

ary. The country around Halifax exhibits a scene of sylvan barrenness; yet the prospects are romantic, and the roads remarkably good; the climate is perhaps more moderate than any other part of Nova Scotia; the thermometer is seldom lower than 16 degrees in winter or 70 degrees in summer. A few Indians live in the vicinity of Halifax; but alas! these natives of the wilderness are much diminished in every part of the province; in general they are civil and harmless, unless when intoxicated with spirituous liquors. This town will in time become a place of great trade; during the late war it flourished beyond all former precedent, which may be chiefly attributed to the vast number of prizes continually coming in; it is the great emporium of Nova Scotia, and indeed, of British America, and carries on a great trade in fur, lumber, fish, oil, beef, cheese, pork, oats."

Joshua Marsden had his eyes in his head, where the wise man's should be. He noted the beautiful situation of the city and the famous Haligonian hospitality, as well as the possibilities of the sea-port. Others bear testimony to the wealth that flowed into the city coffers, during the "late war," when the American merchant marine was wiped out. These are his mature views, for he did not write them down till sixteen years after he came to this country, when he was safe back in England. His simple "narrative" was soon bought up, and he issued a second more ambitious edition in 1827. In the interval, his opinion had not changed for the worse.

"Perhaps there are as few of the dark mists of bigotry obscuring the moral atmosphere of Halifax as in most parts of the world; many of its inhabitants are intelligent and moral; and not a few, I trust, conscientious followers of the Son of God."

Some of Marsden's experiences in Halifax were less pleasant.

"During my stay in Halifax I had an opportunity