U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

W. N. Duffield, Superintendent.

State: New York.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2265

Locality:
Hudson River; vicinity of Poughkeepsie.

1895.

Chief of Party:
W. C. Hodgmeier
Descriptive Report

to accompany Topographic Sheet No. 2265
of vicinity of Poughkeepsie, N.Y., 1895.

This sheet includes about eight miles of the course
of the Hudson River between Milton Landing on the
south and Saram Elbow on the north, with the city
of Poughkeepsie nearly in the middle of the sheet.
The general character of the country is that of
a rolling plateau, through which the river valley is cut. The elevations of the hill tops, above
the river, range from one hundred to five hundred
feet.
The river shores are bold and frequently bluffy,
the rocky base of the hills jutting into the water
at many points.
On each bank is a railroad, cutting through the
points of the hills and across the intervening coves.
The cuts are generally in solid rock forming numerous
step cliffs which are very conspicuous. Embankments
of rock and earth are carried across the coves.
The steeper hillsides and many of the summits are
covered with a mixed growth of deciduous and conifer
ous trees. There are also many shade trees along the
roads, elms being especially frequent.
All the ordinary fruit trees are also to be found in cultivation, the apple being most common. Vineyards are often found, covering many of the southern slopes. The country is thickly settled, especially on the east side of the river, where there are many fine old homesteads.

The city of Poughkeepsie is an old town and an important manufacturing centre. The railroads on each side of the river afford communication with New York and also with the north and west while the lofty iron bridge which here crosses the Hudson in five great spans carries a railroad connecting the coal fields of Pennsylvania with Hartford and the east.

Except in the winter months there is communication by water with New York, Albany and intermediate points.

There is a steam ferry between Poughkeepsie and Highland Station, on the West Shore R.R.

M. C. Hodges
Chief of Party.