

## THE SHIP *MINERVA* IN QUARANTINE, 1838

*By Shelagh Champion, B.A. (Lib.Sc.) and George Champion, Dip.Ed.Admin.*

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1838 the *Minerva*, 380 tons, master Thomas Furlong, arrived at the Heads of Port Jackson. Because there was typhus fever on board, she was not allowed to proceed up the harbour to the town of Sydney. Instead, she was directed to Spring Cove, where she was required to “perform Quarantine”.

Many ships, up to the 1850s and beyond, were required to spend a period of time in quarantine. The case of the *Minerva* is examined in this monograph by the writers in some details. Before doing so, however, we need to look briefly at the history of quarantine in New South Wales, and of non-convict immigration to the colony. It is also interesting to know exactly who the emigrants on the *Minerva* were.

The colony of New South Wales was isolated by a long sea voyage from other parts of the world and some of the diseases which afflicted mankind. There had been scares in the past: in 1804 ships from America were required to perform quarantine because of a “distemper” (ailment) of plague proportions in New York; in 1814 there was fever on the convict ship *Surrey*; while in 1828 there was whooping cough on the *Morley* and small pox on the *Bussorah Merchant*. Until this time Neutral Bay had been used for quarantine purposes. However, the *Sydney Gazette* of 4<sup>th</sup> August 1828 proclaimed, “that the Military Guard and Convicts, lately arrived by the Ship *Bussorah merchant*, should be landed and encamped on a Point of Land, which has been selected in Spring Cove, on the North Side of the Harbour of Port Jackson; and that the Schooner *Alligator* should be stationed at a convenient Place adjoining thereto, as a Hospital Ship.” The *Bussorah Merchant* herself continued in quarantine in Neutral Bay. No doubt the Governor, Ralph Darling, considered North Head, in its remoteness from the town of Sydney, to be an ideal place to confine convicts and small pox. All persons were prohibited from having any communication with, or quitting, the Encampment, Schooner, or Ship, until further orders.

In 1832 news was received that cholera was widespread in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Governor Richard Bourke, with the advice of the legislative Council, passed “An Act for subjecting Vessels coming to New South Wales from certain places to the performance of Quarantine”, based on the Quarantine Act then in force in the United Kingdom. All vessels arriving in Port Jackson from any part of the United Kingdom which had cholera or other infectious disease during the previous thirty days ‘shall be conducted by the pilots to Spring Cove, where they are to remain in quarantine.’ All persons, vessels and boats were strictly prohibited from entering Spring Cove “whilst any ship or vessel is lying there with the yellow flag flying.”<sup>1</sup>

On 21<sup>st</sup> February 1833 a further Proclamation specified “that the whole of the land within a quarter of a mile of high water mark on the Shore of Spring Cove shall be a Station for the Performance of Quarantine.” This was done “with a view to the more speedy Recovery of Persons, and the airing of Goods, Wares or Merchandise” on the shore adjoining the quarantined ship.<sup>2</sup> The boundary marks are shown on Deputy Surveyor General Perry’s map of the Quarantine Ground dated 19 May 1838, and later we are told that the boundary was marked by a series of white stones, five feet high.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Proclamation 14 August 1832, in the *N.S.W. Government Gazette* 15 August 1832.

<sup>2</sup> *N.S.W. Government Gazette* 27 February 1833.

<sup>3</sup> C. Moore, 1855.

The boundaries of the Quarantine Station were extended still further on 15<sup>th</sup> July 1837, to include “the whole of the land on the Northern Head of Port Jackson, bounded on the north, east, south and part of the west by the sea and waters of Port Jackson, and on the remainder of the west by a line from the west side of Spring Cove to Cabbage Tree Beach, forming the western boundary of Cheers’s land.”<sup>4</sup> Until this date Spring Cove, named by Phillip in 1788, had referred only to the small cove now known as Quarantine Beach. By this proclamation, the name Spring Cove was extended to cover a much larger area, and accounts for the current usage of the name.

The female emigrant ship *Lady McNaghten* from Cork, Ireland, with typhus fever on board, was required to perform quarantine in 1837, and it was at this time that four unlined buildings, each measuring forty feet by twelve feet, roofed with shingles, and a small hospital for the sick were erected to receive the emigrants. This accommodation was inadequate, and had to be supplemented by tents. Later in 1838 the hospital was described as a comfortless wooden building, miserable in the extreme in cold and damp weather.

The exact manner in which typhus fever spread was not known. It was known that it made its appearance when people lived in close proximity to others, for instance in the army, in gaol, and on emigrant ships. Efforts to control the disease included the separation of the healthy people from the sick and convalescent, the destruction of clothing, bedding and berths believed to be harbouring the disease, and fumigation of the quarters of the ship where the disease had made its appearance. We now know that typhus fever is spread from one person to another by infected human lice. A louse becomes infected by biting an infected person, and eventually dies, but before it does so it may bite a healthy person, thus passing on the typhus disease, which we now know can be controlled by the eradication of the lice. *Typhus* or *typhus fever* must not be confused with *typhoid fever*. They are different diseases, although they have similar symptoms.

Life in the colony of New South Wales was becoming easier by the 1830s. There was a call for the end of convict transportation, to be replaced by immigration. Instead of the assignment of convict labour, settlers would fill their need for labour by hiring immigrants. In 1835 a bounty system was announced, funded by the sale of Crown land. Those settlers wishing to avail themselves of the bounty were required to submit a list to the Colonial Secretary specifying the number, condition and calling of the persons they proposed to bring out. Bounties payable were £30 for husband and wife under 30 years; £5 per child over twelve months old; £15 per unmarried female between the ages of 15 and 30 under the protection of a married couple; and £10 per unmarried male between the ages of 18 and 25 brought out by a settler who at the same time brought out an equal number of unmarried females accompanying and attached to a family.<sup>5</sup>

Dr John Dunmore Lang was a fiery Presbyterian minister. He had been born in Greenock, Scotland, in 1799. He was educated for the ministry at the University of Glasgow and licensed to preach in 1820. Arriving in Sydney in May 1823, he became the first Presbyterian minister there, although there was already one in Hobart Town.

Lang was eager to promote free (non-convict) migration, and in 1831 he was applauded in Sydney for his patriotism and enterprise in bringing about 140 valuable migrants, Scottish tradesmen and their families, as well as schoolmasters and two more Presbyterian ministers, to the colony.

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<sup>4</sup> *N.S.W. Government Gazette* 19 July 1837.

