

# **“On the Edge: Coastlines of Britain”**

**Rob Duck**



**Severn Estuary Forum, Gloucester: 22 September 2016**



Golant, Cornwall



# Cockwood Harbour, Devon (Exe Estuary)







Abergele,  
North Wales

“The greatest difficulty railway interests have to contend with in Scotland is the unreasonable demands, - nay, the avaricious cupidity of the owners of the soil. The most sterile patch of the Ochills (sic), the bleakest moor in Nithsdale, the craggiest acre within the shade of the Grampians, touch it by a railway, and you will hear of land valued at £3 per acre that never yielded as much grass as would suffice for a week’s summer keep to a Shetland pony.”

*Herapath's Railway and Commercial Journal, 22  
January, 1848*



# Severn Estuary



**GLOUCESTERSHIRE.** — Large numbers of workmen were yesterday engaged in repairing the Great Western Railway track at Woolaston, near Lydney, which was damaged by the Severn floods. At Aylburton the railway line, although a mile distant from the river, was washed and injured by the tide, and several cattle were carried away. In the Blakeney district of Gloucestershire miles of land are under water. At Awre the river embankments were washed away, and great damage done. At Newnham the tide was of unprecedented height, and on the opposite side of the Severn the country was flooded to Arlingham Parish Church, a mile distant.

**SOMERSETSHIRE.** — The high tide on Wednesday night on the North Somerset coast swept away about a mile of the Minehead branch of the Great Western Railway.

*Daily News (London), Friday 19 October, 1883*

# GREAT GALE AND FLOODS.

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HIGH TIDE AND WIND  
PLAY HAVOC.

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DESTRUCTION ALONG THE  
WELSH COAST.

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CARDIFF SEA WALL BROKEN  
THROUGH.

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MAN DROWNED AT NEWPORT

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LLANELLY EMBANKMENT  
DAMAGED.

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RAILWAY LINES SWEEPED AND  
TRAFFIC STOPPED.

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HOUSES FLOODED AND  
LANDS SUBMERGED.

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*Western Mail, Monday  
13 February, 1899*



## DAMAGE ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

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### PORTION OF LINE BETWEEN WOOLASTON AND LYDNEY SWEEP AWAY.

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A considerable portion of the Great Western Railway between Woolaston and Lydney Stations was swept away by the high tide in the Severn, along the side of which the line is laid, and the service between London and South Wales via Gloucester, was, consequently, suspended, and the trains diverted through Bristol and the Severn Tunnel. Short special trains were put on between Lydney and Gloucester, and also between Woolaston and South Wales, so that the inconvenience to passengers was minimised as much as possible.

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### SWANSEA BAY RAILWAY INUNDATED.

The sea overflowed the banks of the Swansea Bay Railway near Baglan, and traffic was suspended there.

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## LLANELLY SEA WALL BROKEN.

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### MILES OF FIELDS AND RAILWAY SUBMERGED.

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### SUNDAY TRAINS BLOCKED.

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An incursion of the high spring tide, accompanied by a south-westerly gale, was experienced at Llanelly on Saturday night, when, between seven and eight o'clock, the sea washed over the sea wall protecting the Great Western Railway about a mile below the station. Trains on the up and down lines were blocked and kept waiting for fully an hour, until at length the tide receded, leaving the wall and metals intact. Mischief was, however, done by Sunday morning's tide, and the biggest sufferers in this respect will, doubtless, be the Great Western Railway Company. About 6.15 a furious wind was blowing, and it was just at this time that the sea embankment broke in two distinct places, and the water rushed through the gaps with terrific fury. In a very short time the fields, farms, and railway for miles was under water, and in some places the depth was fully ten feet, if not more. Two miles of the line on either side of Llandilo Junction signal-box, near Llanelly, was submerged by a foot of water, and the signal-box was surrounded. Considerable damage was done to the ballast, the permanent way being torn up and sleepers lying about in all directions.

