

# NOVA SCOTIA

## SATURDAY, 11 DECEMBER

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SEVEN CENTS.

### HALIFAX, N. S.

THE City of Halifax, the capital of the Province of Nova Scotia, was founded in 1749, by Governor Cornwallis, and named after the Earl of Halifax, an active promoter of the settlement. The people of Massachusetts are said to have suggested to the imperial government, in view of the encroachment of the French upon the territory of Acadia, the necessity as well as the great commercial advantages to be derived from the establishment of the town. Plans were submitted to government, in 1748, and soon afterwards the sum of £40,000 was appropriated by parliament, and an expedition, under the command of Governor Cornwallis, set sail for Chubucto Bay, in May, 1749.

The town does not appear to have been prosperous in its earlier days; for notwithstanding that in a period of eight years the large sum of £560,000 sterling had been expended by govern-

ment upon the settlement, the people were rapidly removing to the older colonies, and in 1757 the population was reduced to about half its original numbers, and subsisted chiefly upon the money expended by the army and navy. The importance, however, of Halifax as a military and naval station was incalculable. During the French war and the American war of Independence, it was the rendezvous of several expeditions, and in 1783, its population was increased by the advent of large numbers of loyalists from New York. During the American war of 1812, several valuable prizes were taken into port, and an impetus was given to the business of the city by the circulation of considerable sums of money consequent thereon.

An act of incorporation was obtained from the Provincial Legislature, in 1810, since which time great improvements have been made in the general appearance of the city. Halifax is divided by the Act into six wards, each represented by three Aldermen, who with the Mayor and the

Recorder, transact all the financial and civil business of the city.

Manufactures are as yet comparatively in their infancy, still there are in the city and Dartmouth five or six iron foundries and machine shops, in some of which steam engines and other heavy machines are neatly constructed. The machine shops of the Provincial Railway, at Richmond, comprise a number of commodious structures, and give employment to from one hundred to one hundred and fifty men. Besides these there is an extensive tobacco factory, two pianoforte factories, several furniture factories, an extensive shoe factory, a powder mill, one or two nail factories, sawing and planing mills, sash factories, &c., all of which are doing an extensive business, and yielding a handsome return for capital invested. A large sugar refinery is in course of erection. A flour mill has been completed this present year, in connection with a large bakery, which is capable of working off one hundred barrels of flour per day.

