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discussion as possible at earliest date.

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### RECLAMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW JERSEY COAST.

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(To be read before General Section, April 15, 1909.)

Three years ago the writer was called upon by the authorities of the cities of Holly Beach, Wild Wood, and Wild Wood Crest, N.J., to assume charge of their contemplated improvements, and as some of these and their methods were performed under difficult conditions, it is thought that they may be of some interest to the members of the Society.

Wild Wood, Holly Beach, and Wild Wood Crest are situated on one of the numerous islands of the New Jersey Coast, the whole being known as Five Mile Beach; and in common with the rest of the islands of this coast, there is the same marked peculiarity: the constant changing of the ocean currents shifting the sands and making and destroying land.

The first improvement contemplated was the reclamation of about 360 acres of meadow land adjacent to the city of Holly Beach, that was at one time proposed for an extension of the city, and with this end in view \$500,000 was subscribed by interested individuals.

The property in question was 7950 feet long, and from 680 to 3470 feet wide, bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the west and south by Turtle Gut Inlet, and on the north by the city of Holly Beach. (See map, Fig. 1.) It was covered with a depth of three feet of water at high tide. Upon examination it was found to consist of a thick black mud, covered with heavy meadow sod, some rank growth, and irregular mounds of sand, which, owing to the currents, were constantly changing position.