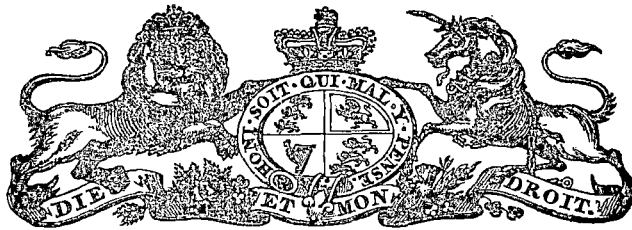


(No. 90.)



1884.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

MERSEY BAR:

REPORT OF CAPTAIN STANLEY, R.N.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



Hillyside, Sandy Bay, 25th April, 1884.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith the plan of the Mouth of the River Mersey, plotted on a scale of 24 inches to a nautical mile of 6074 feet.

A glance at the plan will show that the so-called "Bar" is nothing but an extensive flat, with generally rather less than 6 feet of water upon it; the bottom is a coarse shingle or a large description of waterworn stones intermixed with sand, and sometimes sand alone.

On the coast on both sides of the entrance I have shown where the bed-rock (basalt) appears; the contiguous land is all composed of waterworn stones, in some places thinly covered with soil, but frequently bare.

The scale of the chart is large, to express clearly the information which it is intended to convey.

The datum accepted for the reduction of the soundings is the same as that adopted in the survey of the Mersey River, and my later observations have shown that the level of low-water spring tides is occasionally one foot below the datum mark; the observations, however, extend over too short a period to render it advisable to lower the datum, but I should beg of you to note that all the soundings will upon rare occasions be found to register one foot too much water. A few observations taken on the middle bank off Formby prove it to be a shifting sandbank.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. J. STANLEY.

The Hon. the Minister of Lands and Works.

MOUTH OF THE RIVER MERSEY

Surveyed by
STAFF COMMANDER H.J. STANLEY R.N.

1884

SOUNDINGS IN FEET AND INCHES
Reduced to Low Water Spring Tides

Legend: Expresses solid rock Expresses Shingle or water worn stones Sand

SCALE 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000 8503 ft

Flat Country
Gum Forest
with patches of li-tree

Outer Beacon
Inner Beacon
Mussel R. B.

Sand Flat
gradually uncovering with fall of tide

Breakers

Gum forest and scrub



J. E. M. D.
4-9-84
+ 87.97.6.