

## HALIFAX.

On assuming the character of Guide to the City of Halifax, it may be stated at the outset that the writer has no intention of giving a history of that city, although historical incidents may be referred to in the course of the following pages. We must begin with one:—Halifax was founded in 1749. This was at a time when the Earl of Halifax was President of the Board of Trade and Plantations: hence the name adopted for the place. The expedition sent out from England to do this work was placed under the direction of Hon. Edward Cornwallis—not *Lord* Cornwallis, as is so often stated—Governor of Nova Scotia. He was instructed to found a town upon some part of the shores of Chebucto Bay, to be thereafter the seat of Government of Nova Scotia. According to the most authentic accounts, Governor Cornwallis and suite landed upon what thus became Nova Scotia's Capital, on the 21st June, 1749; and the anniversary of that day has, for years past, been celebrated as the Natal Day of Halifax.

Halifax is the principal British Military Station in America, and, ever since its settlement, it may be considered as also virtually the principal British Naval Station in the "New World," although Bermuda has nominally been the naval headquarters for many years. It may not be amiss to keep in mind the natal day and year of Halifax; because comparisons are often made between that city and Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, to the discredit of the former. Boston, the least of these, was as old a town as Halifax is now (1876) when yet the site of Halifax was covered by the forest. Further, the topography of Novascotia, of which Halifax is the capital, is such