

Delaware:

Quarantine along the Delaware coast is limited to the local region of the coasting trade. There is a government quarantine station at the Delaware River, described in connection with the Pennsylvania quarantine system.

Maryland:

On the 4th of August, accompanied by Dr. James A. Steuart, Health Commissioner, I made an inspection of the quarantine establishment at the port of Baltimore. This is situated at Little Hawkins or Landing Point, about seven miles from the city, on the Patapsco river. The grounds belonging to the station embrace about twenty-five acres, surrounded by improved farms. There is a new and well arranged hospital building with accommodations for forty patients. Also a residence for the physician in charge, boatmen's house, stables, etc., all in good condition and neatly kept. The station is connected by telephone with the city. There is no provision for the care of those detained for observation after exposure upon an infected vessel. The hospital facilities may be increased by the use of tents in suitable weather, and in case of emergency the old quarantine establishment now used as a small-pox hospital might be utilized.

The quarantine season extends from May 1 to October 31, and during this period an assistant resident physician is on duty at the station. All foreign vessels bringing passengers are required to stop for examination throughout the year. No attention is paid to the vaccinal protection of immigrants, unless small-pox is discovered on a vessel, and owing to this neglect repeated introductions of the disease into the interior have occurred through this port. Vessels are boarded in the harbor from a steam tug kept in constant readiness for that purpose. The depth of water at the quarantine anchorage is about twenty-two feet at low tide, and there is plenty of room to anchor vessels out of the track of commerce. There are no facilities as yet provided for the discharge and disinfection of cargo from an infected vessel, but additional facilities and proper appliances for disinfection are contemplated.

As a further precaution in the present emergency, I suggested the advisability of requiring vessels to submit to inspection by the government service at Capo Charles.

Virginia:

Dr. James D. Galt, the Quarantine Medical Officer of the Elizabeth river district, has furnished the following from Norfolk, under date October 20, 1885:

"In reply to your inquiries as made in letter No. 20,519, I would briefly state that the quarantine facilities of this port are ample. Situated on the Elizabeth river, itself an estuary of Hampton Roads, there is all the sea room necessary for an efficient quarantine. The quarantine station is abreast of Carey Island, five miles below the city, where the river rapidly widens into Hampton Roads. Vessels are invariably examined at the station, and are absolutely prohibited from coming up until inspected by the quarantine officers.

"There is nothing special about our method of disinfecting vessels, cargoes and the crew. The fumes of burning sulphur are usually employed. Sometimes, in the case of large sized vessels, chlorine, generated by the action of sulphuric acid upon common salt, is also employed below the water line. Vessels in quarantine are anchored at a safe distance outside the main ship channel.

"So far I have had no cholera-infected vessels to inspect. Should any such arrive, I would treat them on the same general principles of disinfection as other vessels, giving special attention to the thorough disinfection, or destruction, if necessary, of all clothing, bedding, rags, or any other materials which might act as fomites for the infection."

In response to a subsequent inquiry, asking what assistance or protection has been afforded by the quarantine or inspection maintained by the National Government through the Marine Hospital and Revenue Marine services, Dr. Galt writes that "while it does not relieve me from responsibility as the local quarantine officer, it is undoubtedly an additional protection to this city, and I would compare it in military phrase to a second line of entrenchments around us. This service is, as you know, maintained only during the warmer months, and was raised on the 10th inst. (Nov.) for the winter, so that I am now without its assistance."

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