

2528

Diag. Ch. No. 904-1

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O. H. Tittmann, Superintendent.

State: *Porto Rico*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hydrographic Sheet No. 2528

LOCALITY:

*Vieques Passage, between
Porto Rico and Vieques
(or Crab) Island*

1901.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

J. B. Boutelle

2528

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Porto Rico

Vieques Passage, between Porto Rico and Vieques (or Grab) Island
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This sheet is a continuation of the work from Cape San Juan Head to Ensenada Honda completing the survey of the passage around the north east end of Porto Rico to a line between Ensenada Honda to Arenas Point including Arenas Shoal which extends out from the north west part of Vieques Island for about 3 1/2 miles terminating in a narrow point with about 2 fathoms of water on it and five to seven fathoms close alongside. The shoal is of sand and is said by the pilots to shift slightly both in position and depth, the depth varying about one fathom at different times. I do not think much reliance can be placed in this statement as these pilots have no means of ascertaining their position except by estimation and rarely take any soundings. A bell buoy has been placed just off the north west point of this shoal.

The rest of the area covered by this sheet is comparatively free from obstructions except at its eastern limits where it touches the reefs north of Vieques between the island and the Piraguas Rocks. This passage to the east is very foul and as yet unsurveyed. The bottom over this and the preceding sheet is mostly of coral formation and very irregular and lumpy soundings changing very rapidly.

Respectfully submitted

Assistant U.S.C. & G. Survey
Chief of Party