Barn, Mass.

4, Feb., 1885

Dear Professor Shaler,

Our report has been printed as a pub. doc., but only one copy struck off for the legislature. I have gotten a few and will send you a copy of Mr. Dyer's, however, will put in an order for some more for our use and I have asked the late Dyer to have them in a little better type and paper, with cover.

I hope the report was satisfactory to you. If I had not been delayed so long in Washington I should have been able to write you letter like it one before the first copy was made.

One bill for office rent & necessary furniture is about through the
formalities of the legislature. This office puts it with the State Home Commission and quite out of our appropriation.

I have just been informed today we shall come off again on Monday and move into our new quarters, 9 Beulah St. Space. After we are settled well it will be well to have a meeting and consider matters generally.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY OFFICE,  
Washington, D. C., 1880.

My dear Shaler:—

I don't want to make too much of the M. V. 
corridor development. But I had occasion to look at 
my report to Them to day and it struck me that 
I did not say much, if anything, in my notes to you 
of the physical tidal phenomenon. You understand 
it that the new inlet creates one of the most 
remarkable tidal waterways on our entire Atlantic 
coast, occurring where the ocean levels on either side of it are 
at such different planes. The tidal current through 
the opening is furious. I am sorry I could not get 
the precise velocity, but it has disturbed the clams 
and shellfish beds within the bay and scourcd out the 
soft mud deposits of the last 17 years from along the point and 
among the channels of Edgartown. I tried to ascertain if 
the current was stronger now than with the opening of 1856 
but from best authority I think it is about the same. 
In 1856 it broke away a whale ship from her moorings 
at the upper wharf and carried her outward, outward, 
till her anchors one at a time — to this current, furthermore. 
The depth of water into Edgartown harbor from Cape Poge away
is due— but for its direction point. The N.E. channel would be entitled to no more than the reservoir capacity from the Colony Bay— 5 or 6 ft. at low water—

The other point — the evidence of this line between the S.E. corner of Colony Bay as the S.W. corner of Great Money Pond I think will speak an average of 400 feet in 40 years — equal to 10 feet per year — at this ratio what was the line of beach when Plymouth Colony people came to Edgartown in 1630? — 250 years before its present alignment?