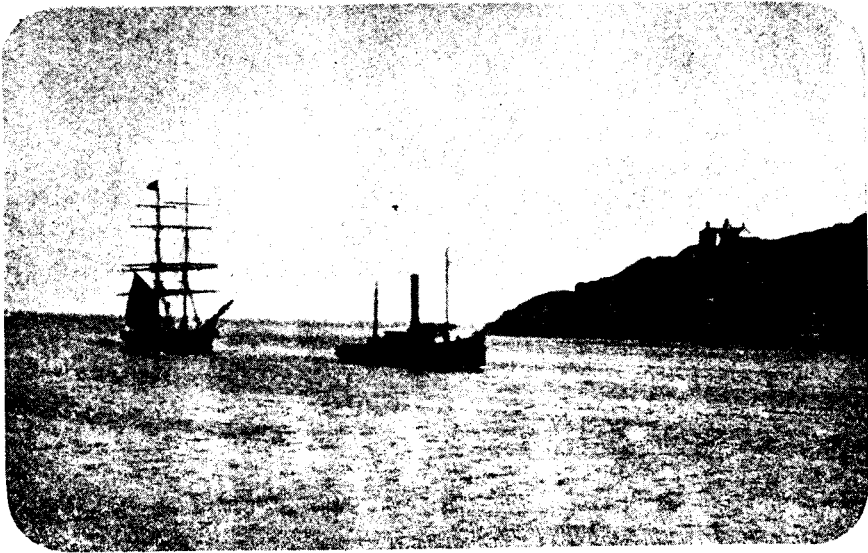


day Newfoundland stands sixth among the copper producing countries of the world. But, take its fisheries alone: in 1874 the value of fish exported was \$8,682,064, with only 48,000 seamen employed in the industry.

That it rivals the most important of England's colonial possessions there can be no doubt. It has great cod, herring, lobster and seal fisheries; it has good settlement land, fine forests, with an abundance of ship timber, where ships may be built for all necessary purposes. The summer heat is not excessive, and the winters are not as severe as those of the continental provinces; it is in the pathway of travel and traffic between Europe and America, is the

extreme eastern coast of the island, and is completely protected against gales from the Atlantic by two lofty ranges of hills. One of them, Signal Hill, towers almost perpendicularly 520 feet above the water, on the right of the very narrow entrance to the harbour. To the left of the entrance, South Side Hill attains to a still greater elevation. There is no city probably in North America more capable of defence and more impregnable than St. John's may be made. It requires no very great ingenuity to defend this Gibraltar of the western world. The principal batteries are on the hills above mentioned, rising one above the other. These batteries were erected when the Island was threatened with invasion during the wars



Ship entering St. John's Harbour.

nearest landing place of the Atlantic telegraphic cables and St. John's is the most accessible port of call for ocean steamers. Some day Newfoundland will be the landing place on this continent of the travel of Europe, when railways crossing her territory will supply the shortest route possible between the old world and the new.

The facts, as I have already stated, point to the importance of the country as the future homes of a large, thrifty and industrious population.

The city of St. John's, the capital of Newfoundland and the scene of the recent terrible conflagration, lies upon the northern side of a splendid harbour, with a quick elevation at the rear of the city. This harbour forms a deep inlet on the

of American Independence, and the French revolution. Further in the entrance and on a steep cliff is situated the most powerful battery of all, called the "Queen's," containing bastions upon which guns may be mounted in full command of the entrance and harbour. The other forts of St. John's were situated upon elevated ground in the city about a mile apart,—one at the south-east and the other at the north-west. One of them, Fort Townshend, still flourishes, and forms the headquarters of the local police force. The other has been converted into the offices and station of the Terranova railway. The population of St. John's may now be estimated at between 30,000 and 40,000.