from which it has been separated merely by the action of the water upon the softer soil around it.

As early as 200 years ago its peculiarly advantageous position was recognized by the land company of London, and a fort was there and then erected on it.

A century later, in 1783, the island was annexed to the State of Pennsylvania, along with Man Island, Hog Island and Little Tinicum. In 1848 the city of Philadelphia purchased it for a sum of $510,000 and presented it to the United States Government for the purpose of a navy yard. Its present condition, in view of the maintenance of the gift and in comparison with the development of Philadelphia since that period, is a matter of congratulation for Philadelphians.

Why is it called "League" Island? They say on account of its length, in