2476
2476A DEN 8-31-98

Diag. Cht. No. 904-1

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Dr. Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: P. R.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hydrographic *Sheet No.* 2476

LOCALITY:

Fajardo Harbor and Entrance (Playa de Fajardo to Cape San Juan)

1900.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

J. B. Boutelle

2476

Descriptive Report

Fajardo Harbor - Porto Rico

Coast from the "Playa de Fajardo" to Cape San Juan and outlying cays.

A preliminary survey to develope the harbor of Fajardo and determine the position of the Laja Shoal, a coral reef near the mouth of the harbor. The triangulation was extended from Culebra Is.d by the party of Asst. Hodgkins (U.S.S. Bleaker) to determine Cape San Juan Lt. Hse. and a station on Palominos Is.d and from these as a base a local s'n was made to furnish points for the Topog.y and Hydro.y.

As at Culebra the geographical positions depend on the position given for Culebrita Lt. Hse. ($\varphi = 18° 18' 48''$ λ $65° 13' 45''$) and when the results of Asst. Hodgkins connection with his latitude station at Culebra and the longitude station at St. Thomas are received, the projection should be changed to correspond.

The harbor and "Playa de Fajardo" is about 3 miles south of Cape San Juan, Porto Rico. The town of Fajardo lies about 1½ miles inland over a fine

military road. It has a population of about 3000. Its chief exports are about 3000 hhds of sugar annually all of which go to the U.S. and about 3000 puncheons of molasses most of which goes to Canada. Its imports are lumber, machinery, cooperage and salt fish from the U.S. and Canada. The port of entry is Humacao about 25 miles to the south.

Supplies: Water of a very poor quality can be had from the small river at this place at $1.00 (gold) per puncheon (120 gals) delivered alongside. A limited amount of ships stores can be had at about 30 per. ct above New York prices. No coal can be had.

Pilotage: 70 cts (gold) per. foot up to 15 ft. Over 15 ft $1.00 (gold) per ft. Night pilotage double. No signal for pilot hoist national colors at the fore.

There is a fairly good anchorage for vessels drawing not over 15 ft, in front of the "playa" under the lee of two small "Cays" "Abrigo" and "Gorcado". Holding ground is soft and the anchorage is exposed to the north. Anchorage for heavier draft ships can be had in front of the harbor under the lee of Palominos and Icacos Cays but a very heavy swell sets in here especially in a north or northeaster.

The shores between the "Playa" and Cape San Juan and generally around the Cays are lined with coral reefs making landing with a boat difficult.

J. B. Brittle
Assistant C. & G. S.
Chief of Party

VEC
Mar.10,1914.

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 2476a.

Fajardo Harbor, Porto Rico, by Assistant

Geo. D. Cowie in 1914.

TIDES.

	Fajardo Harbor ft.
Mean low water, or plane of reference on staff	1.0
Lowest tide observed " "	0.1
Highest " " " "	2.8
Mean range of tide	1.1

Hyd. Sheet No 2476 a

There are no grounds upon which to criticise this work, except that the character of the bottom is not stated.

R. L. Johnston

Soundings shown in feet.

Protracted by field party.
Plotted by " "
Verified and inked by R.L.J.