Supplement
Treasury Department,
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.
O. H. M. Pettman
Superintendent.

State: Maryland

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheets No. 2560

LOCALITY:
Little Choptaun river
7 branches

190 10 02

CHIEF OF PARTY:
John W. Dowu.

For Tragertal maps showing revision
See Archives miscellaneous maps
Acc. No. 55114 Shelf 857 ST
Mr. Wainwright:

JAN 16 1903

Should this letter be added to your reports. If so and then is expiring it be done will you have it done. We have to depend on the field force of office remains.

E. C. B.

Turning in the work etc.

in the archives.

Mr. Braddock

I think the letter should be filed with one of the sheets and referred to on the other reports.

A duplicate should be placed in this office files to show when it is.

J.B.M.
I forward herewith a roll containing seven sectional sheets of the resurvey of the Little Choptank River and branches. The delineations of the old work and the new are placed so as to make a comparison of the results obtained by the two surveys, one at the beginning and the other at the end of a half century, easy. In making the comparison several considerations must be allowed with reference to the original survey. One is that no common points exist, for while an occasional windmill or house is found on the old sheets and appear on the new, there is no evidence of careful determination of such objects. If the triangulation point at Meekins' Neck is identical with that of the first survey it is the sole exception I believe. The several triangulation points of the old survey on the shores of the Little Choptank R. have been destroyed by the passing away of the shores.

Another consideration is, that the manner in which the old shore line work was done could not produce fair comparative results. And still another must be noted that relates to the manner in which the comparative lines of the
two surveys were placed in juxtaposition. The old sheets of the survey of 1845-50 had become very much broken and distorted in the passing years and from these bromide prints had been prepared upon which new projections from recent data had been placed. It was not the best plan therewith to secure satisfactory comparative results. It would have been better to have sent the original sheets dilapidated as they were for then each area bounded by its co-ordinates could have been directly adjusted to the corresponding areas upon the new sheets. Instead of this however, adjustments from the bromide copies had to be applied and therefore the added distortion of those copies must be considered.

It was purposed to place on these revision sheets the entire work of the interior survey but time has not so permitted.

Enough is shown however in these revisions, unsatisfactory and faulty as they necessarily are in view of the considerations above mentioned, to lead to the conclusion that the best possible surveys or resurveys should be made of the shores of the rapidly changing configuration of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and as well all the shores of Coast and River, the formation of which makes them liable to continual change. In my own work I endeavor to reach the best possible result so that in any future survey assurance may be felt that a good basis for comparison and determination of changes may be reached.

Descriptive reports of the three sheets of the survey of the Little
Choptank River (1901) accompany this report.

Respectfully submitted

[Signature]
Descriptive Report

Little Choptank R. and Branches.
Chesapeake Bay, Md.

Sheet 1: Taylor Island and Slaughter Creek.

The characteristic features of the area covered by this sheet is that of a low lying island rising nowhere higher than eight feet above mean high water. Much of the island is subject to overflow during abnormal tides and the land has been "salted up" to the degree that but little beside salt water bushes now grows upon it. The formation is clearly drift. Extensive marshes border Slaughter Creek. Where marshes do not exist the erosion of shores is marked and the material being clay of varying tenacity much of it dissolves and passes into the Bay and thence to the sea. The marshes as a rule maintain a greater resistance to the action of wind and water, hence the configuration of the shores show but little uniformity of erosion in passing years, even when similarly exposed. The maximum rate of erosion may be placed at ten metres per year. This rate is arrived at through comparison of the resurvey with the original, the interval between being about fifty years. Naturally this rate must be increasing.

There are no evidences either of emergence or subsidence, but the elevation of the lands "salted up" is without doubt decreasing.
Descriptive Report

"Little Choptank R. and Branches."

Sheet 2: James L. to Fishing Creek

The characteristics of the country covered by this sheet are in a large degree similar to those mentioned in report for Sheet 1. The degree of erosion shown by comparison of surveys reaches its maximum at James L. and between Oyster Bay and Slaughter Creek. The areas of marshes is small excepting upon the margin of creeks near the lower part of the River.

The population has increased considerably in fifty years and there are a few industries beside farming and oysterimg in the vicinity of the Postoffices of which there are five on the peninsula between the Little Choptank and the Choptank as against one fifty years ago.

In all other matters the report for Sheet 1 will apply to that above considered.
Descriptive Report

Little Choptank River and Branches

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Sheet No. 3, Fishing Creek to head of River

The general formation and characteristics of the country delineated on this sheet are similar to those of the eastern portion of Sheet No. 2, with the exception of a peculiar geological feature existing a short distance above the mouth of Lloyds Creek. It is a narrow area or band of small boulders, cobbles and gravel with occasional ledges of conglomerate and deposits of shell marl. This has been called an "ancient beach" and it runs in a tolerably direct line in a northerly and southerly direction, appearing on the Miles River below Deep Water Point and the Wye River above the entrance of what is called upon the old chart Front Wye, crossing the west end of Wye Island. It doubtless may be found crossing the Choptank the Third Haven, the Chester and other Rivers of the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

An examination of the sectional sheets accompanying these descriptions showing a comparison of the resurvey with the original of 1845-55, will show an increase of water areas at all points excepting those that are well protected from the erosive action of wind and water. Excepting at the heads of small creeks there are no increases of marsh areas.
Apllied to Chart Comp. 553
Aug. 21, 1942
9-2-42 K. Reynolds
Treasury Department,
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O.H. Tittmarsh
Superintendent.

State: MD

LOCALITY: Honoka River

EXECUTED FOR THE DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN ORIGINA LTOPOGRAPHIC SHEETS 2560 AND 2564 1902

CHIEF OF PARTY:
O.B. Winwright

Sup
Descriptive Report

This sheet was used to carry up a scheme of plane-table triangulation from the mouth of the Kona River and to its head, in order to check a discrepancy which exists between original topographical sheets No. 2560 (Army) and 2564 (Army). The red lines show the scheme of triangulation. A tracing which is attached to No. 2560 reconciles the discrepancy, and both sheets have been made to conform with it.

S. B. Richardson
Chief C. S. G. Survey

Sept. 15, 1902
Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. H. Grinnell
Superintendent.

State: Maryland

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

TOPC Sheet No. 2561

LOCALITY:
Little Chopawamsic
Branches
Lee

2360

1901-2

CHIEF OF PARTY:

John M. Dunn