<sup>5</sup> *N.S.W. Government Gazette* 30 March 1836.

In 1835 Dr Lang commenced a weekly newspaper, the *Colonist; or, Journal of Politics, Commerce, Agriculture, Literature, Science and Religion for the Colony of New South Wales*. The *Colonist* ran until 1840, and contains many articles on the subject of immigration.

He visited Britain again in 1836, recruiting clergy and selecting suitable emigrants, many of them from the Scottish highlands and the Western Islands, among them farmers, mechanics or tradesmen, and teachers, thus stimulating Australian immigration. He returned to Sydney in December 1837 on the emigrant ship *Portland*.

The *Minerva* set sail from Greenock on 13<sup>th</sup> September 1837. As well as emigrants from Scotland and Northern Ireland, there was on board a group of German Lutheran missionaries, anxious to minister to the “wretched Aborigines”. All were required to have “testimonials of good character, signed by clergymen and respectable inhabitants of note in the places of their former residence”, also copies or extracts of baptism certifying to their age, and they were to be of good bodily health and strength. The ship did not call at any port on its way to Port Jackson, and the following report by Dr. Stuart, Colonial Assistant Surgeon, graphically portrays the situation when she arrived at Spring Cove:

On board The Emigrant Ship  
“Minerva” Spring Cove  
January 24 the 1838

To J V Thompson Esq  
Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals

Sir,

In compliance with your instructions I beg to furnish you with such information relative to the state of this ship, as I have been able to collect, since I took charge of the sick on board. The type of the fever is the same as that which I saw on board the ship “Lady McNaghton” and “John Barry” of which on former occasions I have furnished particulars for the information of Government.

The first case occurred in this ship about 25<sup>th</sup> November last (actually the first death occurred on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 1837, and the second on 30<sup>th</sup> October), and terminated fatally on the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> day. The disease continued to increase since that period up to the present. The last case occurred on yesterday, and there are some persons now complaining, with symptoms – I fear – of threatening fever.

The “Minerva” is 380 tons p Regn. The No of souls originally embarked was 235 of those 198 were in the ‘tween decks, 21 constituted the ship’s company and 16 were cabin passengers. The births of the ‘tween deck passengers are 6 feet square, and into each birth four persons are crowded. The births and cabins of the cabin passengers are large and commodious. All the cases of fever have occurred in the ‘tween decks. There are only two cases of scurvy and two of dysentery – the consequence of fever. No case of fever has occurred amongst the cabin passengers or ship’s crew, all of whom are perfectly healthy. The provisions – specimens of which I have examined – are wholesome and abundant and there was sufficient supply of fresh water during the passage. I am informed that when the vessel left Scotland, the space between decks was crowded to excess with lumber, which was made a receptacle of refuse provision, and filth of every description. This lumber was gradually stowed away below as space permitted. I am of the opinion that the origin of this fever is entirely attributable to the overcrowded state of the ‘tween decks. I would recommend that the entire of the midship passengers be landed without delay – that the sick be landed in the Lazaretto and the healthy and convalescents in the Quarantine Ground and as the Cabin

passengers are in perfect health, I am further of the opinion, that they might be released from Quarantine – using suitable precautions in reference to public safety – and the same indulgence might be extended to the ship with her crew – after she has undergone thoro' fumigation etc.

As Dr Cook – the surgeon superintendent of the ship – is in a very dangerous state, his wife, father, mother and sister are among the number of the dead on board – owing to certain circumstances, he was a passenger in the 'tween decks, and had little communication with the cabin.

Out of the 198 steerage passengers 86 were attacked with fever, of these latter 14 died, 34 still remain on the sick list, the rest are convalescent.

Beneath is a list of those who died on board, and my daily report, annexed, will furnish you with the particulars relative to the sick.

A list of persons who died on board the "Minerva" on her passage from Greenock to Sydney

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date of Demise</u>	<u>Native Place</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1 Martha McKinnon	21	29 Sept 1837	Kilmarnock	died of typhus fever
2 Donald McPhail	22	28 Oct 1837	Campbelltown Argyleshire	NB this man fell overboard
3 Mary Angus	Infant	30 Oct 1837	Kilfinisham Argyle	typhus fever
4 John Carr	29	5 Dec 1837	Cruif Stirlingshire	"
5 John McIntosh	28	5 Dec 1837	Wick	"
6 John Cook	64	19 Dec 1837	Kilmory Argyle	"
7 Mrs Cook (wife)	56	20 Dec 1837	Kilmory Argyle	"
8 Mary Cook (daugh)	24	1 Jan 1838	Kilmory Argyle	"
9 John Campbell	31	5 Jan 1838	Belfast	"
10 Alexander McClure	24	7 Jan 1838	Sleeh Inverness	"
11 Mrs Cook	17	17 Jan 1838	Saltcoats Ayr	wife of typhus fever burst a Dr Cook blood vessel when Convalescing
12 Alexander McNeill	31	18 Jan 1838	Kilkevan Kintyre	typhus fever
13 James Currie	28	17 Jan 1838	Kilmorrie Argyle	typhus fever
14 Mrs McNeill	29	21 Jan 1838	Kilkevan Kintyre	typhus fever

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

James Stuart Col Asst Surgeon

Daily Report of Sick on Board the Emigt. Ship "Minerva" Jan. 24/38

<u>Names</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date of Illness</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>Men</u>		1838	
Theodore Franz	23	19 Jan.	Native of Prussia (a Dangerous case)
James Crawford	24	21 Jan.	Mild at present
Edward Thomson	25	1 Jan.	at present the subject of Dysentery. Doubtful case

