

by the view that is obtained from the deck of a passing or an incoming steamer.

Everybody's impressions are to a certain extent tempered by the state of the weather, and what might appear under unfavourable conditions a bleak and barren scene might have a panoramic effect of beauty with the advantages of a fine day. But this sea girt isle has some attractions, and included in these is its capital town of Stornoway, which stands at the head of a fine natural harbour on the east side of the island.

The founding of the town is too remote for even surmise, beyond the belief that it was first settled by migrations from Norway, for Lewis had a connection centuries ago, through its trade with Bergen, with that northern country. The name is undoubtedly Norse, being derived from "Stor," signifying "Steep Peak," and



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"Vagr," a bay. Therefore, it probably dates from the Norse occupation, about 870 A.D.

The inhabitants are naturally proud of their town, indeed it is said its appearance so impressed the population of other parts of the island when they visited Stornoway that they thought no town in the world could be so imposing, for they always spoke of it as "Great Stornoway of the Castle," and declared that "it is a wonder that the King himself does not come and live there."

Stornoway, or as the natives sometimes call it "Styornoway," is the important town in the Hebrides. It is well laid out. Its streets are well paved and have the merit of cleanliness. The shops are excellent structures and compare favourably with those of many a