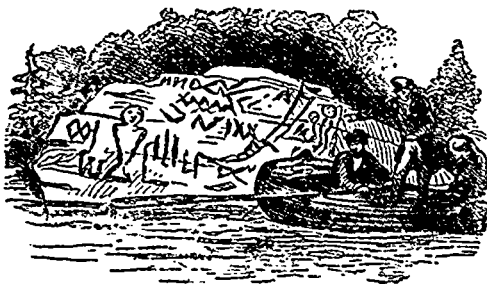


seven women, planted a colony in Vinland. It was in this vicinity that Longfellow's skeleton in armour was found. President Stiles, indeed, speaks of the "Phœnicians who charged



DIGHTON ROCK INSCRIPTION.

the Dighton Rock and other rocks, in Narragansett Bay, with Punic inscriptions which remain to this day." His robust faith thus carries the date of these inscriptions back more than 2000 years.

Fall River, near by, spins and weaves more cotton than any other city in America. There are thirty-five mills, and they use 200,000 bales of cotton a year. The Union Mill, which I visited, has 90,000 spindles, and 2,400 looms, and employs 900 operatives, about half of them being women and girls. The clash and clatter of the machinery, the heat and fuzz and dust and oil were bewildering. Yet little girls were at work, walking many miles a day back and forth after the hundreds of automatic and almost life-like spinning-jennies. They made me think of Mrs. Browning's pathetic "Cry of the Children":—

"Who is God that He should hear us,
While the rushing of the iron wheel is stirred?
When we sob aloud, the human creatures near us,
Pass by, hearing not, or answer not a word.

"And *we* hear not (for the wheels in their resounding),
Strangers speaking at the door.
Is it likely God, with angels singing round Him,
Hears our weeping any more!"

Another of the queer old sea-side towns of the south coast of New England is New Bedford, the greatest whale-fishing port in the world. Indeed, it is asserted, though the trade has greatly declined, that it yet sends out more whaling-vessels than all the other ports in the world combined. The city is founded on the backs of the whales it has captured. In 1850 it had 450 whale ships, and the product was 363,191 barrels of oil, and over five-and-a-half million pounds of whalebone. The discovery of