

other from the water. The Chart datum is referred to a natural rock, and to a bench-mark, serving as reference for levels of these towns. The rock is thus described by Captain J. F. Parry, R.N., the present commander of H. M. S. *Egeria*:—"The datum for the reduction of soundings is Low Water Ordinary Springs, which corresponds to 7 feet 2 inches below the top of the most westerly of a group of rocks lying just outside the low water line, immediately abreast of the Indian Industrial School."

This harbour serves as a port of reference for a number of other places amongst the Gulf Islands in the Strait of Georgia. Continuous tidal observations have been secured here by Captain Parry, in 1904, from April 11th to November 28th, a duplicate being kindly supplied to this Survey.

Bench-marks to define the Low Water datum of the charts have also been established by the officers of the *Egeria*, at Blunden Harbour in Queen Charlotte Sound, Percy Anchorage in Dodd Narrows, and Miners Bay in Active Pass. There is little or no population at these places as yet, and not more than three months of tidal record has been secured at any of them; and it is only at Blunden Harbour that the record is continuous, day and night. On the Pacific coast, serviceable tide levels cannot well be secured in less than six months. A shorter period does not afford a reliable average, owing to the large variation in range with the sun's declination during the year, the extreme values occurring at the solstices.

The Low Water datum is referred to tide rocks at the following places on the eastern side of Vancouver Island:— Southgate Anchorage in Queen Charlotte Sound, Nanoose Harbour, Hammond Bay, and Departure Bay, which is only three miles from Nanaimo. The tidal observations at these places were not continued more than six weeks, and were in the day time only.

There are several other places at which broad arrows have been cut or tide rocks made use of by the Admiralty. They appear usually to have served for reference during the reduction of soundings, without being accompanied by a tidal record of any great length.

ERRATUM.—In "Tide Levels and Datum Planes in Eastern Canada," Vol. XVII, page 98. Under Tidal Levels at St. John, N.B., second line; for "Gnomon or zero-point of sight gauge..... 97.94" read "79.94."