H.—21.

Channel, and when she got inside I took the signal down. By this time the N.E. wind had died away, and a light S.W. wind had sprung up. The "Sarah Pile" then steered for the bar, at which time the bar was very smooth, which induced me to put up signal to take the Fanny Channel. The "Maud Graham" then weighed anchor and followed the "Sarah Pile," which vessel shortly afterwards took the ground. I then put up the north semaphore arm to keep the "Maud Graham" clear of the "Sarah Pile," being under the impression that the water was deeper northward of the "Sarah Pile;" but the "Maud Graham" also took the ground; yet neither of the vessels remained so over half an hour, and while they were aground they appeared as quiet as if they were at anchor. I have, &c.,

Captain T. Wing, Harbourmaster, Manukau.

R. J. PALTRIDGE, Signalman.

By Authority: George Didsbury, Government Printer, Wellington.—1884.