

SYDNEY, NORTH WEST ARM, MARCH, 7, 1851.

I do hereby certify, that I have been a Mariner for the last thirty three years, the greater part of that time sailing out of the Port of Sydney, Cape Breton, in the capacity of Seaman, Master, and Pilot; and I CERTIFY THAT I NEVER SAW A PORT, IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, SO EASY OF ACCESS, IN EVERY WAY, AS THE PORT OF SYDNEY, except in the icy season.

I also certify that I served as a branch pilot out of the Port of Sydney, for nine years, and during all that period, I never saw a time but I could get into Sydney;—and I never was detained by fog, or any cause, except contrary winds.

(Signed.)

JOSEPH RUDDERHAM.

I do certify, that I have sailed to and from the port of Sydney, Cape Breton, since the year 1828—that during the whole of that period I have been regularly employed in the Coasting trade—viz: to all parts of Newfoundland, the Gulf and River St Lawrence and the United States—that, I have made 73 voyages from Newfoundland to Sydney, at all seasons of the year, and that I never found any difficulty, or was detained in making the Harbour in respect of the Bank fogs. And, after 24 years experience I can give with confidence the following directions when sailing for the above port.

When coming from the eastward or any part of Europe, or from the Gulf of St Lawrence I would recommend strangers, after passing the west end of the Green Banks, to keep on the line of Latitude $46^{\circ} 15'$, or $46^{\circ} 20'$, until they were past the Longitude of Scatarie Island; and, after leaving Longitude 57° , there are no soundings under 180, 150, and 108 fathoms until in the Longitude of $59^{\circ} 25'$ West—when they are obtained from 50, to 45 and 36 fathoms, sandy bottom, the sand full of red specks. I would particularly remark that these red specks are *not to be found to the Southward of this Latitude*.

The soundings from Flint Island to Sydney Light are regular from 15 fathoms to 6, a hard sandy bottom. In thick foggy weather, when running in for the land in the above line of Latitude, with the wind South, S.S.W. or West, a ship can boldly stand in to Spanish Bay; and when abreast of Flint Island, distant 20 miles from the mouth of Sydney Harbour, the fog breaks, and dependance may be placed on finding *always* clear weather—I never found it to fail.

With the wind S. E. and a fog, a vessel may also run boldly in to this Bay, for I always found the fog in like manner clearing away, with glimpses of clear horizon for the Port of Sydney.

When coming from the *Eastward* I would recommend strangers to be sure and make a good allowance for the current that always sets to the S. S. W., particularly with Northerly winds—it will be sure to lead them out of the way in North Easterly weather.