## [1840.

This, I think, proves the entrance not on the *lee* side.

LAGOON OPENINGS.

At the period of the Blossom's visit, the wind and current, on her entrance as well as exit, favoured her; but no sound conclusion or direction for navigators could be deduced therefrom. A *fair* wind out would be a *foul weather* wind inside. In both cases, on reference to Blossom and Sulphur, the winds at entrance and exit ranged from east to E. N. E., or leading winds.

We found that the time of entry or exit depended also on the time of high or slack water, and that it was necessary to watch this at the entrance, as the velocity of ebb, when much water had been forced into the lagoon, prevented the ship from steering. With our chart before us, we knew to a nicety what wind would suffice, and how far we could venture. But it is at all times a difficult place to enter with a vessel drawing over fifteen feet. It cannot be entered against the ebb without a breeze which would command six knots at least, as the current, which has about one foot fall, runs above four knots.

Approaching from seaward, the state of the current can generally be pretty fairly estimated by the "tail race," which sweeps to sea about three quarters of a mile. The instant this slackens or ceases, the entrance may be approached. The starboard side close to the breaker line is the boldest, but a rock near the *inner* point, having only nine feet on it, must be

avoided. point clea the oppos of the cha they are We no course fo was pract On th groups; ing Bird Island; Island. within ha which we for the n bring off obtained sand, at tried abo six, with An ole rity, paid come off well as t cutter wa ing, and than I w and try i water, m VOL. 1

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