

## Enclosure 2 in No. 117.

NOTES by the IMMIGRATION OFFICER on Ship "Jubilee."

As in the case of the "Wild Duck," the surgeon-superintendent had no opportunity of becoming acquainted with the emigrants prior to their embarking. He informed me that a note was sent him to attend at the Agent-General's Office on a certain day, at half-past 11 a.m.; when he received orders to join the vessel at half-past 4 on the same day, as the emigrants would be on board at that hour. The officers of the Agent-General's Department appear to have had no knowledge of the surgeon or his qualifications to fulfil the duties of a surgeon-superintendent of an emigrant ship, he merely having sent in a formal application for employment. The captain and surgeon-superintendent have both stated to me that the owner of the vessel was not satisfied with the fittings and accommodation provided for the emigrants by Messrs. Shaw, Saville, and Co., and that he ordered extras to be supplied at his own expense, so that his ship should not have a bad name when she arrived in the Colony. As usual, the medicine chest was not supplied by the Apothecaries' Company. (See remarks of the surgeon-superintendent with reference to the medicines supplied.) Messrs. Temple, who so far as I can ascertain are associated in business with Messrs. Shaw, Saville, and Co., supplied the provisions to the ship. The captain states that the greater portion of the biscuit shipped for the emigrants was bad; that it is now lying on board the ship, not being worth the duty he would have to pay if he wished to land it. The bedding material was of a very inferior quality; the surgeon assured me that he had found bones, cinders, and other rubbish amongst it. The selection of the matron in this case does not appear to have been judicious. The surgeon-superintendent in his diary makes the following reference to her: "In fact, her services have not been much." Some of the single girls stated to me that she was not the sort of person they could respect. This, however, could hardly be expected when it is remembered she is only twenty-four years of age. From what I can learn, the medical inspection appears to be of the most cursory character, the emigrants merely marching past Dr. Humphreys and the surgeon-superintendent. This appears to be the case, as a single woman who must have been obviously in the family-way, and a married woman subject to epileptic fits, with decided symptoms of mania, were passed. One of the single women had to be vaccinated during the voyage. A great cause of complaint amongst the immigrants is, that no proper provision is made for their maintenance in London while they are waiting for the vessel to go to sea. Many of them left their homes on receiving notice that the vessel would be ready on a certain day; but when they arrived in London they found they would be detained ten days or a fortnight before they could go on board. During this period they were compelled to maintain themselves, and were obliged to expend the greater portion of, if not all, the little ready money they had intended bringing to the Colony. They were only allowed the sum of 1s. 6d. per diem per statute adult for maintenance during this detention—a sum utterly inadequate to provide decent board and lodging.

An extract from the surgeon-superintendent's journal is appended.  
27th June, 1873.

H. J. H. ELIOTT.

## Sub-Enclosure to Enclosure 2 in No. 117.

EXTRACT from Dr. PURDON'S JOURNAL—Surgeon of Ship "Jubilee."

THE voyage has been most satisfactory, both as regards health and good conduct of passengers, not having a single complaint to make. The captain and officers have been extremely kind, and done everything in their power to promote the comfort and happiness of the emigrants. I should suggest a different scale of medicine and medical comforts, the latter not being nearly sufficient, and the former belonging to the old Pharmacopœia, as many of the medicines are out of date, and in fact not prescribed, and therefore perfectly useless. A much larger quantity of alkalines—bicarbonate of potash, and soda pulv.; more stimulating medicines, such as spirits, alum, aromatic; also large quantities of roots, such as gentian, quassia, calumbæ; castor oil not sufficient; cod liver oil increased; essential oils excluded.

The mushroom ventilators are of service in removing foul air, but are not the least benefit in allowing fresh air, the height and width not being sufficient in heavy weather; their depth is too shallow, and does not permit of their being opened. The matron has acted very well; but allow me to remark that an older person would be preferable, as she would have more authority, and her commands would be better carried out. So ends the voyage.

HY. PURDON, M.D.

## No. 118.

MEMORANDUM No. 147, 1873, for the AGENT-GENERAL, London.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 5th March ultimo, No. 129, 1873, covering the reports of Messrs. Seaton, Farnall, and Barclay, upon their emigration operations for the quarter ended 31st December, 1872, and Mr. Birch's report for the half-year ended the same date. I regret to say that a perusal of these reports fails to satisfy me that any results have accrued at all commensurate with the expense attached to these several agencies. The expectations which I presume the Government of the day entertained when they despatched these special agents to you, must up to the present have fallen very far short of being realized. I observe that these gentlemen hold out a prospect of an increase of emigration when the spring weather sets in. The reports will be printed and presented to Parliament in the ensuing Session.

Immigration Office, Wellington, N.Z., 8th July, 1873.

G. MAURICE O'ROBKE.