

at the rate of twenty miles an hour. On the ocean, especially in the vicinity of the coast, a higher rate than the present one of sixteen or seventeen miles per hour would inevitably lead to numerous and terrible disasters. For a further shortening of the Atlantic passage, and the obviation of the dangers incident thereto, we must, as an inevitable consequence, look in another direction. *The distance to be traversed to land passengers from the Old World on the shores of the New, and vice versa, must be shortened. To accomplish that result steamship communication of the most approved kind must be established between the great sea-ports of Europe and the most easterly steamship harbor on the North American Continent.* That harbor is

#### WHITEHAVEN, NOVA SCOTIA.

WHITEHAVEN is situated in latitude 45 deg. 10 min. N. longitude 61 deg. 10 min. W. It lies directly in the course of ocean steamships. The tide of travel to and from Europe sweeps by almost within sight of it. The harbor is *seven miles long*, from one-half to one mile wide, and has a depth of water ranging from seven to twenty fathoms. There are three distinct entrances, directly from the ocean, called respectively the Eastern, Southern, and Western Passages. Upon Whitehead Island at the entrance, midway between the Eastern and Southern passage, is a tower 55 feet high, with a red light, flashing every 10 seconds, and visible at a distance of 11 miles. *It is absolutely free from ice the year round.* Ships of the largest size can easily enter and depart. The approaches are carefully buoyed and beacons. The late Admiral Owen, an eminent Engineer, sent by the British Government, says in his report :