

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

F. M. Thorn, Superintendent.

State: *North Carolina.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hydrographic Sheet No. 1423

LOCALITY:

*Coast of North Carolina.
Masonboro Inlet
& vicinity.*

1887.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

D. B. Wainwright.

1887 2.
to June 20

Report

Resurvey Masonboro Inlet N.C.

1887

Since the Survey of 1857 this Inlet has moved to the westward $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile. At the time the survey was made, the Inlet had quite a good depth of water. I was told by one of the Inhabitants that blockade runners sometimes took refuge there, awaiting a good opportunity to run the gauntlet at New Inlet.

It is now almost dry at low water, and serves no usefull purpose so far as commerce is concerned.

Barren Inlet is the next Inlet N.E. of Masonboro and has moved down to some extent. There is a sand spit and Shoal running from its N. point down toward the Southward, the channel being between this Shoal and the South beach. Owing to this, the Ebb tide is directed along the Shore, and has cut away the beach to a considerable extent, especially at the Club House. The sand so cut away has been

carried down towards Masombro Inlet,
 and as, readily be seen from the sheet
 what has been lost, at the former place
 has been gained at the latter.

Masombro has lost so much of its
 drainage area, and the conditions are such
 at the Club House that it seems probable
 before long, that with a full spring tide
 & a heavy easterly storm occurring at the
 same time, a breach will be made in the
 beach at or near the Club House and a
 new Inlet formed;

The marshes inside, with the exception
 of those parts formerly fronting, and those
 now fronting Masombro Inlet, have changed
 very little, except to extend slightly in area.
 What was formerly represented by Shallows
 on the sheet, have now a growth of grass,
 still almost covered at high tide, but in
 time will be a portion of an ordinary salt
 marsh, and above ordinary tides. The streams
 are so small and carry so little silt that
 that the progress of this formation is slow.

The soundings develop very plainly the
 difficulty of ~~one~~ might say the impracti-
 cability of reaching the main land at low
 tide even, for row boats. From the Club
 House nearly ^{to Masonboro Inlet,} there is a fair depth of water.
 The sand of the outside beach is
 silicious, and beaten hard. Anything but
 a little coaster is certain to survive
 one storm:

S. P. Mainwight

Asst. C. & G. Survey

Accompanying resurvey of
 Masonboro Inlet and vicinity
 made June 1887