

PLEASANT HOURS

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HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

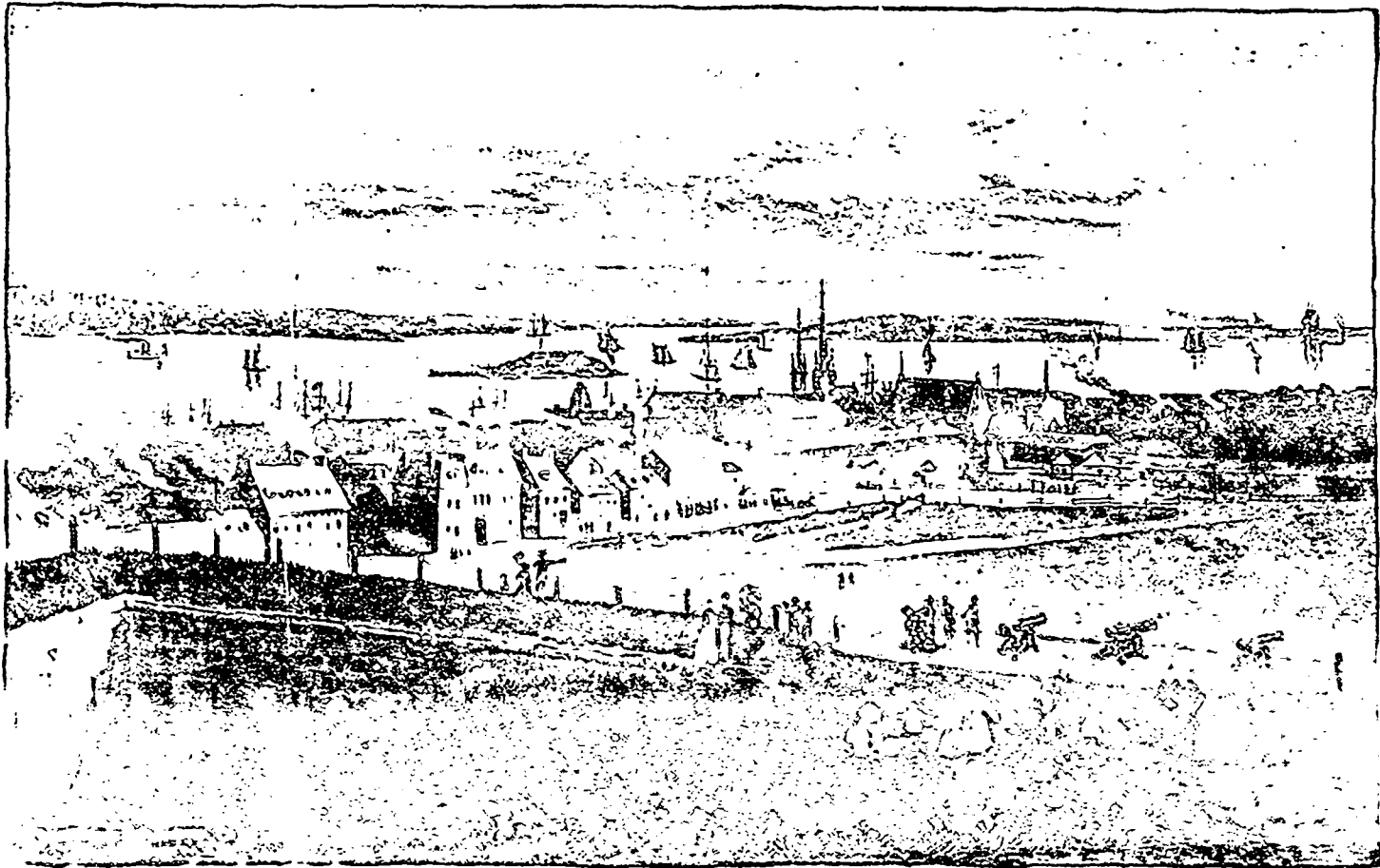
EVERYBODY has heard of Halifax, the city by the sea, and of its fair and famous harbour. This harbour, they have been told, is one of the finest in the world—a haven in which a thousand ships may rest secure, and yet but a little removed from the broad ocean highway which unites the eastern and the western worlds. They have been told, also, that this harbour is always accessible and always safe; and all of this, though

and a quarter of a mile in width. To the south and east is the harbour, which narrows as it reaches the upper end of the city and expands again into Bedford Basin, with its ten square miles of safe anchorage. The Basin terminates at a distance of nine miles from the city and is navigable for the whole distance. The city proper is on the eastern slope of the isthmus and rises from the water to a height of 256 feet at the citadel. On the eastern side of the harbour is the town of Dartmouth. In the harbour, and com-

the line made their rendezvous in the harbour and some of England's bravest veterans were quartered in its barracks. Princes, dukes, lords, admirals, generals, captains and colonels walked the streets from time to time: guns boomed, flags waved, drums beat and bugles sounded, so that the pride and panoply of war were ever before the people. And so they are to-day. The uniform is seen on every street, and fortifications meet the eye at every prominent point.

Chief among the fortifications is the

city and its surroundings may have the very best from the Citadel. It commands land and water for many miles. The Arm, the Basin, the Harbour and its islands, the sea with its ships, the distant hills and forests, the city with its busy streets—all are present to the eye in a beautiful and varied panorama. Dartmouth, across the harbour, is seen to fine advantage, while on the waters around the city are seen the ships of all the nations of the earth. No amount of elaborate word-painting would do justice to the



HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, FROM THE CITADEL.
Specimen of 250 cuts in "Methodist Magazine" for 1884.

true enough, does the harbour of Halifax but scanty justice. All harbours have more or less of merit, but few are like this one. Here there is something more than merely a roomy and safe haven—something to claim more than a passing glance. To understand this we must know something of the topography of the city.

Halifax is located on a peninsula, and founded on a rock. East and west of it the sea comes in, robbed of its terrors and appearing only as a thing of beauty. The water on the west is the North-west Arm, a stretch of water about three miles in length

manding all parts of it, is the strongly fortified George's Island, while at the entrance, three miles below, is McNab's Island, which effectually guards the passage from the sea. This is a brief and dry description of the city. Halifax must be seen to be appreciated.

Halifax is a strong city in every way. It has great strength in a military point of view; it has so many solid men that it is a tower of strength financially; it is strongly British in its manners, customs and sympathies; and it has strong attractions for visitors. The town became an important military and naval station; ships of

Citadel, which crowns the city, commenced by the Duke of Kent, and altered, varied and transposed, until it has become a model of military skill. Its history has been a peaceful one and is likely to be. If it should be assailed it appears well able for a siege. Visitors are allowed to inspect the works, but the man who always follows Captain Cuttle's advice to make a note of what he sees, is recommended to refrain from using pencil and paper within the limits of any of the forts. It is bad taste; and, besides, the authorities will not permit it.

The seeker after a good view of the

view on a fine summer's day. It must be seen, and once seen it will not be forgotten.

The fortifications on McNab and George's Islands, as well as the various forts around the shore, are all worthy of a visit. After they have been seen, the visitor will have no doubts as to the exceeding strength of Halifax above all the cities of America. The Dockyard, with splendid examples of England's naval power, is also an exceedingly interesting place, and always presents a picture of busy life in which the "oak-hearted tars" are a prominent feature.