Excerpt from Self Instruction in Navigation to Which Is Added, Some Useful Miscellaneous Information Including Illustrative Cuts on Rules of the Road

The writer of this book has endeavored to eliminate higher mathematics from the navigational work and use plain English instead of formulae that prove so confusing to the man who has not been educated along these lines; to such a one Bowditch might as well be written in Greek. The skilled navigators are requested not to criticise this work for it is not written for them, but for the ones who are struggling to inform themselves although meeting with indifferent success and much discouragement. It would seem that any such men might take up the study of navigation by means of this book, and if Chapters 1-6 are carefully followed, and studied, the results are bound to be good. Let those who think they can't get ahead because they haven't been as well educated as might be, take courage and start a systematic study of these pages beginning with the Day's...