

water of the north, and thus are created the dense fogs which at some seasons of the year hang around the island of Newfoundland.

Not only have sailors to fear that in the fog the ship may come in collision with some other vessel, but there is the danger that at any moment the look-out may see, towering above, the white form of some gigantic iceberg.

The speed of the ship is reduced for greater safety, and a careful look-out enables us to avoid all perils.

Soon we begin to see numbers of sailing-boats rocking upon the waves. These are the boats of the cod-fishers, of whom we shall learn more when we come to speak of Newfoundland. At present our steamship is bound further west.

The Short Cut across the Atlantic.

In the summer months a steamship going from Great Britain to Canada has the choice of two routes—one by the north of Newfoundland through the **Straits of Belleisle**, which gives the shortest passage to **Quebec** or **Montreal**; the other **south of Newfoundland**, which is always used for reaching the ports of **Halifax** or **St. John**, and for entering the St. Lawrence also when there is danger of delay from meeting ice by the northern route.

As we are now nearly across the Atlantic, it is well to note one or two points with regard to the routes by which that ocean may be crossed. From **Liverpool** to **Halifax** is 2,680 miles, from **Liverpool** to **Quebec** by the