

cipally echinoderms. The most remarkable of these was *Antedon eschrichtii*, the great northern feather-star, which adhered in great numbers by its dorsal cirri; and many of them were infested with their peculiar parasite *Myzostoma*. There were many examples of a large form of *Ophiopholis aculeata*, which seems to be the principal food of the cod on the Nova Scotia and Newfoundland Banks, taking the place of *Ophiothrix fragilis* off Faröe, the North of Scotland, and the Dogger Bank. In the afternoon lines were out all round the ship, and upward of a hundred cod were taken, the largest about thirty pounds weight. The stomachs of all of them were full of the *Ophiopholis*. We reached Halifax on the morning of the 9th. The weather was very fine and perfectly still, with a light mist, and as we steamed up the bay there was a most extraordinary and bewildering display of mirage. The sea and the land and the sky were hopelessly confused; all the objects along the shore drawn up out of all proportion, the white cottages standing out like pillars and light-houses, and all the low rocky islands looking as if they were crowned with battlements and towers. Low, hazy islands which had no place on the chart bounded the horizon, and faded away while one was looking at them. The little coasting vessels with their hulls drawn up looked as if they were standing on pedestals, while, above them, their inverted images on the soft gray mist were more real and definite than they were themselves. None of us had ever seen such an extreme effect before, nor have we seen any thing like it since.

Coming directly from the rich vegetation and the lovely subtropical spring weather of Bermudas, the first view of the country about Halifax was certainly by no means attractive. The low rolling hills of granite and metamorphic rocks, covered with somewhat stunted pine-woods, remind one of some of the tamer parts of Scandinavia. When we arrived, the weather was still chilly; on the Saturday before there had been a fall of snow, and the frost was still in the ground. The deciduous