

The Army and Navy.

no other way does it seem possible to explain the existence of the capital in a part of the country that for bareness of soil can hardly be equalled—on this continent. Therefore Halifax owes its origin to Militaryism and therefore it must be dependant on Militaryism. The origin of Halifax is very artificial and its position as capital of the province is strained. It is far distant from the best and most fertile parts of the country, and is surrounded by land that is good for nothing and never will be good for anything. The illustrious Sam Slick in one of his papers illustrates this and names St. John as the national capital of the great bulk of the richer part of this province.

But Halifax grew in riches and in power owing chiefly to the West Indies trade and the fondness of the negroes for salt codfish.



GEN. SIR JOHN ROSS.



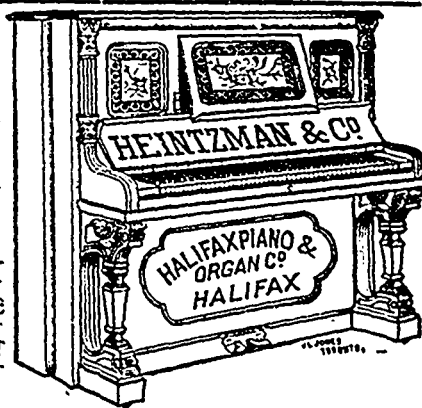
ADMIRAL SIR. GEORGE WATSON.

WE often hear the remark "It would be a good thing for Halifax if the military were taken away from here;" and a few minutes afterwards we hear some one else lamenting the smallness of the Garrison and wishing the old days when there were two or three regiments quartered here, back again. No doubt there is much to be said as regards both opinions, and what suits one doesn't suit others.

But taken as a whole the Garrison of Halifax is a distinct and becoming feature to Halifax. There are many ways of looking at the social. In the old days, and more especially in the colonial days, Halifax was distinctly a Military and Naval rather settlement. It seems to any one looking at that the reason of the existence of Halifax could only have been on account of its Naval and Military importance. The fine and magnificent harbour must have suggested the settlement of the city from a Naval point of view, the hill in the centre of the peninsula, almost an island, must have suggested to the Military the idea of here forming a town. The Military and Naval importance being such, the natural sequence was that it became the seat of government and therefore the capital of the country. In

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