

deer; they gave three cheers, hoisted American colours, and hailed us to drop the peak of the mainsail; the master of the Reindeer said to us, you had better not fire on them, as they will kill every man of you, and he ran below; they came near us, and Mr. Jones said, come alongside us, which they were willing to do. I had my musket ready to fire, and asked Mr. Jones if I should do so, to which he objected, and said let them come alongside first; they then fired, and a ball passed close to us. Mr. Jones gave the papers up to the master of the Reindeer, who held them up to those on board the American schooner, desired them not to fire, and said that we would quit the vessel as soon as possible. We then got into the yawl and observed them firing different times going into Eastport.

Ques. When the schooner with American colors flying came close, did you observe they were armed?

Ans. Yes, they were, and the deck full of men, armed with muskets and fixed bayonets, carbines, blunderbusses, pistols, and swords.

Ques. How was the weather when the Reindeer and Ruby were detained?

Ans. Fine weather and a fine breeze.

Ques. What quantity of wood and water had the Reindeer on board?

Ans. Two casks of water on deck, and plenty of wood.

Ques. Did you search the salt room and the hold for arms?

Ans. No, I did not search the salt room aft, but did forward.

*John Cheese (Seaman) examined.*

Ques. Were you with Mr. Jones in the yawl, when he detained the American schooners Reindeer and Ruby?

Ans. No, I was not; I was one of his boat's crew, but was left behind at St. Andrew's.

We, the undersigned, have examined the aforesaid persons, belonging to H. M.'s sloop Dotterel, taking the minutes of their depositions respecting the detention of the American fishing schooners Reindeer and Ruby, and we do declare that their evidence has been taken in a very impartial manner, and that the persons aforesaid have not been biassed in any way whatever.

JOHN COOKE, Senior Lieutenant, &c.

JAMES AZZARD, Purser,

*H. M. Sloop Dotterel.*

RICHARD HOARE, Commander.

HIS MAJESTY'S SLOOP DOTTEREL,

*Halifax, November 8th, 1824.*

SIR: I beg leave to represent, in obedience to your orders of this day's date, directing me to give a statement of the facts, and under