

part and parcel of the Kingdom of Scotland, with freedom from all commercial restrictions. It comprises New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Anticosti, Cape Breton, Gaspé, &c. The distance between Glasgow and the town of Halifax is about 2700 miles. The voyage is made by steam-ships in from eight to twelve days*, and by sailing vessels, in from four to six weeks. The greater portion of the soil of the province is rich and fertile, and it possesses most valuable mines, fisheries, and forests. The climate is remarkably healthy, and congenial to the natives of Great Britain and Ireland. Its seas and rivers abound with the treasures of the deep, the French considering them (when they held Cape Breton) a more permanent source of national wealth than the gold mines of Mexico and Peru. Game of every description is plentiful. The grains, vegetables, and roots of this country, grow in the greatest profusion and perfection. Coal and iron abound. The most northern districts of the Province lie farther to the south than Devonshire and Cornwall; and both from geographical position and internal resources, Nova Scotia must ever be THE SEAT AND BULWARK of British power and enterprise in the western world.

"This noble and spacious province, which is as large as Great Britain itself, was annexed to Scotland by James I. and Charles I., for the purpose of for ever promoting 'the opulence, prosperity, and peace' of their native subjects on both sides of the Atlantic. And more effectually to advance these great and patriotic ends, they erected our hereditary order of BARONETS OF SCOTLAND AND NOVA SCOTIA, stipulating, under deeds which are for ever binding on the Crown and State, that each member shall have and possess a grant of 16,000 acres of land in Nova Scotia, to be held of the Crown and Kingdom of Scotland as a free Barony and Regality, with plenary power to settle the same in such a manner and way, as that 'the Baronets in particular, and the whole nation generally, may thereby have honour and profit.'

"The Baronets fitted out a fleet of fourteen sail in 1630, and commenced the work of planting Nova Scotia by building Port Royal, now Annapolis. During the seventeenth century they contributed about 480,000 merks to the public treasury, in consideration of the undertaking. One hundred and eleven grants were erected by Charters into Baronies and Regalities; and all the extensive seignorial, commercial, and legislative privileges vested in the Order were twice ratified and confirmed by Parliament. The breaking out, however, of the Great Civil War suspended these rights, and they have continued dormant until the present time.

"The foundation Charters of the Baronetage declare and provide, for the Crown and its successors, that no lapse of time, non-user, prescription,

* "The Boston papers are full of encomiums of the management and swiftness of the *Britannia*. She made the passage out from land to land across the Atlantic, i. e. from Cape Clear to Race Point, in six days and eighteen hours."—*Scotsman*, November, 1844.