

Warrnambool Standard
January 30 1890

The Mahogany Ship

To the Editor of the Warrnambool Standard

SIR, -- There appears no doubt that the wreck, known as the mahogany-built Spanish or Dutch ship, alluded to in today's *Standard*, and in the well known note in "Geoffrey Hamlyn." is extant on our coast, and probably lies between Werronggurt and Armstrong's Bay, though now further inland than formerly and covered to a greater depth in the sand hummocks.

It might not be worth while to go on a prospecting tour in search of her, yet the matter is worth keeping in mind, in case of one's getting into the supposed neighbourhood of the remains. It seems not likely that most interesting historic relics would be got, if she were discovered, for whether she came ashore here in the first instance, or were abandoned at sea and afterwards floated here, it is unlikely that all her stores, armament, etc., would have been removed. These would, at any rate, be a most interesting result for the finder, who, it is to be hoped, would not forget the Warrnambool Museum. Suppose, for the sake of argument, that the ship's treasure chest is still there, still full of doubloons, pieces of eight and other pretty tiny kickshaw, things would become much more interesting.

Some one at Belfast is well up on the subject of De Quiros ship, which was abandoned in a terrible storm in, I think, the neighbourhood of the New Hebrides. Perhaps he could give us an idea on the subject.

It seems, however, certain that the existence of the unrecorded wreck in our neighbourhood is no myth, but that it has been well above the sand, and that horses have been jumped over exposed portions of it within the last thirty years.

Yours, etc.,
J. ARCHIBALD