

BENTINCK ISLAND, lying close off the south-east point of Vancouver Island, is little over half a mile in extent and irregularly shaped, being almost divided in the centre by a narrow neck. It is about 100 feet high, and, like the adjacent land, covered with pine trees. Its southern and eastern sides are fringed with kelp, outside which there are no dangers beyond those described in the Race Channel. Between it and the mainland is a boat channel, and coasters acquainted with the locality find shelter at its eastern entrance. There are some settlers' houses in the neighbourhood.

Between Bentinck Island and Esquimalt Harbour, a distance of 8 miles, the coast is indented by several bays, and anchorage may be obtained in 8 to 10 fathoms anywhere within a mile of the shore, except immediately off Albert Head; the only danger is a reef lying about a cable's length off the head.

PEDDER BAY, the first of these indentations, has its entrance immediately northward of Bentinck Island, 2 miles N.N.W. of the Great Race, between Cape Calver and William Head, where its breadth is three quarters of a mile; the inlet runs to the W.N.W. for 2 miles, narrowing rapidly, and when half a mile within is only fit for small craft, which may find good shelter at its head. Vessels of any size may anchor in the entrance in 7 fathoms, with Cape Calver, its southern point, bearing S.E. by S., distant about half a mile, but though the holding ground is good, it is open to all winds from N.N.E. round E. to S.S.E., and with a S.E. gale would neither be a desirable nor safe anchorage.*

PARRY BAY, immediately northward of William Head, affords good anchorage with all westerly winds. Vessels bound to sea and meeting with a strong wind from this quarter are recommended to return here; the anchorage is in 9 fathoms, from half to three-quarters of a mile off the sandy beach, with William Head bearing S.W. by S. about the same distance. With a south-east wind there is ample room to weigh, which a vessel should immediately do, and if not able to round the Race Islands and proceed to sea, run for Esquimalt Harbour.

Albert Head, the north point of the bay, is moderately high, sloping to the sea, bare of trees at its extreme, but wooded immediately behind; a reef lies a cable off it. William Head somewhat resembles it, but is lower. The water is too deep for anchorage immediately off these heads.

ROYAL BAY OR ROADS, of which Albert Head is the southern point, and the entrance to Esquimalt Harbour; the northern limit is a fine sheet of water 3 miles in extent, and affords good anchorage with all winds which would prevent a vessel from entering that harbour; a vessel may anchor anywhere within three-quarters of a mile from the western shore. A good berth is a mile south of Duntze Head with the entrance open, or Thetis Cottage just open of Inskip Rocks (in the harbour), which is the leading mark for clearing the Seroggs Rocks running in or out.

Light.—A lighthouse is erected on Figgard Island, a small rocky islet 25 feet high, and almost connected with the shore, forming the western entrance point of Esquimalt Harbour; the tower is of brick, white-washed, and is elevated 70 feet above the mean level of the sea, with a red brick dwelling-house adjoining. The light is fixed and of the 4th order; it shows *white* when bearing from N. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. to N.W. by W. $\frac{1}{4}$ W.; *red* from N.W. by W. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. to S. $\frac{1}{4}$ E., and *green* from N. $\frac{1}{4}$ W. to N. by E. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. The white light is intended to guide a vessel in from seaward, and while visible clears alike the western coast between Race Island and Esquimalt, and the southern shore with its off-lying dangers, Seroggs Rocks and Brochy Ledge, between Duntze Head and Trial Island. The red light will be found useful by vessels bound to Victoria or Esquimalt from the eastward; after rounding Trial Island it will indicate a vessel's distance from the shore, and if bound to Esquimalt, a W.S.W. course will lead a safe distance outside Brochy Ledge, until the light changes from red to white, when it may be steered for and not be fore. A green ray of light is thrown up the harbour between the Whale Rock and the western shore, and leads westward or inside the line of that Rock.

* See plan of Pedder Bay, No. 1,906; scale m.=4.0 inches.