Finlay Cook	18	15 Jan.	Doubtful case
Joseph Plunket	19	13 Jan.	Mild case
Hector Angus	35	1 Jan.	at present the subject of Scorbutus
David Leighton	26	15 Jan.	Mild case
Dr. Alex Cook	26	1 Jan.	dangerous; low Typhoid (i.e. typhus), & irritable
Malcolm McFarlane	23	2 Jan.	Idem;
Allan McDonald	28	8 Jan.	Idem; very low
Hector McKelvie	22	14 Jan.	Idem; Idem
James Ogilvie	25	9 Jan.	Idem; Idem
Robert White	26	11 Jan.	(Doubtful)
James Falls	21	13 Jan.	Idem
Neil McPhie	10	14 Jan.	Idem
John Latta	24	11 Jan.	Dangerous
Willm. Bryce	25	23 Jan.	Mild at present
Moris Schneider	25	23 Jan.	Symptoms mild at present. Native of Saxony
<u>Women</u>			
Mrs Szillmann	21	13 Jan.	Native of Germany (in extreme danger)
Jane Fulton	25	13 Jan.	Dangerous
Martha Lucas	18	21 Jan.	Symptoms mild at present
Mrs Henderson	20	9 Jan.	low & weak; very dangerous
Janet Shaw	18	8 Jan.	Idem
Mrs McGuire	23	14 Jan.	low & weak; very dangerous
Mrs Duff	21	22 Jan.	Symptoms as yet mild
Mrs Angus	27	20 Jan.	Something better this morning; symptoms Mild
Mrs Mc Arthur	28	9 Jan.	weak & low (doubtful case)
Mrs Ogilvie	25	9 Jan.	very low (dangerous)
Mary Cunningham	11	12 Jan.	(Dangerous)
Mary McKinley	6	13 Jan.	Idem
Mrs White	21		This woman is suffering from bed sores, extreme weakness
Isabella Mckinnon	18	12 Jan.	Doubtful case
Mary McCormick	23		Suffering from scorbutus
Mrs McNeil	32		low nervous fever & has not been in bed before today James Stuart Col. Asst. Surgeon

The same day a Government order was issued, placing the *Minerva* in quarantine:

Colonial Secretary's Office  
Sydney, 24<sup>th</sup> January 1838

#### QUARANTINE

A FEW cases of TYPHUS FEVER having occurred on board the *Minerva*, His Excellency the ACTING GOVERNOR, with the advice of the Executive Council, has deemed it necessary to place the Ship, Crew, and Passengers under Quarantine, according to Law, of which all Persons are hereby required to take notice accordingly.

The boundaries of the Quarantine Station at Spring Cove are specified in a Proclamation dated 15<sup>th</sup> July, 1837.

By His Excellency's Command, E. DEAS THOMPSON.  
(1838 N.S.W. *Government Gazette* page 87)

Having satisfied himself that Surgeon Gavin Browning was qualified to undertake the care of the sick on the *Minerva*, or to take charge of the remaining parties of emigrants, Dr J.V. Thompson, the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, directed Dr Browning to hold himself in readiness to proceed as the Colonial Secretary might direct. The Colonial Secretary approved of this appointment on 24<sup>th</sup> January, and a note on the letter says that Dr Browning was to have charge of the hospital, and Dr Stuart to have charge of the healthy.

Information concerning Dr Browning's background may be read in Dr Lang's newspaper, *The Colonist*, on 3 February 1838:

**THE FEVER SHIP** – His Excellency the Acting Governor has been pleased to appoint Dr. Browning, late of Renfrewshire, in Scotland to the superintendence of the sick on board the *Minerva*, at Spring Cove. The Government are fortunate in obtaining the services of a gentleman who was for a considerable time assistant-surgeon in the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, where it was his peculiar duty to treat all fever cases – and having a diploma from the Royal Board of Surgeons in London, it is to be hoped that the Government will not allow Dr. Browning's usefulness to close with his release from the quarantine ground.

Dr Stuart felt aggrieved that Dr Browning had apparently been appointed over his head. He wrote to the Colonial Secretary:

“Minerva”, Spring Cove  
January 26/38

Sir, - I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 24<sup>th</sup> Inst. Conveying Instructions to me relative to the landing of the immigrants per “Minerva” and other matters connected therewith. In reply I beg to state that I could not carry such orders into effect on yesterday, without leaving upwards of forty sick on Board totally unprovided with medical or surgical assistance, of which they stand in almost constant need.

His Excellency the Acting Governor has not done me the honor to signify his reasons for superseding me in the charge of the sick whose confidence, I am proud to say, I have obtained, but as I am sure the object of His Excellency is to confide them to the care of abler hands than mine I am glad of the advantage in their favor, as too much cannot be done for those poor people in their present deplorable circumstances.

Much praise is due to the passengers and emigrants, for the patience and fortitude evinced by them, on being detained on Board up to the present moment, amidst the ravages of a malignant fever and with the prospect of release before their eyes. Such is the overcrowded state of the hold, and the vitiated state of the atmosphere consequent thereon, that my exertions are unavailing in checking the progress of the disease, as you will perceive by my sick Report of this day, forwarded to the Deputy Inspector General of hospitals, as no means of disinfection can be carried into effect, while the people remain on Board.

I shall be happy to use my exertions in furthering the orders of Government, when circumstances permit.

I have the honor to be, Sir,  
Your Most Obedient Servant,

James Stuart, Col. Asst. Surgeon.

A note appears on the back of the letter:

Inform him that he was not superseded in the case of the Hospital from any distrust in his abilities or care but from the consideration that he had already been exposed more than some to that fatiguing duty. Add that a delay has occurred in the departure of Mr. Browning through a misapprehension on the part of that gentleman – but that he is understood to have now proceeded to the Quarantine ground and it is hoped therefore that no further impediment will arise to the immediate execution of the measures directed. Inform him of the advice given respect(ing) his requisition 27 January. R.S.

A Medical Board was set up, its members being Dr J.V. Thompson, Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals; Dr J.H. du Moulin, Surgeon, 50<sup>th</sup> Regiment and Forces; and Dr K. Robertson, Colonial Surgeon. The doctors at the Quarantine Station were instructed to report to the Medical Board daily, and the Board responded with advice and instructions, as necessary. They also kept the Colonial Secretary and the Governor informed of the progress of the disease.

The Colonial Storekeeper requested an authority from the Colonial Secretary for the purchase and issue of 10 lbs brimstone (sulphur), 5 gallons of vinegar and a pitch kettle. These articles were urgently required for fumigating letters etc. from the *Minerva*. The merchants of Sydney were always anxious to receive their overseas mail *as soon as possible!*

The Colonial Architect supplied a list of articles in store at the Quarantine Station and ready for immediate use if required:

Stores at the Quarantine Station 24<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1838

