

QUARANTINE PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR OF TEXAS.

No. 1.



1884.

To all Whom these Presents may Come :

Be it known, that I, JNO. IRELAND, Governor of the State of Texas, by the authority vested in me by the laws of this State, do hereby declare that Quarantine shall be established and enforced on the coast of Texas on and after the

First Day of May, A. D. 1884,

and that it shall continue until closed by proclamation.

Said quarantine shall apply to all vessels sailing from any port or place infected by a disease that is liable to be carried by said vessels, their passengers, crews, or cargoes, into any port of Texas; and all places south of twenty-five degrees north latitude shall be considered *infected*, unless proof to the contrary be submitted to the Governor, and special exemption granted to some particular place, or places, not infected.

The coast quarantine stations shall be governed by the following Rules:

RULE 1. All vessels arriving at any of the coast stations shall come to anchor and remain until boarded by the officer of the station, and all orders given by said quarantine officer must be obeyed by the commanders of vessels.

RULE 2. The quarantine officer must thoroughly inspect every vessel coming into his port, and ascertain every possible fact pertaining to her sanitary condition.

RULE 3. Vessels from an infected place with clean bills of health, and having had no sickness of an infectious kind en route, must come to anchor beyond the bar, and shall be detained and subjected to daily processes of purification, such as shifting cargo, fumigating, ventilating, pumping out bilge water, and freely using disinfectants, for twenty consecutive days before being allowed to land any of the passengers, crew or cargo.

This rule, however, shall not apply to vessels that have obeyed the special regulations hereafter given for the government of the disinfecting warehouse on Galveston island.

RULE 4. Vessels from badly infected ports, or having at time of arrival sickness of an infectious kind on board, will not be permitted to cross the bar during the season; and in addition to the precautions directed in Rule 3, every article that could possibly have been contaminated, such as beds, bed clothing, wearing apparel, etc., must be destroyed in the presence of the quarantine officer; and when such vessels arrive at any station, the quarantine officer must promptly telegraph the fact to the Governor of the State.

RULE 5. Vessels from infected ports, laden with only such articles as cannot possibly be carriers of infection, such as agricultural implements, machinery, iron, lumber, wagons, bacon, salt, etc., may be admitted upon conditions stipulated beforehand for the admission of such vessels, and proper arrangements have been made therefor, under such directions as may be prescribed by the Governor.

RULE 6. Vessels coming empty from infected ports for the purpose of carrying domestic animals, cattle, horses, sheep, etc., from any Texas port, may be admitted after complete arrangements have been made to secure positive safety, under such restrictions as may be given beforehand, upon application therefor.

RULE 7. The presence of a very elaborate disinfecting warehouse on the east end of Galveston island, gives to that port advantages not possessed by any other on the Texas coast, and while giving greater protection, will admit a modification of the above rules. The quarantine officer at Galveston will accordingly observe and rigidly enforce the following special regulations for the government of the State's disinfecting warehouse on Galveston island.

REGULATION A. All persons employed about the warehouse or station, shall be under the command of the quarantine officer, or his assistant.

B. Officers and employees must have had yellow fever, or have passed through an epidemic of it, satisfactory evidence of which must be given the quarantine officer before any agreement is entered into.

C. No ladies or children, not even the families of officers, will

be permitted to occupy or visit the station during the quarantine season, unless express permission be granted by the Governor.

D. Commanders of vessels or consignees must notify the quarantine officer, if possible, before arrival of vessel, the kind of goods they desire to have treated in the warehouse. Articles, such as bales of hemp, blankets, woolen goods, boxes capable of conveying infectious air, etc., must not be permitted to enter the city, under any conditions, if brought from an infected place.

E. When a vessel arrives along side the quarantine wharf, the quarantine officer or his assistant must personally superintend the transfer of goods to the warehouse, and every step taken in process of disinfection must be done under the ever vigilant eyes of the officer.

F. No one from the vessel will be allowed upon the wharf, except the crew or hands employed in the transfer, and officers in charge of them.

G. Five days detention, with such facilities as we have in the warehouse for disinfecting cargoes, would give greater security than could be obtained under the old regime in sixty days; but, to make assurance doubly sure, the goods shall be detained twenty days, fumigating at night and ventilating through the day; at the expiration of which period lighters may take them into the city.

H. When the transfer from the ship to the warehouse is complete, the vessel must go at once from the wharf, and come to anchor at some point designated by the quarantine officer, east of and not nearer than one mile to the station.

I. After the ENTIRE CARGO is stored in the warehouse, the vessel must remain at anchor TWENTY CONSECUTIVE DAYS, and be visited daily by the quarantine officer; and all measures known to sanitarians for disinfecting and cleansing ships must be enforced, and every man, woman and child on board must be seen by said officer, at every visit.

RULE 8. In all cases where the above general rules or special regulations have been complied with and there still remains a doubt in the mind of the quarantine officer as to the propriety of admitting a vessel, he shall detain said vessel, report his reasons for so doing to the Governor, until all doubt is removed or orders received to admit it.

RULE 9. The quarantine officer of each station must make contracts with subordinates, and provide such things as may be deemed necessary for the service, subject to the approval of the Governor, and promptly report the same to him, with names of persons, their duties, the prices agreed on and cost of things purchased. The officers must approve all accounts considered just, before forwarding them for the approval of the Governor and the State Health officer.

RULE 10. All local Boards of Health, civil authorities, and citizens, are solicited to assist the quarantine officers in the execution of the above rules, and are earnestly requested to notify the Governor of any dereliction of duty by officers or employees, or any other facts that will give greater efficiency to the quarantine service.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and have caused to be impressed hereon the Seal of State, at Austin, Texas, this first day of March, A. D. 1884.

JNO. IRELAND, Governor.

By THE GOVERNOR:

J. W. BAINES, Secretary of State.

