

In January 1902, when passing through Vineyard Sound near Shovelful Lightship after a northeast gale, I could see nothing except breakers all over the Shoals. The only place where they did not break was east of the Lightship and south of Bearse's Shoal. I, then, concluded that by dredging and ~~building~~ ~~ing~~ and building a breakwater on Bearse's Shoal it would be possible to keep the sand from washing on the Shoals in heavy weather. I, also thought that by the carrying out of this plan a safe channel could be made that could be navigated in all kinds of weather. In fact, many trips could be made free from fog.

I have been over the Shoals many times in fog (but) after passing Shovelful Lightship and when clear of the broken parts of Pollock Rip, I have found it clear weather.

During my experience of twenty years, I have passed this spot twice a week. Therefore, I feel that I can properly speak.

P. Thacher.

Master U.S. Indian
B + P. S. Co.

[1902-01-xxB – a typed copy of the preceding hand-written item, on onion-skin paper.
This not transcribed since it is an exact duplicate.]



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