<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>
3	Chairs	11	Shovels
9	Tents	12	Spades
3	Knives and Forks	1	Cross Cut Saw
1	Stove and pipe Dr. Thomson's qrs.	2	Hand Saws (returned into store)
6	Tin lamps	19	Quarry Wedges
5	White Wash Brushes	5	Crow Bars
8	1 lbs of Glue	2	Setting Bars
11	Felling Axes	1	Smith's Bellows
18	Quarry Picks	1	Smith's Anvil
13	Tin Dishes	4	Smith's Hammers
1	Iron Tea Kettle	4	Pieces of Steel
1	Horn Lanthorn (lantern)	1	Bar or Iron and 3 pieces
8	Iron Pots (1 Broke)	1	Hut Key and 1 Hammer (returned)
<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>
1	Water Pail	1	Bag of Horse Nails
1	Frying Pan	2	Thousand of Shingle nails
7	Tin Tea Kettles	2	Screwed Sash Fastenings
1	Sugar Scoop	2	Latches Complete (except catches)
8	Tin Pots (some with hooks)	2	Bows (metal rings?) of Latches
33	Large Water Kegs	1	9 Inch 3 bolt Brass Knob Lock
10	Small Water Kegs	1	8 In. wood Stock Lock (no key)
17	Wash Tubs	1	Sqr. of glass 8 x 10 In.
20	Hand Tubs	8	lbs of white lead
2	Urine Tubs	12	lbs of Black paint

	Wine Casks	1	quart of Turpentine
	Parcel of old Sail Cloth	1	quart of linseed oil
17	Screwed Bolts	1	double hand barrow
7	Screwed Bolts with Nuts	2	single hand barrows
1	Grindstone	35	Tarpaulins
2	Quarry Mauls (hammers)	12	3 Inch cleats

Hospital Stores at the Quarantine Station 24<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1838

<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>
1	Stove and Funnel	2	Long handled Brooms
1	Pewter Bed Pan	4	Long handled Scrub Brushes
1	White Chamber pot	2	Long handled Tar Brushes
1	Pewter Chamber pot	2	White wash Brushes
2	Tin Japan quart pots	1	Cask containing oil
5	Tin Hospital Close pots	1	Cask containing vinegar
5	Tin Bed pans	2	Prs of 10 In. Cross Garnets
1	Tin Spitting pot	1	Lime Juice Case and bottles
			<u>Returned</u>
3	Tin Lamps	8	Tents
5	Tin Oil Cans	5	porter, packing casks
1	Pewter Bason and Ewer	1	Oatmeal packing cask
1	Pewter Quart pot	4	Wash Tubs
6	Jars containing sago (returned)	1	Cast Iron Pot
1	Ball of Lamp Cotton	42	Iron Bedsteads
2	Hospital Trays	3	Cases containing empty bottles and small basket returned
2	Hand Lamps with Stokes	4	Chairs and 2 Tables
2	Iron Tea Kettles	1	Corkscrew and 12 spoons
4	Tin Tea Kettles	7	Knives and 4 forks
4	Iron Saucepans	1	Breakfast Cup and Saucer
2	Iron small Saucepans	5	Earthenware Bowls
2	Frying pans	5	Tin plates
10	Tin dishes	1	Earthenware plate
16	Pannikins and pots	2	Luithorns (lanterns?)
1	Tin Funnel	161	Stone bottles
5	Tin plates	1	Water barrel
4	Tin Buckets with Lids	2	Felling axes
2	Slops Buckets	1	Cask containing oatmeal

Articles Supplied to the Military Guard remaining at the Quarantine Station 24 Jany.

1838

<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Articles</u>
1	Iron Bedstead	3	Buckets
1	Pilliass	3	Camp Kettles
1	Bolster	1	Frying pan
33	Blankets	2	Tin Meat dishes
27	Rugs	12	Fruit pots
2	Tables	4	Felling axes
2	Chairs	2	Pick axes
1	Candlestick	2	Tomahawks

4	Lanterns (lanterns)	1	Spade
1	K=Lock and key (out of repair)	2	Shovels
2	Forms	2	Tents
1	Flesh fork	1	Tarpaulin
1	Soup Tub	1	Sledge hammer
1	Soup Ladle		

(One wonders why four soldiers needed 33 blankets and 27 rugs!)

It will be inferred from the last list that the Military Guard was preparing for their Quarantine duty, and this was confirmed on 25<sup>th</sup> January when the Assistant Military Secretary's Office advised the Colonial Secretary that Sergeant Martin Feeney and Privates John Gilchrist, John Ryan and Michael Desmond from the 50<sup>th</sup> Regiment had proceeded to Spring Cove for the purpose of assisting in the enforcement of Quarantine. He requested the necessary authority for them to receive an allowance similar to that received by the party employed on the last duty of this nature. The allowance was set at 2/- per day for the sergeant and 1/- each day for the privates. The instructions to the men were as follows:

Assistant Military Secretary's Office, Sydney.

Orders and instructions for the Quarantine Guard

1. No Soldier is to leave his Encampment during night, or past of look out during the day, except on necessary occasions without the permission of the Serjeant, and upon no account whatever is either Non-Commissioned Officer or Soldier to be permitted to go in the direction of the Quarantine Ground, beyond the prescribed line.
2. The Guard is to take the Water they require at the Place Marked Out in the rear of the Encampment and upon no account to go to any other Water nearer the Quarantine Grounds.
3. The Orders to the men on the look out are to be as follows – They are to allow no Person to pass within Quarantine, or out of it, the lines of which are Marked Out, and if any Person should attempt it he will order such person to Stop, and Call the Serjeant who will if necessary Communicate with the Superintendant of Quarantine.
4. The men on look out will use their best endeavours to cause any person trying to break the Quarantine to return in the direction from whence he came and if such Person was coming from without the Quarantine Ground and not belonging to it, he will make him a Prisoner, reporting the Circumstances to the Serjeant, who will send him on Board the Cutter.
5. The Non-Commissioned Officer will attend to any Application he may receive from the Surgeon, Superintendant or master of the Revenue Cutter for Military Aid required for the strict preservation of the Quarantine, but without entering himself or permitting any of his men to enter the Quarantine Ground.
6. The men will be Stationed on the most Commanding heights and keep a Vigilant look out, and prevent as far as is in their Power the infringement of the Quarantine. The Serjeant is responsible that no dogs, Goats, or other animals, liable to Stray into the Quarantine Ground are in Possession of the Party.
7. The Serjeant will report to this office immediately any irregularity amongst the Privates under his Control, Every Species of which will be Severely Punished.
8. Captain Roach of the Revenue Cutter is the Superintendant of the Quarantine alluded to in these Orders and Instructions.

W. Hunter  
Actg. (?) Major

The Revenue Cutter *Prince George*, with Captain John Roach, the Superintendent of the Quarantine on board, was at anchor in Spring Cove during the whole period of Quarantine.

