

of any burthen come up close to a key, and deliver their cargoes. Ships of large burthen may go up above Halifax eight or ten miles, so that it is extremely well situated for trade. It has been greatly improved within these few years. It was formerly divided into three towns, but they have within these twenty years so encreased and extended their buiklings, that they are all joined into one. It was called Chebucto Bay, but when the English took possession of the country, they changed its name to that of Halifax. The inhabitants are a civilized, well-behaved people, of different countries, English, Irish, Scotch and Dutch. They have a neat English church, with handsome pews and lofts, and a fine organ; a Presbyterian meeting-house as neat as the church, and a Methodist preaching-house. They have a weekly market on Saturdays. Their provisions sold rather high, viz. beef fivepence a pound; mutton eightpence; veal fourpence, and salmon fourpence a pound; eggs a penny a piece; butter eightpence a pound. They have exceedingly fine flour, which they sell at eighteen shillings per hundred. Halifax is the capital town in the province, and the principal place of trade. They have a fine dock yard, and a garrison of soldiers. Several merchants, of great fortune and eminence, reside there. There are four butchers, and the same number of bakers, who furnish the town and garrison with provisions; and also supply the ships trading to the coast with what they can spare, which occasions a great demand for cattle at this place. The ground near this town is rocky, which makes it tedious and chargeable to clear, so that it will cost from eight to twelve pounds per acre, but when cleared, brings good grass, and will let, for conveniency of the town, from four to five pounds an acre. The trees are all burnt down for three or four miles round