

"The Land of Evangeline."

BY THE EDITOR.

ORDINARILY there is very little connection between poetry and dollars and cents. There is not a single instance of anybody making a fortune by writing a great poem, but there is at least one poetical production which has been the means of turning many thousands of dollars in the direction of the scene described. When Longfellow wrote "Evangeline," he probably never thought of the commercial value of the poem to Acadia, or Nova Scotia, as it is now called, but there can be no doubt that very many Americans have been thereby attracted to spend the summer among the "Blue Noses." Nova Scotia is becoming a popular summer resort for the people of the New England States, especially, and also from the South. It is everywhere advertised as the "Land of Evangeline," and pictures of the beautiful French girl adorn the placards and time tables that are sent out to all parts of the United States.

Most tourists come by way of Boston, by boat, landing at Yarmouth, and pursuing their journey through to Halifax by the "Flying Bluenose," as the fast express train is called.

means of a vehicle known as "the buckboard," which is quite common in this country. It has four or five seats, and quite easily carries twelve or fifteen people. It is noticed that the rig is equipped with a good strong brake, and before our destination is reached there is frequent occasion to use it as we go over some tremendous hills.

What a delightful little place Bear River is! It is positively the most romantic town I have seen in Canada, nestling as it does in the valley, surrounded by towering hills. It is quite commonly spoken of as "the Switzerland of Nova Scotia," and certainly deserves the name. The people who dwell here are as kind and hospitable as can be found anywhere in the world. Those who attended the Epworth League Convention here last September will not soon forget the delightful drive over the hills which was tendered them by the local League.

The visitor from Ontario is impressed by the immense cherry trees that are to be seen through this section. They look like oaks in size, and about the middle of July are fairly loaded with luscious fruit. Train loads of people come from all parts of Nova Scotia to help the people of Bear River pick the cherries, but so abundant was the crop during the past



VIEW FROM "LOOK-OFF POINT," OVERLOOKING FIVE

Yarmouth is a beautiful little city of about 6,000 inhabitants, with some very attractive harbor scenery. One is greatly impressed with the well kept hedges and gardens that are everywhere to be seen, which give the place quite an English appearance. Nowhere else in Canada are there such luxuriant hedges. Doubtless the frequent fogs have something to do with this. There is a large and well kept hotel for tourists in Yarmouth, known as the "Grand," and it is interesting to know that it has no bar, but is run strictly as a temperance house.

Digby is probably more frequented by visitors than any other place in Nova Scotia. It is estimated that fully one thousand people are here during July and August, in addition to the regular population. And certainly it is a most delightful spot to obtain rest and recreation. The view across the Annapolis Bay is one of entrancing beauty, equalling, in the opinion of many, the famous bay of Naples. A fine boat crosses the Bay of Fundy daily connecting Digby with St. John, N.B. and there are many other vessels going to and fro, so that the Bay is always interesting.

There are many attractive drives around Digby. One of the best is the trip to Bear River, about twelve miles distant, which I had the privilege of taking in company with a jolly company of Epworth Leaguers. The journey is made by

season, that many tons of the finest cherries rotted on the trees.

The staple product of Nova Scotia, however, is apples. The finest varieties are cultivated all through the Annapolis Valley, and in the autumn many vessels go out from Halifax loaded to their utmost capacity with fine apples for the English market. It is estimated that fully 500,000 barrels were shipped during the past season. This means considerable wealth to the farmers.

The run through the Annapolis Valley by the Dominion Atlantic Railway is most delightful, as one pretty view succeeds another so rapidly that the interest never flags. The finest scenic effects are, however, not to be had from the railway. From the summit of North Mountain, at a point called "Look-off," a couple of miles from Wolfville, the view is one of unsurpassed loveliness. Five counties can be seen, and the comfortable looking farms, with their green meadows, and wide spreading apple orchards form a picture which long lingers in the memory. The blue waters of Minas Basin, and the historic Grand Pré dyke lands are in full sight. There are few finer scenes in the world.

Of course everybody gazes out of the car window when the brakeman announces "Grand Pré," but very little is seen except a few houses, and some cattle grazing on the hill-