The people of Sydney were able to read the following report in the *Sydney Gazette* on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January:

The *Minerva*, from Greenock, with 235 emigrants on board arrived on Tuesday, but in consequence of the existence of typhus fever on board, she has been placed in Quarantine. The emigrants by the *Minerva* were selected by the Rev. Dr. Land during his recent visit to the mother country, and have come out under the superintendence of Capt. McAusland, the Dr's brother-in-law. Among the passengers are thirteen German Missionaries with their families, come out to establish a mission to the wretched aborigines to the northward of this Colony under the superintendence of the Synod of New South Wales. Two of the Missionaries are ordained Clergymen, and the remainder, who come in the capacity of Catechists, have also, in conjunction with their theological studies, been instructed in various mechanical arts with a view to the communication of the arts of civilized life to the aborigines in conjunction with Christian knowledge. The typhus fever made its appearance among the passengers early in December; on the fifth of that month the first death occurred. Since that time the disease has continued to increase, thirteen in all have fallen victims to its ravages. On her arrival twenty individuals were ill, ten of them seriously so, and among the latter, we regret to enumerate Dr. Cook the surgeon of the vessel. Hitherto the cabin passengers are free from disease, the fever having confined its ravages entirely to the 'tween docks'. Orders have been issued by the Executive Government for the immediate landing of the emigrants, and for the occupation of the buildings recently erected at the Quarantine Station, Spring Cove. Dr. du Moulin of the 50<sup>th</sup> Regiment and Mr. Assistant Colonial Surgeon Stuart, have been sent to their assistance. Supplies of all descriptions likely to be useful to the emigrants have been forwarded in compliance with the orders of the local Government. We trust the removal of the emigrants from the confined atmosphere of a ship's steerage to the genial breezes of Australia, will have the effect of putting a speedy and an effectual stop to the ravages of this pestilential disease.

Since the above was written, we learn that the passengers were landed at the Quarantine Station yesterday, and divided into three parties who are not allowed to have any communication with each other, viz., the sick are placed in hospital, those who have been exposed to the contagion, and those (the cabin passengers), among whom no disease has yet made its appearance.

Meanwhile, the cabin passengers, none of who had had the disease, addressed a Memorial to the Acting Governor of the Colony, Colonel Snodgrass:

A Memorial of the undersigned Cabin passengers on board the ship *Minerva* now riding quarantine in Spring Cove, Humbly Sheweth

That your memorialists arrived here on Tuesday the twenty third day of January and reported that a number of the Steerage passengers were suffering from Typhus Fever, among whom was the Surgeon of the ship.

Your memorialists take this opportunity of expressing their heartfelt thanks for the prompt humanity of the Government in sending a surgeon to their relief, their situation is truly painful, from the overcrowded state of the hold, and consequent vitiated atmosphere.

By the dispatches of the twenty fourth instant your memorialists were led to believe that the whole of the steerage passengers were to be landed immediately, the sick and convalescent under the charge of Doctor Browning and the healthy under that of Doctor Stuart. Although the Bedding, Medicine Chest, and other necessary articles for their accommodation have arrived, nothing has yet been done in consequence of Dr Browning's non-arrival. From the delay the number of sick has fearfully increased daily. Although your memorialists have as yet escaped, they earnestly but respectfully implore that your Excellency will take their case into consideration and adopt prompt measures for their relief. Your memorialists will ever pray

George Taylor

George McAusland

L. Allan McCaskill

H. Norman Simson

Angus C. W. Williams

Walter Mitchell

Christopher Eipper, the ordained minister of the ship  
and missionary to the Aborigines of New South Wales

William Schmidt, ordained Lutheran minister and  
missionary to the Aborigines of New South Wales

Thomas Stevenson

The Medical Board recommended that the health cabin passengers be subjected to a short probation on board the ship, after the removal of the steerage passengers and the sick.

In fact, the healthy emigrants were not landed until 28<sup>th</sup> January, due to the non-appearance of Dr Browning until that date. The landing of nearly forty sick emigrants was delayed still further, as the hospital was only capable of holding eighteen beds, it was raining, there were not enough tents, and no-one apparently understood how to erect them.

Although it was intended that Dr Stuart was to be relieved from looking after the sick, as he had already performed this fatiguing duty on previous occasions, the two doctors agreed that Dr Browning should have charge of the healthy emigrants, as he had not yet been exposed to the infections.

On 30<sup>th</sup> January the Colonial Architect advised the Colonial Secretary that he had no person, either Emigrant or Prisoner, who would volunteer to run the hazard of going into quarantine to erect tents for the sick, whereupon the clerk of works was sent without delay to Spring Cove to arrange with some of the men in quarantine to erect the tents, or hut or dwelling, but he was not to go into quarantine himself. One of the emigrants, John Alexander, who was a carpenter, took on this work and also made bedsteads, for which he was eventually paid.

The sick seem to have been landed on 31st January. The *Sydney Gazette* reported on 6 February:

It was heart rendering sight we are told to witness the condition to which a brief illness has reduced the sufferers; the greater part being unable to leave their beds were lowered down the side in hammocks.

Dr. Stuart requested authorization to employ some of the emigrants as hospital attendants at the rate of 1/6 per day. At this stage the attendants were Jane Sloss, Eliza

Leighton, Mrs Cunningham, Joseph Brison, William Henderson and Turin McKinley. Shortly afterwards, John Cockburn, who had been in charge of issuing stores to the emigrants on board the *Minerva*, was appointed as superintendent of the hospital attendants.

Dr Stuart also told the Colonial Secretary on 29 January: "There is a person who keeps cows in this neighbourhood, and as the milk is better than that from Sydney, I will thank you to authorize me to draw from him which quantity I may require for the sick." At the end of the quarantine period we find that "J. Whaley residing in the neighbourhood of Spring Cove" was paid £35 for the supply of milk. Also on the same date the Colonial Storekeeper asked for authority to employ David Jordan to take charge of provisions sent to the Quarantine Station at the rate of 3/- per day.

On 1st February Dr Browning and Dr Stuart sent in requisitions for stores. Dr Stuart apparently had some complaints, for the Colonial Storekeeper wrote to the Colonial Secretary:

With regards to the Meat supplied for the sick under Dr. Stuart I beg to observe that particular care has been always taken to send it sweet and wholesome, as also that the vegetables and fruit have been the best of their kinds selected from those mostly that have been destined for the Emigrants' Quarters.

I have no hesitation in adding that the quality of the provisions etc. sent of late has been decidedly superior to that of former Quarantines – but the contractors decline supplying greater varieties than they consider they have engaged for, and it is not always easy to substitute better by rejecting what they do supply.

