

art, but then, as the teacher said, it is not the kind of skill to boast of.

And now there are the professor, and the lawyer, and the barbers, and the whitewashers, and the oyster openers: are there any others?

He could think of no other fixed occupation: those who were not engaged in them, he said, got a living by doing odd chores about the town. Some of the girls went into service for a while, others didn't, but any number of the women took in washing, and a few of them went out scrubbing.

Such is the condition of these people in St. John, where there are about five hundred of them, and I ascertained subsequently that there are about a thousand of them at Halifax in the same state, except that there are a few coopers among them. They have not worked their way upward, and, setting aside a few individuals, they do not seem to be capable of doing so. I have no doubt they think the white people ought to furnish them with good positions, as they cannot realise that they must fit themselves for something better before something better falls to their hands to do.

The time had now come for me to leave Canada again, though I longed to be able to spend another month or two there. The bracing weather had done me an infinite amount of good. I found my nerves so strengthened that I could once more write legibly, and I felt that I ought to be in record offices in Europe, for the opportunity might never recur of getting material to go on with my historical work. My plan was to return to London to consult again the medical specialist under whose treatment I had placed myself, and to look for documents in the India Office and the Manuscript Department of the British Museum, after which I purposed to visit Rome and Lisbon to obtain some information that I believed could be had in those places. I was already in communication with men who had examined records there, and who offered to help me with their experience, besides which I had studied the Portuguese language sufficiently to be able to master the contents of any ancient manuscripts.

As I came to find out afterwards, I had been building a huge castle in the air, and I was never in reality to see more than a very small portion of it. Never mind, it is better to build big air castles and enjoy looking at them in prospect, than to build wretched little ones that are not worth contemplating at all. I could not foresee either that the work in London alone was sufficient to occupy all the remainder of my holiday, or that my health

was not so firmly re-established as to stand the strain of very close application. I only knew that I ought not to let more of the hours pass away without doing something towards my work.

I therefore parted with my relatives, and took the train for Halifax in Nova Scotia. This city, of about thirty-nine thousand inhabitants, is the only one in Canada garrisoned by British troops, and as it is also a naval station, uniforms were plentiful in its streets. It is the most thoroughly English town on the American continent. The temperature ranges from +98 to—24 Fahrenheit, when I was there it was about +20. Most of the houses are of wood, but there are some very fine buildings of stone and brick. There is a noble public garden, with ornamental sheets of water—ice of course in December,—and trees, all except those of the pine species leafless when I saw them. The graveyards are within the city, and are well laid out and kept.

I visited the free public library, which is open from 1 to 7, and on Saturdays from 1 to 9. It is in a room over the town hall. There are two lady librarians, who informed me that it contained twenty thousand volumes. As it looked no larger than the public library of a third rate town in the Cape Colony, I asked if they were sure, and then came an explanation that the twenty thousand included pamphlets and magazines.

I went next to the library of the provincial parliament, which is practically open to the public for consultation from 10 to 5 daily during the recess. It contains about thirteen thousand volumes, exclusive of duplicates, and eight thousand pamphlets.

There is a museum maintained by the provincial legislature. It is on the third floor of the fine building used as the post office and custom house, but is too small for the collection in it. It is particularly rich in geological specimens, especially in specimens of the flora of the coal formations, which were collected by the late Dr. Honeyman, government geologist of Nova Scotia and curator of the museum for about twenty-five years. I could only spend a couple of hours in it.

Halifax is the centre of a very important fishing industry. Fleets of small schooners sail from its magnificent harbour to the great banks of Newfoundland, and return with thousands of tons of codfish alone. I passed warehouse after warehouse packed from floor to roof with nothing but dried fish.

I went up to the fortress which crowns the ridge on which the city is built, and from which a very fine view is obtained. And on

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