

THE CITY OF HALIFAX,

ITS PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PARKS, &c.

HALIFAX is the Capital of Nova Scotia, and next to Bermuda, the principal naval station in America. It is situated on one of the finest harbors of the Atlantic coast. It was founded in 1749, and was first called Chebucto, but changed afterwards to Halifax, in compliment to Earl of Halifax. An expedition, under command of Lord Cornwallis, landed on the 21st of June, and selected the site of the Capital City of Nova Scotia. Its population in 1881 was 36,100. The city occupies a picturesque situation on the east slope of the peninsula (of 3000 acres) between the Bay, the N. W. Arm and Bedford Basin; and looks out on a noble harbor, spacious enough to hold all the navies of Europe, and with fortifications strong enough to successfully resist the encroachment of any belligerent. The city has a copious supply of water from the Chain Lakes, twelve miles distant. There is a fire-alarm telegraph, and an efficient fire department, with several steam engines, and a protection corps.

The city lies along the shore of the harbor, and is two and one-half miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide. The plan is regular, and the streets, as a rule, are well laid out. Hollis and Granville streets contain several elegant and substantial buildings, but in some portions of the city the dingy appearance of the houses might be improved by a little outlay on paint.

Approaching Halifax by water, the traveller's attention is first drawn to Cape Sambro on the western coast, on