The Medical Board criticized Dr Stuart for the high numbers of utensils he had requested. They also regarded the requests for chocolate, loaf sugar and black tea unusual without explanation, and they thought that the spirits and wine requested by Dr Browning would be better withheld, unless the necessity could be made apparent. Dr Stuart replied on 3<sup>rd</sup> February:

I beg to state that I consider my demand for the hospital utensils as moderate, when there are 46 sick & convalescent besides 14 nurses and attendants, all of whom are altogether unprovided with the articles of my requisition. The stores, whence they might have obtained a supply, were plundered by the healthy emigrants the first day of their landing, and whether the people supplied themselves with any such articles from the ship or not, I have not had the time to make enquiry.

Respecting the other articles of my requisition, namely 'Chocolate, Loaf sugar and blk tea', I never before heard that such things were unusual for Invalids, many of whom are respectable people, and not at all unaccustomed to such fare, and if the board of health had taken into consideration the shattered state of constitution, in which many of those people fell under my care, they would not I am sure have considered my demand as unreasonable. I should also mention that I have not any lump sugar for medical purposes, for which purposes, at least, I presume the Board of health will sanction its use. The tea sent here hitherto has been green tea, the use of which is incompatible with the treatment of persons suffering under much nervous derangement, & both it and the sugar have been so bad that I was under the necessity of prohibiting their use as much as possible, among the sick.

Whilst it is praiseworthy in the Government to shew a disposition to grant the necessary supplies, I beg to assure you that all my requisitions have been made

as much as possible with a view to public economy, without disparagement to other interests of those committed to my charge, and that I have endeavoured also to regulate my conduct in these matters, by the practice of former occasions. As I cannot in justice to the afflicted under my charge, modify my demand in the least, I beg to re-enclose it you, for transmission to the Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals, and leave it to the discretion of that gentleman to sanction such portion of it as he may deem proper, as he is acquainted with the state of the sick, for I will not take upon myself the responsibility of leaving the sick and convalescent without any article which my experience points out to me as necessary to their health and comfort.

The Medical Board deemed Dr Stuart's letter disrespectful, and requested he adopt a more respectful style in future. Dr Stuart apologized that his remarks were not couched in more suitable terms.

Approximately one week later, the situation was as follows:

Daily Report of sick at the Lazaretto Spring Cove, February 9<sup>th</sup> 1838

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date of Illness</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
			8 OC a.m. blew a hurricane all night accompanied with torrents of rain & occasional showers of hail-wind still high with showers, temperature of the atmosphere very low.
		Jany.	
1. John Latta	24	11/38	no improvement
2. James Hill	25	25	abatement of symptoms
3. David Leighton	11	31	abatement of symptoms
4. James Crawford	34	21	decided improvement/no shivering last night
5. David Leighton	26	15	Idem
6. Thos. Jervis	27	25	better
7. Dr. Cook	26	25	better
		Feby.	
8. Neill McNeill	27	6	still without any abatement of fever
9. Angus Stephenson	35	7	no change

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date of Illness</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
<u>Women</u>			
10. Jane McArthur	5	7	symptoms still severe
11. Elizabeth Leighton	18	3	very ill, in danger
12. Mrs Cunningham			still doubtful case, there is no improvement this morning
13. Mary Cunningham	6	2	is getting low & complains of pain in the head & abdn (abdomen)
		Jany.	
14. Mrs Clark	30	30	This woman still lives but is very low & in imminent danger
15. Mrs Dixon	32	31	Much accession of bad symptoms; saw her at 2 OC this morning when she was the subject of Hamorrage from the groin
16. Mrs Swan	19	Feb.8	no change

		Jany.	
17. Mrs Szillman	21	13	last night was most unfavourable to those poor
18. Mrs McKinley	20	9	women, some of whom had their beds wet thro',
19. Mrs Henderson	20	9	they are however, still slowly gaining strength.
20. Mrs White	21	9	Mrs Szillmann, who is very weak, complains
21. Mrs McGuire	23	14	today of cough.

Convalescents

22. Mrs Duff			The torrents of rain which fell last night and still
23. Janet Shaw			continue, have rendered the situation of those
24. Mrs McArthur			people very miserable. Several had their beds
25. Mary Cunningham			entirely deluged and were obliged to sit up all night.
26. Jane Fulton			The rain penetrated all the tents, except those
27. Mrs Ogilvie			which were lined. As yet no unfavourable
28. Mrs Angus			symptoms have made their appearance in
29. Belinda McKenion			consequence, and the Invalids are as well as can
30. Mrs Schneider			be expected under the circumstances.

Men

31. Finley Cook
32. Theodore Franz
33. Mr. Angus
34. Edd. Thompson
35. Malm. McFarland
36. John Falls
37. Robert White
38. hugh McBean
39. Allen McDonnell
40. Wm. Clark

New Case "Thomas Campbell Ewing Aetat (aged) 20. Delicate constitution – Teacher by profession – complaining since Friday last at which time he was seized with violent pain in the head, admitted into Hospital at 12.30 this day, from Dr. Browning's charge, has had purgative from Surgeon Browning, which have not afforded any relief to the febrile symptoms, he evinced much mental anxiety & is tremulous, skin hot, pulse 108 – tongue white." Extt. From Hospital book Feb.8/38

This young man is very weak this morning but complains of no pain.

James Stuart  
Col. Asst. Surgeon

J. V. Thompson Esq. & c.  
Depy. Inspector Genl of Hospitals

N.B. The attention of the Medical Board is respectfully requested to the last cases, which have been furnished them of patients, sent to Hospital from the Quarantine Ground, by which they will be pleased to observe that those patients have been ill *for several days*, before their transmission to Hospital, as, in order to ensure a favourable termination to this malignant and intractible disease, active measures are absolutely necessary, the very first hour of its invasion. I consider it imperative on me to point out the necessity of decision and promptitude in having the patients sent to hospital, so soon as the nature of their disease can be ascertained to be *febrile*.

James Stuart

Col. Asst. Surgeon

There was also a letter from Dr Browning, in charge of the healthy emigrants:  
Quarantine Station

Spring Cove, 9<sup>th</sup> February 1838

To the Colonial Secretary

Sir, - I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of yours of the 7<sup>th</sup> inst with Fifty two mattresses /52/ and Twenty four Blankets /24/ and this morning I received 20 additional Mattresses - leaving still 18 of the Ninety as per Invoice to be forwarded.

