

if they did, it is certain that the workmen would have been driven from the pit by the great flow of water, and the shaft would necessarily have been abandoned. This evidently was not the case, as we have ample evidence from the fact that the wooden platforms were carefully placed in position at the bottom of the shaft, (see the account of borings already given) as well as the fact that the shaft had been systematically filled up, with marks placed at every 10 ft., as previously stated. Acting on this theory a search was at once begun in order to find such inlet. Smith's Cove, on the extreme eastern end of the island and about 30 rods from the "money pit" was first examined by reason of its many natural advantages as a starting point for work of this kind, and from the fact that at about the centre of this cove it had always been noticed that at low tide, water was running out of the sand. Investigations were begun at this point and the result of a few minutes' shoveling proved beyond a doubt that they had struck the place they were looking for. After removing the sand and gravel covering the beach, they came to a covering or bed of a brown, fibrous plant, the fibre very much resembling the husk of a cocoanut, and when compared with the plant that was bored out of the "money pit" already mentioned, no difference in the two could be detected. However it was subsequently proved to be a tropical plant, in former times used as "dunnage" in stowing ship's cargo. The surface covered by this plant extended 145 feet along the shore line, and from a little above low to high water mark, and about 2 inches in thickness. Underlying this and to the same extent was about 4 or 5 inches of decayed eel grass, and under this was a compact mass of beach rocks free from sand or gravel.

It was found impracticable to remove these rocks and make further investigation unless the tide was kept back. Accordingly a coffer dam was built around this part of the cove, including the boundaries just described. After removing the rocks nearest the low water, it was found that the clay (which with the sand and gravel originally formed the beach) had been dug out and removed and replaced by beach rocks. Resting on the bottom of this excavation were five well constructed drains (as shown on the plan) formed by laying parallel lines of rocks about 8 inches apart and covering the same with flat stones. These drains at the starting point were a considerable distance apart, but converged towards a common centre at the back of the excavation. With