

4. The adoption of some of the more modern appliances for disinfection, as for example, a steam disinfector for rags, textile fabrics, etc., or the methods employed at the Mississippi quarantine of the Louisiana State Board of Health.

5. The vaccinal protection of the immigrants should be enforced.

6. The addition of another medical officer to the staff of the station.

7. Should it be impracticable to thoroughly disinfect a vessel or cargo, wharfage facilities, in addition to those existing at present, should be provided for vessels of the heaviest draft that navigate the St. Lawrence.

The modifications herein briefly indicated, with the facilities already possessed and the natural advantages fully utilized, would, to a great extent, remove the apprehension of cholera finding its way into the country through the St. Lawrence, and would materially obviate the necessity of restrictions over traffic and travel between the Dominion and the United States. Sweeping and onerous requirements, entailing unnecessary expense and delay—especially if such expense and delay be due to inadequate equipment and appliances—defeat the very object of quarantine and provoke avoidable hostility and opposition, or lead to neglect and indifference. In order to make a quarantine effective as a safeguard of the public health, nothing should be required which is not clearly necessary; the facilities and regulations should be such as to insure a minimum of interference and inconvenience consistent with the end; and every necessary requirement should be rigidly continuously and impartially enforced.

The only diseases requiring attention at the present time are cholera and small-pox. Up to the time of my visit the vaccinal protection of immigrants was not enforced, and small-pox had repeatedly been introduced into Illinois and the Northwest by unvaccinated immigrants coming through the Dominion. Since my inspection, no unprotected immigrant is allowed to land, and under the present regulations the risk of imported small-pox contagion, via the St. Lawrence, is very materially reduced. A steam yacht has also been ordered to take the place of the yacht for boarding vessels at Grosse Isle. Upon this will be placed the modern appliances for disinfection above indicated.

During my inspection I was urged to make my criticisms and suggestions direct to the quarantine officer, and subsequently the Dominion government invited me to communicate the same to them.

In addition to the quarantine on the St. Lawrence there are two other quarantine stations maintained by the Dominion government—one on Partridge island, for the port of St. Johns, N. B., and one on Lawlor's island, for the port of Halifax. These are subject to the same enactments as apply to the Dominion generally.

Dr. W. W. Wickwire, Inspecting Physician for the port of Halifax, writes me, under date November 20th, "the quarantine station is on an island in the harbor of Halifax, about three and a half miles from the city. This island is owned by the Dominion government, and is used entirely as a quarantine station—the only persons living there permanently are the steward and his family. The island (Lawlor's) has an area of about 150 acres. There are now hospital buildings affording accommodations for about 100 persons, but additional buildings could easily and rapidly be constructed.

The quarantine anchorage, where inspection takes place, is about three-quarters of a mile from the city. Pilots are required to bring all vessels into this anchorage ground if there be any disease whatever on board, and there remain until inspected."

Maine:

The Navy Department has been in the habit of sending yellow-fever infected vessels to the Navy Yard at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, but owing to protests by the citizens, of that city, against such action, Dr. F. M. Gunnell, Surgeon-General, under authority of the Secretary of the Navy, in 1884, established a refuge station on Widow's Island, in Penobscott Bay.

A temporary hospital and quarters for officers have been built, and an artesian well bored, from which an abundant supply of good water has been obtained at the depth of sixty feet. "The island is convenient of access from the sea, has excellent anchorage protected from storm winds, and affords a safe and desirable refuge for infected vessels coming north from the West Indies or Gulf of Mexico." The Surgeon-General recommends