Pillows are much wanted. I beg to request you will sanction my requisition for, in the meantime 50 - and also one dozen more Blankets, several individuals being still unprovided with sufficient covering during night.

Candles and Coals for my own apartment I stand in need of – have been obliged to borrow occasionally from Dr Stewart – please order a small supply of both.

G. Browning Surgeon

A note on the back of this letter states:

For the Medical Board whose attention is particularly requested to the concluding paragraph of this communication which would appear to show a contravention of the rules laid down with respect to the communication between the Lazaretto and the healthy Emigrants.

50 pillows, 12 Blankets, ½ cwt of candles and a ton of coals have been ordered to be supplied by the Colonial Storekeeper, 9<sup>th</sup> February 1838.

The Medical Board was clearly concerned on two counts in its report of 19<sup>th</sup> February: Mr Stuart adverts to a circumstance contemplated by the Board in their previous report, on the necessity of an early detection of, and removal to the Hospital of new cases of fever originating amongst the Emigrants in charge of Surgeon Browning.

In regard to a minute appended to the report by the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, the Board are of the opinion that any interchange of articles of any description between the Lazaretto, and the healthy portion of the Emigrants is highly improper, and ought to be strictly interdicted.

The cabin passengers, who were still undergoing their probation on board the *Minerva*, had not been forgotten. On 10<sup>th</sup> February the ship was visited by Dr A. Graydon, the Assistant Surgeon, 50<sup>th</sup> Regiment, and he made his report to Dr J.V. Thompson, deputy inspector General of Hospitals;

Ship *Minerva*  
February 10<sup>th</sup> 1838

Sir, - I have the honour to report to you that according to your instructions I proceeded on board the Ship *Minerva* this morning at day break. On arriving on board I immediately called on the Captain and proceeded to investigate into the state of the Vessel according to the order which I received. I beg leave to lay the following report as the result.

1. Having mustered the crew and examined the Cabin passengers I found them in perfect health.
2. That the last case of illness which occurred on board was the 30<sup>th</sup> January which case was brought on shore as soon as possible.
3. That since the Emigrants have been landed the Vessel has been scrubbed scoured and washed with a solution of the Chloride of lime, fires kept constantly between decks, fumigation employed of Charcoal and Sulphur and free ventilation.
4. That all standing births and bulk heads in contact with the emigrants have been knocked down and removed with their baggage on shore.

5. That no communication has taken place between the ship either with the Lazaretto, Convalescent or healthy stations since the 3<sup>rd</sup> February which communication took place merely on landing the Stores and Baggage.
6. That little communication exists between the hold and that part of the vessel which the Emigrants occupied and which communication took place solely when water and stores were removed for the use of the ship.
7. Having examined the vessel between decks, Sailors births &c &c found them clean, well aired and apparently in a healthy state.

The *Minerva*, with her cabin passengers and ship's crew, were released from quarantine on the 12<sup>th</sup> and proceeded up the harbour on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February.

The Colonial Secretary E. Deas Thompson and Dr. du Moulin visited the Quarantine station on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February. The following day Dr. Browning submitted a list of the healthy emigrants and the wards to which they had been allocated. This showed 23 souls in Ward 1, 34 souls in Ward 2, 21 souls in Ward 3, 23 souls in Ward 4, and 3 souls were shown as residing in Dr. Browning's own cottage. The total number of healthy emigrants at this stage totalled 104.

Quarantine Station, Spring Cove  
12 February 1838

To the Hon. Colonial Secretary, Sydney

Sir, - I have the honor to inform you that in accordance with your instructions to me yesterday, I have this morning transmitted to Dr. Thomson as President of the Medical Board a list of the names of all the passengers per "Minerva" at present under my charge here and the 'Wards' in which they are lodged.

I have further the honor to observe that your visit yesterday gave rise to several lengthened conversations with some of the more Respectable of the passengers who were in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cabin of the Ship, and who feel, doubtless more than the *Steerage* passengers the want of a *few comforts*.

I have no hesitation in giving my sanction to their requests in regards to a moderate supply for a short period at least of the articles mentioned in the *enclosed memorandums*, which I take the liberty of *enclosing* in place of transcribing, as the Boat is just about to start. The Soap /1cwt./ of my Requisition of yesterday as also 56 lb. of Barley, 14 lb. Rice, 6 lb. Currants or Raisins, have not come to hand this morning.

I have received 90 mattresses

and 24 blankets

Pillows are much wanted

Please sanction the forwarding of Fifty /50/-

I have further the honor to remark in consequence of a statement just handed to me, signed by several Respectable individuals, that is in my opinion, many of them would be benefited by an allowance of "Medical Comforts" such as are particularized on the "Memorandum" enclosed –

The following is an Extract from the Statement alluded to:

"Owing to the long voyage of Nineteen weeks, which the passengers per 'Minerva' had together with the want of potatoes and other vegetables during the whole passage, the Ship not having called at any port whatever – they could not make use of the salt provisions in sufficient quantities, most of them having almost half starved themselves.

The biscuit flour etc. were quite unsound which made them very sparing in the use of them."

In conclusion – from all the information I can obtain, I am decidedly of opinion that a moderate allowance of Wine, Porter, and Fruit will prove very beneficial to the majority under my charge.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your Most Obedient Servant,  
G. Browning, Surgeon.

Port Wine of best quality      N.B. If not the best it will be useless,  
London porter      do.      Being intended as strengthening means.  
Mustard and Black pepper  
Ground Coffee and Cocoa, Chocolate  
Raisins and Currants for Rice  
Barley and Rice very irregularly sent in so small quantities that when divided little falls to the lot of each individual.  
A regular supply of good vegetables particularly onions, carrots and turnips, the quantity ordinarily sent being quite insufficient.  
4 Goblets for making broth of soup to contain 2 gallons each, those lying in Store here used by the Lazaretto. They are very much wanted.  
1 cwt brown Soap

The requests in the letter proper, plus the goblets and soap in the memorandum were approved forthwith. A note on the back of the letter says:

The Medical Board are requested to report on the necessity and propriety of the enclosed requisition for Medical comforts and to state the quantities of each they would recommend to be supplied. The Acting Governor while he desires to afford the Emigrants under Dr. Browning's charge, every necessary and comfort which may be requisite for their health and the prevention of the further appearance of disease amongst them, would not of course feel justified in granting them at the public expense, anything beyond what is calculated to promote and effect these desirable objects.      R.S.

