

Warrnambool Standard
July 30 1910

Correspondence

The Mahogany Ship
(To the Editor)

Sir,- In your issue of the 21st inst. appeared an article concerning "The Mahogany Ship". As a portion of the report is inaccurate, I am desirous of correcting the same to avoid misleading those interested. When stationed at State School No.690, Yangery, I became acquainted with your then energetic curator at the Museum, Mr. Archibald, and he communicated to me some of his enthusiasm on this interesting subject. I obtained from him bearings and all the available information in his possession, and also interviewed several of the old identities who were reported to have seen the wreck. These inquiries, did not, however, produce very encouraging results.

Subsequently rods were borrowed from the curator for the purpose of boring in the sand, and having taken the bearing, my brothers and I, during the holidays, worked upon a system, but the only results we obtained were some bone and stone implements and the perfect skeleton of an aboriginal buried in the sand in a sitting posture. These remains are at present in your Museum. Neither mahogany nor any traces of the supposed wreck were obtained. There will be great difficulty in locating the exact spot, as Captain Mills gave the bearings by stating, if I remember rightly, that the old wreck was in a line with the church near Tower Hill. When trying to fix the probable situation the difficulty was increased on account of the other angle of direction being missing. If this required angle could be obtained, the chances of discovery would be infinitely greater as the coastline has altered considerably, and those who profess to have seen the ancient wreck vary widely in their opinion concerning the precise locality.

Should the wreck be located no one will be more delighted than I, and I trust those now interested will be more successful than we were.

Thanking you in anticipation

Yours etc.,
J. LINDSAY

Ballarat, 27th July, 1910