

STRICT QUARANTINE.

President of the Board of Health on the Alaska.

ARGUMENT FOR THE CABIN PASSENGERS.

Simpson and Colonel Bee in Favor of Allowing the Chinese to Go to British Columbia.

The Board of Health held a special meeting last night. Doctors Simpson, Gibbons and Murphy were present.

A communication from the Japanese Consul was received, which stated that there were eight Japanese second-class passengers on the *Alaska* who had not been vaccinated, and had had the smallpox, and had been vaccinated without effect, and were anxious to proceed East on business, and were asked to be relieved from quarantine.

The quarantine officer said that the Japanese and the Chinese passengers, been removed to the *Alaska*, but kept apart from the Chinese. So far no cases of smallpox had occurred in the forward steerage, where the Japanese are quartered. They have rooms on the upper deck. The difficulty on the *Alaska* was that the cases could not be discovered, but now, on the *Alaska*, when the doctor finds one of their number sick they report the case at once to the doctor. There were four steamer of the United States ships, *Albatross* and *Richmond* in the forward steerage with the Japanese, and they are equally anxious to escape from quarantine. Included in the Japanese, sailor and others classified as "steerage passengers," there were several of the class on the *Alaska*.

Dr. Murphy opposed any relaxation of the quarantine on the *Alaska*, and Dr. Lawler was anxious to maintain it with the rigidity that has been observed.

THE CABIN PASSENGERS' PLEA.

W. F. Waddell appeared to plead for the release of the cabin passengers, some of whom were engaged in their business by the delay, and all of whom are very restive. He did not apprehend any danger from the release of the cabin passengers, and thought that as the majority of the passengers would leave the ship immediately that no injury to the community could result.

Dr. Gibbons and Murphy objected to jeopardizing the health of the community because a few cabin passengers are restive. "Cabin passengers," said Dr. Murphy, "are always restive under such circumstances, and under the conditions are as reported by the quarantine officer I think it would be unsafe to allow them to come ashore."

A WHITE MAN SICK.

In answer to Dr. Simpson the Quarantine Officer stated that one of the quartermasters, who was quartered in the forward part of the ship, was taken sick yesterday. To-day his case was at 102, and while being examined by Dr. Lawler he fainted away. The case was rather suspicious, though it was first thought that the man had inhaled some chlorine gas existing in the fumigation of the ship.

Dr. Murphy said that while one of the cases sick it would be unsafe to release the passengers.

Dr. Waddell said that the crew and the passengers did not mingle.

Dr. Murphy said that the disease was sometimes communicated in books and coins in the berths. Such being the case, why should there not be danger where a sailor mingled with his officers and these officers mingled with the cabin passengers.

Dr. Waddell thought the argument a good one for the doctor, said he, "there is not any danger to the public than here, where the Quarantine Officer and the Quarantine Officer and others come fresh from examining smallpox cases and mingle with the public."

THE HONGKONG AUTHORITIES.

The Board having expressed itself strongly against the conduct of the authorities in Hongkong giving a clean bill of health to a steamer after four cases of smallpox had occurred that vessel, Mr. Waddell said the authorities at Hongkong are very difficult, he said, to detect sickness among the Chinese passengers as they are stowed aboard like a lot of cattle. When they have been mustered forward they are permitted to have their bronies and pipes cleaned, and in this way the four cases had been discovered on the *Aconit* and sent to Hongkong.

Dr. Simpson said that he had been asked if there were not a large number of cases of smallpox in the city, and if the Board were suppressing the fact.

Dr. Murphy said that the press was daily reporting the cases that occurred.

Dr. Simpson stated that only one or two cases were quarantined.

Dr. Murphy said that when there is so much sickness in the hospital, it is better to send any more to the hospital.

ARGUMENT FOR COOLIES FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Dr. Lawler said that Colonel Bee telegraphed him yesterday afternoon to know what arrangements could be made to transfer the Chinese coolies on the *Alaska* to British Columbia to work for Orderly.

Dr. Lawler replied that he would refer the proposition to the Board of Health.

Dr. Simpson expressed the opinion that it would not be a violation of international law to remove the Chinese bag and baggage out of the port. They left one British port bound for another British port, and merely put into San Francisco to change steamers.

Dr. Lawler said that Colonel Bee took the same view of the case, and had stated to him that after consulting the authorities he found nothing to prevent the Chinese from being transferred to a British Columbian port.