# Culross, Fife (Firth of Forth)





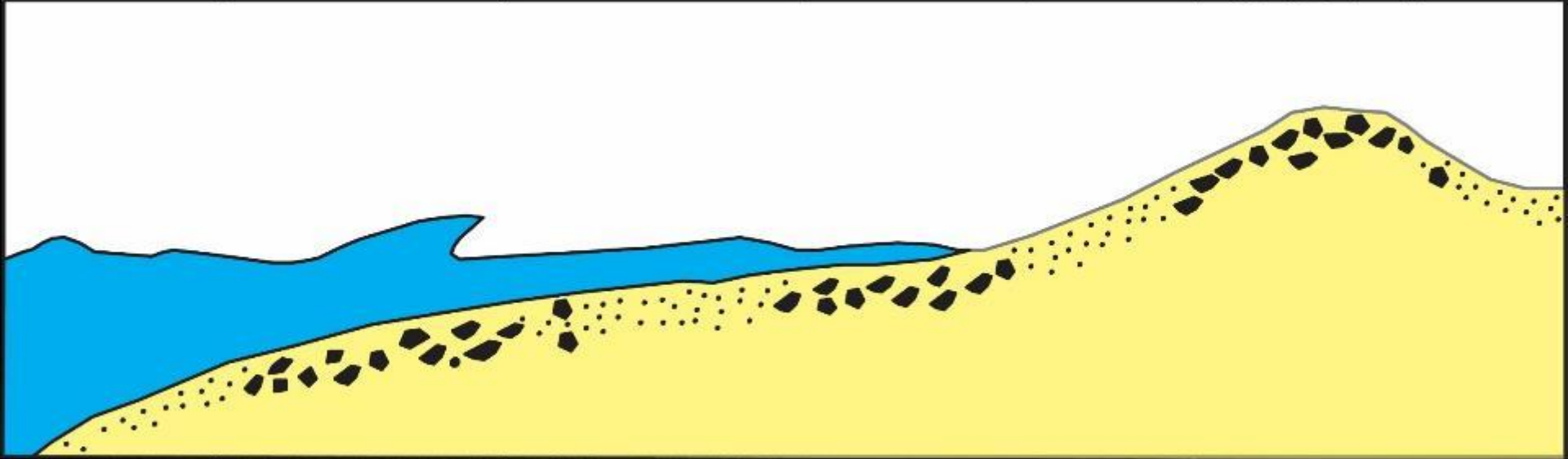




Bulverhythe, Sussex

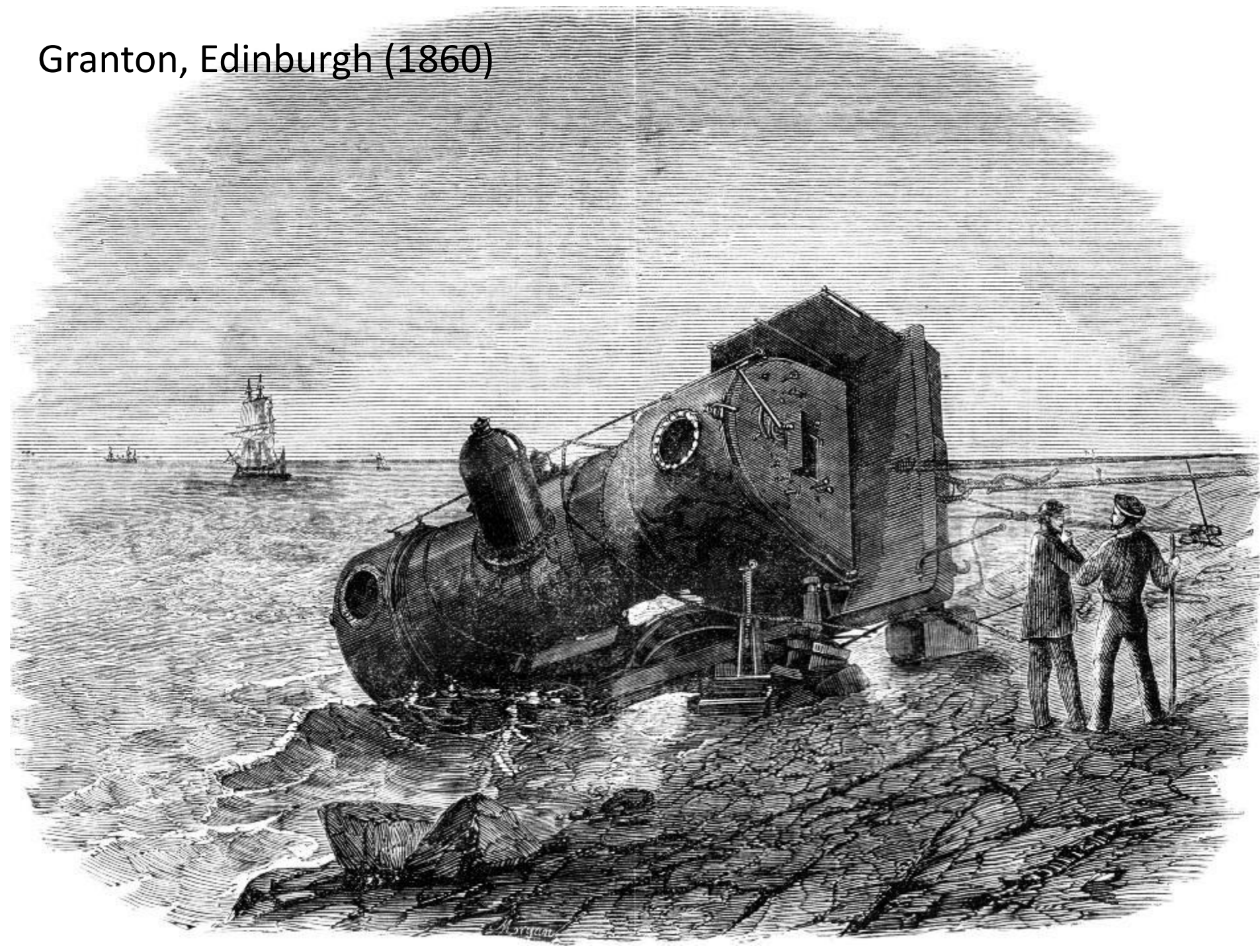


Offshore	Breaker	Surf	Transition	Swash	Berm crest	Swale
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Fine	Coarse	Fine	Coarse	Fine	Coarse	Fine
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Granton, Edinburgh (1860)



