recommended to all—and there are very many such—who are finding out that some of the old profitable channels of trade are drying up. Cape Breton, in the heart of a great river, into which the entire European commerce of the continent is steadily being deflected, can no longer be neglected or ignored by a nation of business men like the British. Her coal-fields have a direct influence upon the trade and industries of the British empire, are thoroughly Imperial in their aspects, and, stretching out beyond all other portions of the continent towards the old world, seem to invite the patronage and economic enterprise of Europe. This short sketch is destined to hasten this, and the writer will be amply repaid if, through the medium of the following columns, the bunker business, as a direct case in point, more rapidly expands.

AUTHOR.

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