

The town of Halifax by no means impresses the visitor on his first entrance. As is generally the case, the road from the station passes through some of the poorest thoroughfares and meanest houses. The latter seem ill built and tumbling to their decay, with their doors and windows mostly crowded with seedy looking, squalid inhabitants, who lounge about as if they had very little to do, and were too idle to do even that. Here and there this monotony of seediness is relieved by the presence of one or two brightly dressed Indian squaws, with their flat Tartar features half hidden under a fell of long, coarse, unkempt hair; their great splay feet covered over with blanket mocassins, tramping along with their little papooses tied down hand and foot to a flat piece of board, and looking for all the world like some curious preparation of an infant being dried in the sun. Further up, towards what may be called the more fashionable quarter of the town, the streets are better and wider, though always as hilly, as dusty, and as stony as all towns in the provinces seem bound to be. Still the whole place has an air of antiquated sleepiness about it, a kind of wooden imitation of the dulness of old cathedral towns in England, where each rickety house seems as if it only nudged its neighbour to keep still. The churches and public buildings, however, are large and handsome; and if the traveller has not first visited the flourishing town of St. John's, New Brunswick—the Liverpool of the British North American Provinces—he is apt on the whole to be very well satisfied with the capital of Nova Scotia. To the lovers of beautifully wild and romantic scenery, all the country round the town offers charms which may really be said to be inexhaustible; and the constant presence of a numerous garrison, with the importance of the place as a naval station, secures to

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