

taking the County of Sounds as a whole, and looking forward to the establishment of the fishing industry. The bay in front is a perfectly safe harbour in all weathers, being even now frequently resorted to for shelter by coasters and vessels bound for the Australian ports. There would be no difficulty in connecting Anakoa by a road with the head of the Kenepuru Reach, thus bringing the place within easy distance of Picton. Were this done I am satisfied it would become a centre for the fishing-grounds as far as the French Pass and D'Urville Island.

In common with all the large blocks throughout the district the Anakoa land varies very much in quality. At the place recommended for a township the terrace is stony, but a little farther towards the head of the bay these stones disappear from the surface. Generally the low land of the valley is very good and well drained. Owing to the narrowness and length of the bay, I do not think the place will suffer during gales from the salt spray, which in this part of the Sound is often found injurious.

*Orchard Bay, Forsyth Island.*—I selected this site as affording a good shelter or place of refuge from the north-west wind, which is one of the prevailing winds, and blows with great violence. The land here is of a terrace-like nature, but poor and stony. The beach, covered with large rough stones, would be unsafe for boats during southerly weather. There is plenty of firewood on the ground, and water can easily be procured by sinking, though it is not always to be found on the surface. The map will show the portion I recommend for reservation.

*Shelter Cove, Forsyth Bay.*—This little bay has so long and frequently been resorted to as a camping-place by fishermen and persons travelling in the Sound that I have given it the name mentioned. It is not marked either on the district map or chart of the Sound. From a small wooded valley or gully at the back a good stream of fresh water runs on to the beach, which is of fine gravel, perfectly safe to run boats on to. I am informed by persons who have frequently visited this bay that even during the north-west gales, to which it is open, no sea of any consequence runs in. I would recommend the reservation of the whole of the little valley following the watershed.

*Port Gore.*—This inlet, as a fish-producing locality, is exactly similar to the seaward portion of the Pelorus Sound. In it I have selected one block of land for reservation, viz., Melville Cove, at the extreme south-east corner of the inlet.

*Melville Cove.*—The small, well-timbered, and well-watered valley which drains into the bay opposite the opening of the cove would make a good site either for a curing establishment or for the residence of persons engaged in fishing. The level land of the valley is mostly stony, and has been at one time under cultivation, though now grown up with scrub. The soil on the hillsides is good, large marketable timber growing to a great elevation. The beach at the head of the bay is a coarse gravel, well adapted for landing boats on; it would, however, be subject to a heavy sea during easterly weather. During such weather, however, boats could always run into the northern arm of the cove with safety. Melville Cove could easily be connected by road with Anakoa Valley.

#### QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND.

Here, as in the Pelorus, it is in the outward or seaward portion that any large supply of fish will be obtained; but there is in the inner part of Queen Charlotte Sound a greater abundance of fish than in the corresponding portion of the Pelorus, which I attribute to the absence of large rivers like the Pelorus and Kaituna. To the inner portion of the Sound the Town of Picton forms a natural centre of operation; and it is even probable that it may become a central station for the whole Sound, the advantages of postal, telegraph, and steam communication outweighing the cost of transporting the fish from the seaward portion. I have selected two blocks of land for reservation: one at Arrowsmith Bay, Tory Channel, the other in Resolution Inlet. I do not consider either of them suitable sites for curing establishments, but both of them are well situated and adapted for the homes of persons engaged in fishing.

*Arrowsmith Bay.*—The land selected along the western shore of the bay from Section No. 87 to the outer point is a hillside broken into a number of small wooded gullies, from which streams of water flow. Though on a slope, it is not too steep for building purposes, and some of it might be converted into gardens lying well to the sun. The beach in front is safe for boats during all weather, the island at the mouth of the bay, and the bank in the centre, shown on the chart, preventing the sea from rising, however strong the wind. This is a good central situation for fishing in Tory Channel or outside the heads.

*Resolution Bay.*—For the large fish obtainable about the mouth of the Sound this inlet is excellently situated. At the mouth of the inlet is a good hapuka-ground, and from that down in the direction of Jackson's Head and Long Island. These—moki and other large fish—are in great abundance. The land selected by me, at the extreme head of the inlet, is a small, well-wooded valley, containing two good streams of water. The land is of a terrace-like nature, well adapted for a small village site. Though the beach is rather exposed to the southerly winds, I do not think there would ever be any danger for boats landing there.

#### PORT UNDERWOOD.

As a fishing-ground this inlet differs much from either of the Sounds. The snapper, plentiful in the Pelorus, but very scarce in Queen Charlotte Sound, is entirely wanting here, as are also kahawai and barricouta; the haturi being the most plentiful fish, frequenting the harbour in immense shoals. Hapuka are also abundant, and moki fairly plentiful. The crayfish, unknown in the Pelorus, and scarce in Queen Charlotte Sound, is plentiful here.

After careful inquiries, and visiting several bays, I concluded that none of the land now in the hands of the Government is worth reserving for fishing purposes. Every portion of level land on which permanent streams of water exist has passed into private hands. Ocean Bay would have