

NOVA SCOTIA

CHAPTER I

CANADA'S "FRONT DOOR"

"And if he took ship, lo! it was the wrong ship; and when he had got upon the land the road led him backward, or to the right or to the left, so that with doubling and turning he was full twenty years upon his journey. And all this while, if he could but have seen it, the land of Salabat lay straight before him, likewise the castle of the Princess Zobeide, which he could not behold because of the cloud the genie had caused to float before it."

Some of us laughed when we recalled that Arabian tale on our pilgrimage to New Scotland, for there was a man on board who dwelt at Sydney; and he told us how, on his visit to London, he had engaged a taxicab at the Mansion House, and told the driver to take him to Piccadilly Circus. After an hour or so he waxed impatient, and putting his head out of the window asked the driver where they were.

"Hammersmith," was the reply.

"But that's the other end of London, isn't it? I told you Piccadilly Circus."

Whereat the man was aggrieved.