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HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

EVERYBODY has heard of Halifax, the city by the sea, and of its fair and famous harbour. This harbour, they have been told, is one of the finest in the world—a haven in which a thousand ships may rest secure, and yet but a little removed from the broad ocean highway which unites the eastern and the western worlds. They have been told, also, that this harbour is always accessible and always safe; and all of this, though true enough, does the harbour of Halifax but scanty justice. All harbours have more or less of merit, but few are like this one. Here there is something more than merely a roomy and safe haven—something to claim more than a passing glance. To understand this we must know something of the topography of the city.

Halifax is located on a peninsula and founded on a rock. East and west of it the sea comes in, robbed of its terrors, and appearing only as a thing of beauty. The water on the west is the North-west Arm, a stretch of water about three miles in length and a quarter of a mile in width. To the south and east is the harbour, which narrows as it reaches the upper end of the city and expands again into Bedford Basin, with its ten square miles of safe anchorage. The Basin terminates at a distance of nine miles from the city, and is navigable for the whole distance. The city proper is on the eastern slope of the isthmus, and rises from the water to a height of 256 feet at the citadel. On the eastern side of the harbour, is the town of Dartmouth. In the harbour, and commanding all parts of it, is the strongly fortified George's Island, while at the entrance, three miles below, is McNab's Island, which effectually guards the passage from the sea. This is a brief and dry description of the city. Halifax must be seen to be appreciated.