

The following song was taken from "Old Time Songs and Poetry of Newfoundland", Fifth Edition, 1968, Gerald S. Doyle, Limited, p. 63.

## **Wadham's Song**

(Note: This song was called after the author who wrote it in the year 1756. It was placed on record at the Admiralty's Court in London after it was first composed and was considered the best coasting guide for that part of our Island to which it refers)

From Bonavista Cape to the Stinking Isles  
The course is North full 40 miles;  
When you must steer away North East  
'Til Cape Freels, Gull Island bear NNW

Then NNW 33 miles  
Three leagues off shore lies Wadham's  
Isles;  
Where of a rock you must take care  
Two miles SSE from Isles it bears.

Then NW by West, 12 miles or more  
There lies Round Head on Fogo Shore;  
But NNW seven or eight miles  
Lies a sunken rock near the Barracks Isles

Therefore, my friend, I would you advise  
Since all those rocks in danger lies;  
That you may never amongst them fall  
But keep your luff and weather them all

As you draw near to Fogo Land  
You have fifteen fathoms in the sounding  
sand;  
From 15 to 18 never more  
And you'll have close to the shore.

When you abreast of Round Head be  
Then Joe Batt's Point you'll plainly see;  
To Starboard then three or four miles

You'll see a parcel of damned rugged isles.

When Joe Batt's Arm you are abreast  
Then Fogo Harbour bears due West  
But unkind Fortune unluck laid  
A sunken \*rock\* right in the trade

So NNW you are to steer  
'Till Brimstones Head doth plain appear  
Which over Pilley's Point you'll see  
Then off that danger you are free.

And as you draw within a mile  
You'll see a house on + Syme's Isle;  
The mouth of the channel is not very wide,  
But the deepest water is on the larboard  
side.

When within Syme's Point you have shot;  
Then three fathoms water you have got  
Port hard your helm and take care  
In the mid channel for to steer

When Pilley's Point you are abreast,  
Starboard haul and steer SS West  
Till Pilley's Point covers Syme's stage,  
Then you are clear, I will engage.

\* Deans Rock

+ Not now standing