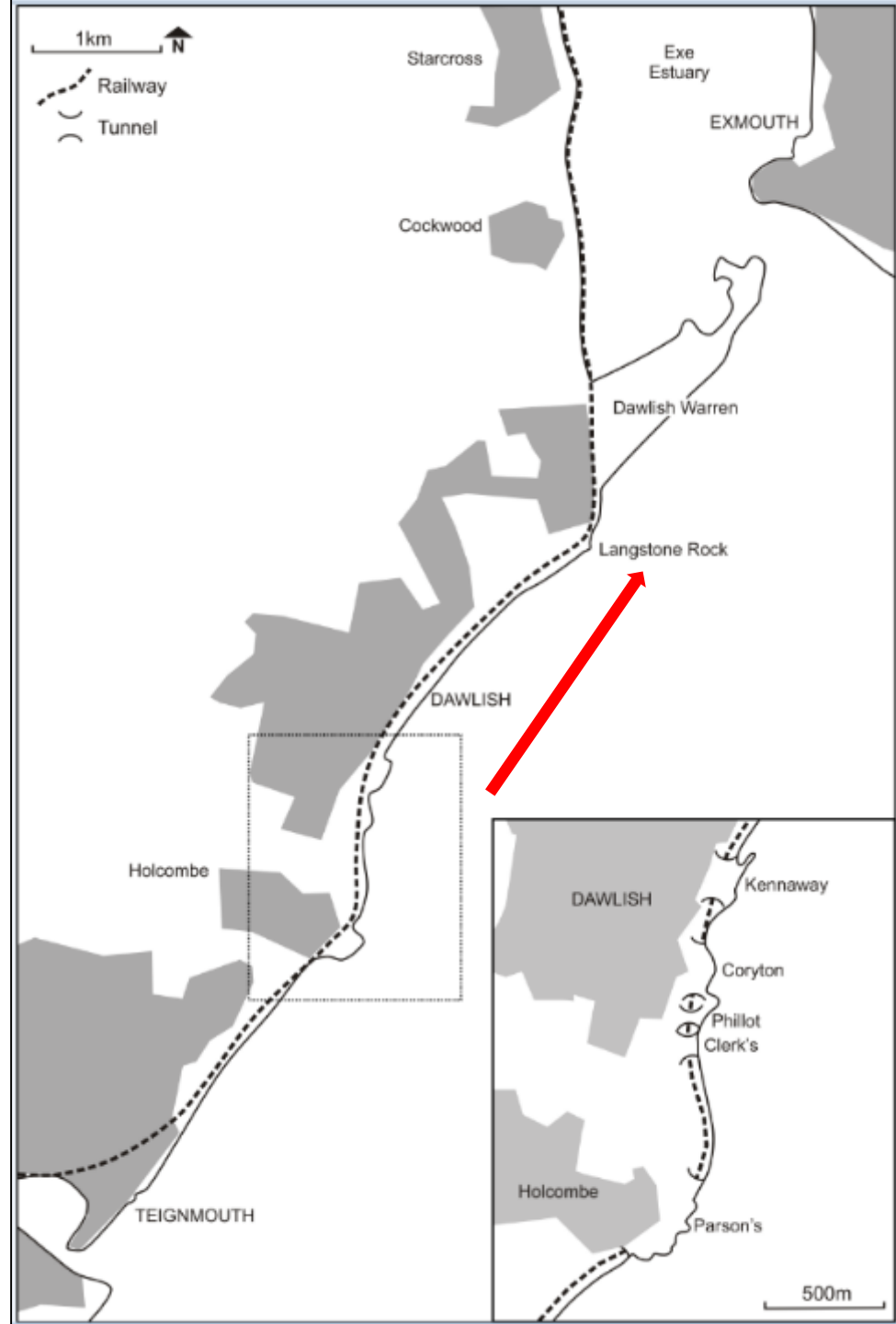
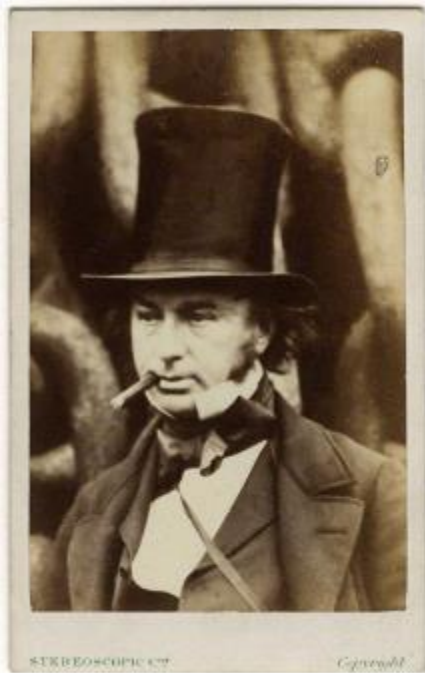


