

seaport in the United States that demands the attention of your board it is the port of San Francisco, that proper conveniences be provided for the treatment of contagious diseases, and that those affected may be treated in a humane manner becoming to a Christian nation and people. Trusting that in thus calling your attention to this matter your honorable board may take such action as seems just and proper, I have the honor to be with much respect,

Your obedient servant,

F. A. BEE,
Chinese Consul.

[From the Petaluma Argus.]

A PEST-STRICKEN SHIP.—The British ship *Altonower* reached San Francisco a fortnight since with about nine hundred Chinese passengers. As there was a case of small-pox on board, the vessel was quarantined.

The disease has spread among the passengers, and some 40 afflicted with the loathsome disease were transferred from the vessel to the pest-house in San Francisco.

The health officers of that city have, however, refused to allow any more of the pest-stricken Chinamen to leave the ship. As a consequence, the *Altonower* is now literally a floating pest-house, there being not less than 50 cases of small-pox on board at the present time, and new cases developing daily. This condition of affairs ought not to exist in the principal harbor of any civilized country. There are several islands in the *San Francisco Bay* where passengers from pest-stricken vessels could be humanely provided for without any danger of contagion to the city. If an immigrant ship in New York Harbor was to be placed in the pitiable condition of the *Altonower* it would cause a hiss and hoot the world over. That these unfortunates on this pest-stricken ship are Chinamen in no wise mitigates or excuses their being kept huddled together on ship-board to die like brutes. If a vessel was to reach San Francisco laden with Sonoma County calves in as deplorable and suffering condition as are the passengers of the *Altonower*, the duties of that city would make swift haste to demand that the Society to Prevent Cruelty to Animals should take prompt action in the matter.

The *Alta* did, on Tuesday, enter a feeble protest against the iniquity, and for its temerity was jeered by a contemporary in this wise: "Our weak but tender-hearted contemporary, the *Alta*, would land the coolies from the *Altonower* at some improvised quarantine grounds on Goat or Angel Islands." Weak but tenderhearted! Is it any source of pleasure or gratulation to the press of that city that these unfortunates, cooped up on the *Altonower*, are liable to be decimated by a pestilence the breath of which they are as powerless to escape as is the bullock to elude the blade of the slaughterer? In this matter they are pandering to a morbid and unworthy sentiment which has no substantial root deep down in the nobler attributes of humanity.

[From the Bulletin June 6.]

THE QUARANTINED ALTONOWER.—Two new cases of small-pox were discovered yesterday morning on board the *Altonower*, both Chinamen. They were towed in a boat to the Twenty-sixth street hospital by the quarantine launch, Governor Perkins. The *Altonower* has been in quarantine thirty-one days, at a cost of fully \$400 a day, and she must remain in quarantine at least thirty days more.

[From the Beacon, Berkeley.]

MERCY TO THE PLAGUE-STRICKEN.—What a strange thing is sympathy; the blow that brings tears to our eyes when it lights upon a friend brings only smiles when it falls upon an enemy. Two vessels are opposite our shore. They are laden with men suffering from the most loathsome disease, and yet not a line of compassion is written. Two vessels crowded with suffering humanity—foul, impure, abominable humanity, if you will, but still humanity. And yet not a word of pity is heard. We are, it is needless to say, opposed to the Chinese—bitterly, irrevocably opposed. But these men have come to California—as under the existing law they had a right to do—and our honor demands that we should not see them suffer needlessly; our honor demands that not another single ache should be laid to our account. Think of the torture and despair of those condemned to live in the midst of contagion and forbidden to fly from infection.

Picture the loathsomeness of the dark holds of the ship. Think of the aching heart and limb. Their head throbs as wildly as ours; the blood burns as fiercely in Mongolian as in Caucasian veins. If we do not respect these men, in heaven's name let us respect their misery. For the sake of humanity, for the sake of the honor of white men, let something be done, and be done quickly. Let a place be found. Let the undefiled be separated from the plague-stricken. Let them be placed where everything they touch may not convey to them disease and pain and agony; where every breath they breathe may not come to them laden with the seeds of death.

Hon. CHAS. J. FOLGER,
Secretary of the Treasury

SIR: In obedience to order of the National Board of Health, viz. Col. Charles Sutherland, United States Marine Hospital, assembled as a commission, on to investigate the existing quarantine station, should be considered. The commission was then surgeon, United States Army, Navy, as secretary.

After numerous sessions, a before the commission, and a proper quarantine site, we b

1st. The actual condition

The quarantine is established health created by the same accordance with the principles board States. A compliance lack of appropriations, and a antine Regulations for the P ment of suitable hospitals, w Meares, M. D., and other necessarily of no force, as these circumstances it has b local hospitals under the con removed to steamers, or hull tion; all expenses to be bor

2d. To determine what m the importation of contagio

The following arrangements antine establishment, floatir shore, (1) a boarding station for the sick with the usual at of the well; (4) building for sonal apparel.

If a floating quarantine, tl The quarantine regulations (small-pox, typhus or ship-i seems to be practically redu steamers and sailing vessels of China. Cholera may, hov Asiatic source, through vesse and yellow-fever have been Therefore, the quarantine r list, and the same preventiv

In reference to vessels fror vent the introduction of con proved June 2, 1879, be rig to Chinese ports, and that or an honest medical examinati

3d. The consideration of a a quarantine station be deen

The commission deems a q cessity at this port, and with made a careful inspection of

The following points were noted.

(1.) *Point Diablo.*—Shores the Golden Gate so as to feel winter storms.

(2.) *Lime Point.*—Shore w