

being remedied. By looking at any chart of the North Atlantic, it will be seen that Halifax, the capital city of Nova Scotia, and the chief Atlantic port of the Dominion, is nearer to Great Britain than any other commercial port in America; and, as to climatic position, it is situated over 500 miles to the south of the British Isles, and not next to the North Pole, as it used to be generally considered; and as to length of voyage, and the time required, intending travellers or emigrants embarking in a first-class ocean steamer, may often enjoy their Sunday morning devotions in Ireland, and attend the evening services on the following Sunday at Halifax.

The Port of Halifax is situated in the latitude of $44^{\circ} 40'$ N. and $63^{\circ} 27'$ west longitude, and lies nearly in the centre of the Southern Atlantic coast line of the Province, extending about 250 miles, and running nearly N. E. and S. W. from Cape Sable on the west to Cape Canso on the east; from the south coast of the island of Cape Breton to the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

It should be clearly understood that the best port to embark at for Nova Scotia, besides Cork, is Liverpool, the steamers passing weekly between that port and Halifax.

CHAPTER V.

POPULATION AND RESOURCES.

Nova Scotia contains at present about 440,000 inhabitants, including the island of Cape Breton, annexed to Nova Scotia in 1819. Since Confederation of all the British North American Provinces in 1867 it is a portion of the Dominion of Canada, sending its representatives to the general Government and Parliament at Ottawa.

The natural resources of Nova Scotia, taken altogether, equal, if they do not, indeed, exceed, those of any part of the Continent, America. Her fisheries are, perhaps, the finest and most varied in the world, and the largest with the exception of those of Newfoundland. They extend along a coast of over nine hundred miles, with numerous bays and harbours especially well suited to their prosecution, and with several well known fishing banks at short distances from their mouths.

Cod, Mackerel, Salmon, Herring, Alewives, Halibut, Shad and Haddock are taken in large quantities, both for consumption and export, and there is great variety of shell fish, especially Lobsters and Oysters in abundance. Immense quantities of the former are now canned for export to Europe.

The extensive coal mines of Nova Scotia are well known. These are, at present, being worked to a considerable extent, there being a yearly increasing demand for coal supplies for the numerous ocean steamers and also for the factories and fuel supply generally of Quebec and Ontario. The coal is abundant, and of varied and excellent quality.

Iron mines abound, and will doubtless be, in the near future, largely worked. At present, the Acadia Iron and Steel Works in the Township of Londonderry, are producing steel iron of very superior quality which is highly valued in England, and are largely extending their works.

The Nova Scotian Gold Mines are also worked to a profitable extent, though this important industry may be considered, as yet, to be only in its infancy.

The products of the Forest—Spruce and Pine timber, Hardwood, Deals,