

Water was brackish, but not fresh on the Surface. This demonstrates that so great a Quantity of Water running six Miles an Hour, and four Leagues wide for eight Hours; and flow'd westward not two Miles in the last two Hours of the Tide; and continuing brackish there, and very salt five Leagues lower, could not proceed from a fresh Lake or River; for as the Streight was but four Leagues wide at East Entrance, and not above six Leagues wide in the Middle, and 30 Leagues long, a Current of fresh Water four Leagues wide, so rapid as to run near 16 Leagues each Ebb, and not one League upon the Flood, in a few Tides must have filled the whole Streight with fresh Water; and therefore the Water being salt in the Streight, and brackish there, must have had its Supply from a salt Sea or Ocean——: For in the *Thames* and other Rivers where there is a strong Tide, they are fresh for many Miles below the flowing of the Tide, caus'd by the fresh Water's forcing back the salt.——

But if that Current proceeded from a Salt Water Tide, through a Streight, it is easy to account for the Water's being only brackish on its Surface, where it was try'd; though it might be very salt below; as it was found upon Trial in *Wager Inlet*; for in those Seas, where the Ice was lately dissolv'd on the Surface, and the Snow thaw'd from the Land, as fresh Water is specifically lighter than salt, it would float upon the salt Water in fine calm Weather, until by Storms and blowing Weather it would mix with the salt Water below it.——Nor was the Shallowness of the Water, nor Muddyness of it there, a Reason to suppose it a River; for as it was near the meeting of the two Tides, where the different Streams met, it would occasion a Bar, as is found at the Mouths of Rivers, and that Bar, would consist of a light Sand or ouzy Mud.——

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