

then crossed the water to Dartmouth, passing in our way the flag-ship the Cumberland, a two decker, of 70 guns. What can have induced the Government to send so large a ship of war, here, in time of profound peace, it is difficult to conjecture. As a dispute had arisen with the American fishermen, who had trespassed on the shores of the colonies, so imposing an armament might have been intended to strike awe into the marauders by its appearance, and induce them to behave with propriety. What a whale among the minnows! At the same time, as so large a vessel, owing to the depth of water it draws, would be unable to pursue them effectually in shore, all risk of capturing and exposing them to the punishment of the law was humanely avoided. There are some other reasons which might be suggested. The admiral has a family with him, and a ship of the line has such roomy accommodation, that it is admirably adapted on all accounts for a family admiral. Besides, the efficiency and discipline of a man of war are wonderfully increased by the presence of females on board. In the event of an action, the despairing sailors might be aroused to renew the combat by the strains of the pianoforte, and the "Battle of Prague" well played might ensure the destruction of the enemy.

Passing through the forest, considerably less than a mile from the head of Halifax Harbour, we arrive at a small lake, called Lake Charles, the two outlets of which run, as I was informed, in opposite directions,—the one going to the south into the harbour, and the other to the north into the Bay of Fundy, forming the head of the Shubenacadie River. From this spot a