

Warrnambool Standard
June 20 1890

The Mahogany Ship

To the Editor of the Warrnambool Standard

SIR, - I have noticed from time to time a number of letters in the *Standard*, re Mahogany ship, and some very remarkable things have been said by persons who don't appear to know very much about this ancient wreck.

If you think proper, Mr. Editor, add my quota of information on the subject. In the years 1854 and '55, when a school boy residing at South Warrnambool, I and others (several of whom are at present residing in the Warrnambool district) were in the habit of walking along the Port Fairy beach. I remember a wreck that was lying far above high water mark, her stern pointed towards Port Fairy, and only her timbers were standing about three or four feet above the sand, surrounded with vegetation. From the position and appearance of the wreck, I am perfectly sure, she came ashore years before the district was inhabited by white people.

If this is the mahogany ship the idea of searching in the water is a mistake, as at the time I refer to, she could not be seen from the water's edge, being high up on the hummocks.

I may mention that a human skull was lying in the sand close to the wreck. I was afterwards informed that it was picked up and taken to Warrnambool. This may have been the skull of an aboriginal, but probably it was that of one of the crew of the old wreck.

I am, yours, etc.,
ALEX. ROLLO

Panmure, 18th June, 1890