

APPENDIX N.

QUARANTINE AT SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

1. LETTER OF F. A. BEE, CHINESE CONSUL, ON THE CASE OF THE ALTONOWER.
2. EXTRACT FROM PETALUMA ARGUS.
3. EXTRACT FROM BERKELEY BEACON.
4. REPORT ON QUARANTINE AT SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
5. LETTER FROM COMMITTEE OF BOARD OF HEALTH, SAN FRANCISCO.

IMPERIAL CHINESE CONSULATE-GENERAL,
San Francisco, June 6, 1882.

Dr. T. J. TURNER, U. S. N.,
Secretary National Board of Health, Washington, D. C.:

SIR: Prompted by the dictates of humanity, as well as believing it my duty as the representative of the Imperial Government of China, I desire to call the attention of the National Board of Health to the following facts in connection with the so-called quarantine arrangements of this port.

There arrived here from the port of Hong-Kong, China, on the 6th of May last, an English steamship named the Altonower, having on board over 800 Chinese passengers. Before examination it was found that there was *one case* of small-pox on board.

Without entering into details the ship was put in quarantine and the sick man removed to the pest-house, as neither the State nor local government has provided facilities for the care of immigrants arriving here with infectious and contagious diseases among them, not even a shed on shore, in fact nothing has been done by the health authorities in the way of providing quarantine facilities for the protection and preservation of the public health. The custom now in vogue is, when a ship arrives with infectious disease on board the consignees are informed that they must take charge and provide for them on board. For instance, the Altonower has been in quarantine (so called) for thirty days with 800 human beings shut up within her iron walls, a mere freight vessel, illy adapted for passenger traffic, with no ports for ventilation; it can be imagined in what an inhuman and horrible situation these poor, friendless strangers are placed, crowded into this veritable "lazar" vessel.

To the credit of the consignees (one of the oldest and most respectable firms, Macondray & Co.), it can be said they have done everything in their power to alleviate this condition of things. They have offered to transfer the passengers to an old ferry-boat where they could be properly cared for, but all overtures have been neglected by the board of health of this city, notwithstanding Macondray & Co. offered to give bonds for the support and care of the Chinese passengers. It is with regret I make the assertion, but every sane person resident in this city and State is fully convinced that were these 800 immigrants Europeans this outrage would never have been tolerated, but to the contrary they would have been provided for in a very different manner, and that promptly. That this case has no parallel or precedent within the confines of this country is true. There is no one brave enough to raise a voice in denunciation, not even those "who preach Christ and Him crucified," dare utter a word of protest from the pulpit. The only exceptions are the inclosed slips from country papers, which forcibly state the facts.

In thus briefly calling the attention of the National Board of Health to this matter, I do so under the belief that your functions extend over the whole country and that it is a part of your duty to protect the public health whenever it is necessary. If there is a