

sonal liberty called, *impressment* was resorted to, in this port, among the merchant and other shipping, and also in the town; and was actively carried out by numerous press gangs from the naval force. They planned and managed the adventure very adroitly, and with numerous squads swept the streets of the town in every quarter, seizing on every person whom they imagined was liable or in any way fit for their service. The military force, as may well be supposed, acted in concert with them. The main guard of the troops was then stationed in a small barrack, with an open area, for drill and other purposes, fronting on Barrington Street, where the "Right Market" now stands; and the whole enclosure extended up to Argyle street, where, now is the Acadian School building. In that open space of that military ground the *captives* of that memorable night were forcibly conveyed, and formed a numerous crowd of all classes and descriptions of the population. In the morning, as I presume, interrogations and examinations were made by the self-appointed naval judges for such occasions, and after their selections of all such, as in their good pleasure they determined to retain, the rest of the miscellaneous crowd were set at liberty. There is one instance partly of an amusing description, which occurred during this impressment season, which I will here relate. A fisherman residing in one of the small settlements on this Eastern coast was arrested by the press gang and detained for the service. Mr. Wilkins being employed in the case, obtained a writ of Habeas Corpus, under which the man, by a young naval officer with a party of his men, was brought before the Chief