# Friog (1883): Cambrian Coast Line

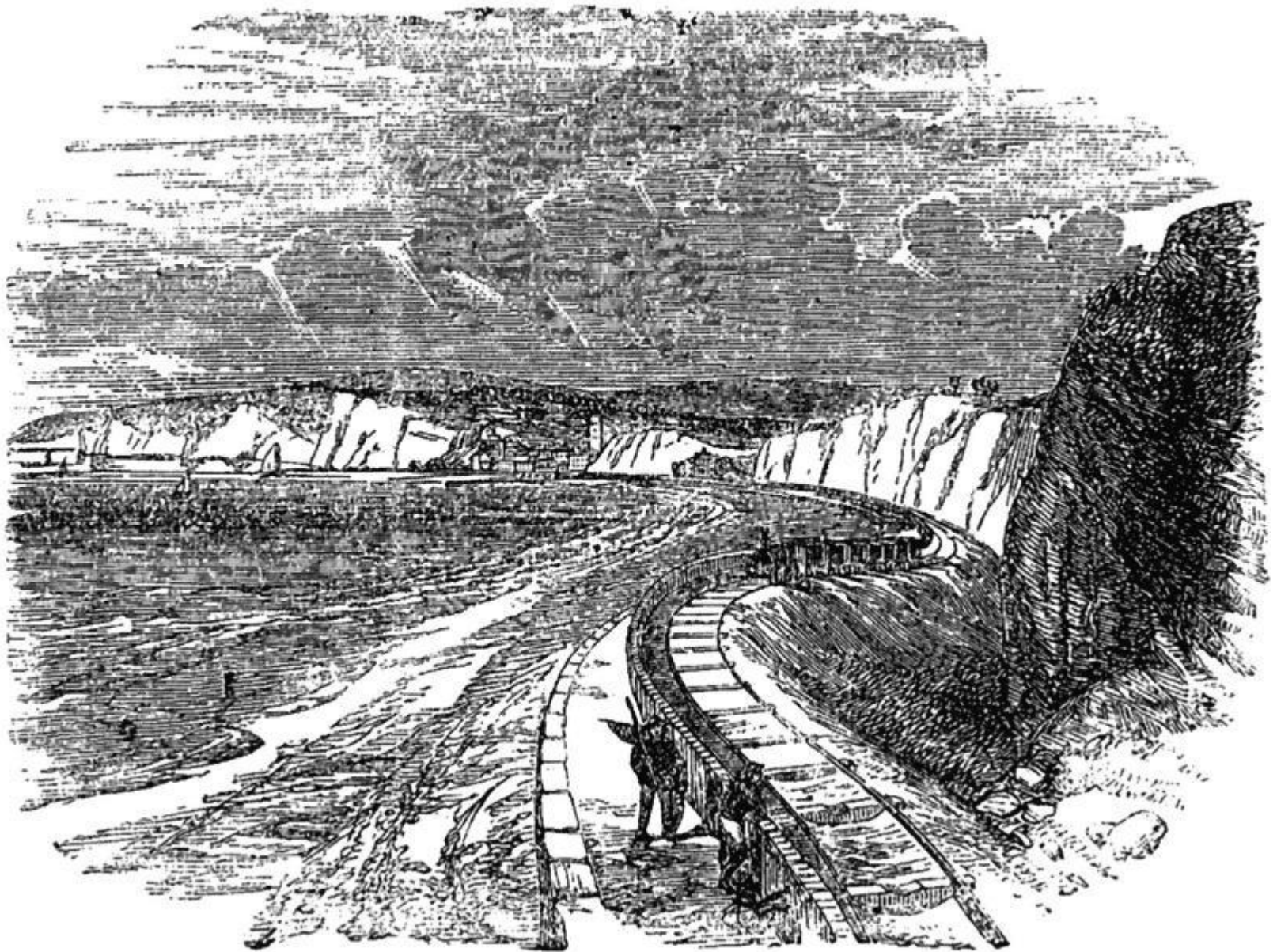




# Dawlish – South Devon Railway



## Dawlish, 1864















1855







Folkestone, Kent

500 m

N





Folkestone Warren, 1915  
Folkestone to Dover Line





## Book your tickets



Tickets

Season tickets

Leaving from...

Going to...

Travel via ▾

Station name...

19/08/2016



Depart after ▾

17 ▾

30 ▾



Single

Return



Passengers & railcards

Get times & tickets

## Line closed between Folkestone and Dover

Timelapse footage of work underway to rebuild the railway between Dover and Folke... ➔



#DoverSeaWall



# Flimby, Cumbrian Coast Line





Parton





# Balmossie, Dundee

