

Middle Ground, about 30 miles to the northward of the west end of Sable Island, has been reported to have as little as 10 fathoms, although 15 fathoms was the least water obtained on examination. The bank is about 35 miles in length NW. and SE., with depths varying from 15 to 30 fathoms, and is separated from the west end of Banquereau Bank by a gully 3 miles across, with 100 fathoms. Its inner end extends to within 35 miles of Cape Canso, the distance between being occupied principally by a submarine valley, having in one locality a depth of 140 fathoms.

If in foggy weather, soundings should be struck within the 30-fathom line, they will impart confidence in making the coast of Nova Scotia, as the middle of the bank is in about the same parallel as the entrance of Halifax Harbor.

Sambro Banks consist of two banks; the eastern is about 12 miles in length, within the 60-fathom line, and lies SE. 36 miles from the same depth south of Sambro Ledges. The western bank, with 52 fathoms, sand and gravel, is about 4 miles in extent and separate from the eastern bank by a channel 10 miles wide, with 98 to 100 fathoms, stones. These banks are surrounded by deep water, there are other detached patches of less than 60 fathoms in the neighborhood, not yet accurately defined.

La Have Bank.—The northeastern shoal plateau of this bank, with from 45 to 50 fathoms, sand and stones, is 32 miles in length north and south by 15 miles broad; the north end being about east, nearly 60 miles from Baccaro Point. Another bank, with 45 to 50 fathoms, exists to the westward of the south end of the above, from which it is only separated by a shallow gully with 53 fathoms.

The 60-fathom boundary of the bank is well defined all round, and includes within its limits Brown Bank, described hereafter.

Roseway Bank.—The shoalest part of this bank, with from 31 to 40 fathoms, stones and pebbles, is about 11 miles in length, and its center is on the same parallel as Cape Sable light-house and the north end of La Have Bank. Between the 60-fathom lines of La Have and Roseway Banks there is a deep channel with from 70 to 100 fathoms; whilst in-shore, Roseway Bank is connected by a narrow neck, with the 60-fathom line of the bank extending along the coast.

Brown Bank, within the 50-fathom line, is 55 miles in length, with an average breadth of 15 miles. It lies to the westward of, but contiguous to, La Have Bank, and with it forms an almost continuous bank, following the line of coast off Cape Sable at the distance of 50 miles off shore.

Near the western extremity of Brown Bank is a sandy rise about 10 miles long north and south, with from 24 to 30 fathoms, the center of which lies about 50 miles SW. of Cape Sable.

Outside the 50-fathom line of Brown Bank there is a deep-water channel 25 miles wide, separating it from the 60-fathom line at the northeastern extremity of George Shoal, off the Massachusetts Coast.