

cally considered, they are a continuation of the neck of land, with which, though separated from it by these narrow channels, they are identical in structure and composition. They are composed of trap, under its different modifications, to the entire exclusion of every other rock; and like most islands of a similar nature when freely exposed to the ocean, they present scenery of unrivalled grandeur and magnificence. On the south side of Brier's Island near the entrance of the channel, the cliffs present a very striking assemblage of neat and regular columnar masses, which sometimes descend in lofty and continuous ranges of steps for many hundred yards into the sea; their serrated ridges rising up here and there from beneath its surface, and appearing, at first sight, like so much pier-work reared in defence of the island; which purpose, indeed, they may be said to answer in an admirable manner, since many of the masses scarcely break the surface of the water, and others are so concealed at shallow depths below it, as, in connexion with the currents that set in among them, to render an approach to the harbour dangerous even on ordinary occasions, and when directed by the most experienced mariners. We met with the wreck of a ship that had been driven in upon them a year or two since, and we were informed by the inhabitants, that the cargo and part of the unfortunate crew were lost. Situated as this island is, nearly in the direct route of vessels bound to St. John's, or up the Bay of Fundy, the danger of such accidents is not a little increased by the fogs and storms that suddenly close in upon this region, and which are sometimes known to endure for the continued space of three and four weeks. From the prevalence of these fogs, the island is comparatively barren of vegetation, and presents a dreary surface, affording only scanty support to the miserable sheep that