

Halifax, Nova Scotia

One of Canada's Atlantic Gateways

By A. M. PAYNE



HALIFAX HARBOR

THE glamour of the Orient, unfolded by the epoch making events of recent years finds a counterpart in the midway Occident, on the northern half of the American continent where the staid East yields palm for rapid progress to the undless optimism of the great West. Nevertheless the expansion of the West is largely due to the restless energy of the East, where in the words of Carlyle "the goal of yesterday is the starting point of tomorrow." In the broad area of nearly 4,000,000 square miles of land and water comprising the Dominion of Canada, between ocean and ocean, the Province of Nova Scotia occupies a position of commanding importance as the nearest vantage ground to the European trade pivot. Its nomenclature deserves more than passing notice. Markland, the

"forest land of note," the southeastern extremity of the Dominion, and Vinland "the Good" on the shores of Massachusetts and Rhode Island share the legends of the ancient Norse discoverers a thousand years back in the shadowy past.

L'Acadie, more reliable in its adaptation, appears to be a blending of the Micmac Cadie or Quoddy into the early French term, L'Acadie, anglicized to Acadia, a clearly defined, euphonious, title which might well have been retained for all time. The present designation Nova Scotia (New Scotland) derives its origin from Sir William Alexander to whom King James I of England granted the territory in 1621. The alert perceptions of the early French pioneers with regard to the selection of eligible sites were specially indicated in their long, de-