The Medical Board were of the opinion that:

instead of the Port wine and London porter required by Surgeon Browning, a small quantity of Brandy be issued as a daily allowance to each individual under his charge, that the Surgeon personally see it diluted with at least four times its weight of water, and drank in his presence. The proportions recommended by the Board are 2 oz. or one wine glass full of brandy to each male, and 1 oz. or half a wine glass full to each female adult, which according to his report will consume about five bottles per diem.

The cocoa and chocolate the Board consider unnecessary, but it is absolutely requisite that a liberal allowance of vegetables be supplied. The fruit they are of the opinion would be better withheld, for although it might be of service if used in moderation, they think a sufficient supply of good vegetables will obviate that deficiency.

On 13 February Dr Browning wrote again:

Sir, - I have the honor to inform you that my requisition for Soap &c. according to your orders to me on Sunday last (and which I forwarded a copy yesterday) has not been complied with – and that, consequently the people are rather

disappointed. May I request you will sanction and *early* compliance with the same, so as no time may be lost in getting the *filthy* cleansed.

I have the honor further to inform you that the Tents for the better protection of the property on Shore are in progress, and that whatever of the \*Timber from the Ship that is left, will be immediately consumed.

I have &c. G. Browning Surgeon.

\*Whatever wood is used in these erections will of course be well cleansed with sand and water.

The soap was forwarded on 14 February.

The 12 February statement by the emigrants appears to have been taken up as a complaint about the food on board the *Minerva*. The Governor directed that the stores on the *Minerva* should be enquired into.

#### Report on Stores of the *Minerva* Emigrant Ship

We the undersigned having by directions of His Excellency the Governor conveyed to us by letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> Ultimo, inspected and Surveyed the following Provisions landed from the Emigrant Ship "*Minerva*", Viz. Salt Beef, Pork, Flour Bread, Rice, Oatmeal, Barley, Peas, Sugar, Vinegar and lime juice, Do Certify that the whole of those Articles were of a good wholesome quality with the exception of Two Bags of Hambro' bread, which was Mouldy, Coarse and of an indifferent quality. And upon reference to the Invoice we found that 94 bags of that description of Bread was shipped on board the '*Minerva*' in Scotland, and which appears with the exception of these two Bags to have been used on the passage out. We further beg to report, that no person came forward to make any complaint or do we know the Complainants alluded to in the Colonial Secretary's letter. The Revd. Dr. Lang was present during the above investigation.

Given under our hands at Sydney this 2 day of March 1838.

H. Wilson (?) Jno. Nicholson Harbour Master (?) Montgomery Capt. 50<sup>th</sup> Regt.

Later, in a leading article in the *Colonist* of 31 March, it was revealed that some of the bread had been seriously damaged by the steam from wet ballast, had gone mouldy and been thrown overboard.

From their experience on previous occasions, the *Sydney Gazette* had complained on 30<sup>th</sup> January and 1<sup>st</sup> February about the lack of information from Government concerning the progress of disease in vessels under quarantine. As well as the anxiety felt by the public generally, individuals who had relatives or intimate acquaintances on board were anxious to know whether they were still alive. This time, however, the newspaper need not have worried, for someone in quarantine kept them informed almost daily. Although the news did not come through official channels, it obviously came from someone well informed, the deaths of emigrants, particularly, being promptly reported. Other letters were also received by the newspaper, enabling the people of Sydney to have some idea of what was going on.

On Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February the *Sydney Gazette* reported as follows:

#### **The Fever Ship – *Minerva***

Our recent letters from the Quarantine Grounds report a progressive improvement in the state of the sick in the hospitals. The disease seems to assume a much milder form, and strong hopes are entertained of the final recovery of the surviving sufferers. The total number of deaths that have

occurred since the ship left Greenock is twenty-eight, of whom fourteen died previous to the arrival of the ship in harbour, and fourteen at Spring Cove. The emigrants, we understand, complain loudly, (and with much reason, if the statement be true), of the conduct of Drs. Browning and Stuart, the surgeons placed in charge of the Quarantine Station by the Executive Government. Our information states, that an almost (daily) intercourse is openly tolerated or tacitly suffered between the healthy and such of the convalescents as are able to walk about, nay it is even said that, at the date of the latest letter, a Mr. McComb, from Belfast, in the worst stage of typhus fever, is allowed to remain in a house to which the emigrants are obliged to come daily for their supply of milk. If this be the case, we cannot sufficiently reprehend the conduct of the surgeons in charge, whose imperative duty it is to adopt every possible precaution to stop the progress of the disease instead of thus, as it were, endeavouring to facilitate it. It is evident that if this intercourse be longer tolerated, even although it should fortunately happen that the healthy should escape the risk of contagion, much longer time must elapse before the convalescent can be relieved from their present discouraging situation. Of this fact the emigrants are fully aware, and a meeting of their number was held on Saturday evening, to remonstrate with the Government on the subject, and to petition for the adoption of some better defined Rules and Regulations for the future management of the Quarantine Station than at present exist.

It appears to us a subject worthy the consideration of the Government, now that emigration to these shores must flow with much greater rapidity than it has ever done before, and as it is impossible in the course of so long a voyage, and with crowded ships, effectually to guard against the breaking out of contagious diseases, - it seems worthy of considerations whether it would not be advisable to take measures for the erection of a small building at the Quarantine Station, to serve the purpose of an Hospital, where more attention could be paid, and greater comforts could be extended to the patients than is at all practicable in wooden shells now used for that purpose. The approaching winter season should at once show the Government the necessity for erecting more comfortable buildings on the Quarantine Grounds.

Since the above was in type, we have received another communication of yesterday's date, confirmatory of the above cheering intelligence. The following is an extract, "I write to you this morning in better spirits; the sick are no worse, many of them a great deal better. There are not in all, above four or five cases which can be considered at all dangerous.

We had a visit yesterday, from two officers of the Board of Health. They censured the conduct of Drs. Browning and Stewart (Stuart) in sanctioning the intercourse between the convalescents and the healthy, since which time a decided improvement has taken place. Dr. Cook has been the greatest sufferer from the devastations of the fever. He has lost his wife, father, mother and sister. (Some) have been dangerously ill, but have nearly recovered."

The *Sydney Gazette* published Dr Browning's reply on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> February:

Quarantine Station  
Spring Cove, February 13, 1838

Sir, - May I beg an early insertion of the following remarks, in reply to an *erroneous* statement which appears in your paper of to-day, touching the conduct of Dr. Stewart (Stuart) and myself, in regard to our *regulations* for preserving a

complete neutrality between parties under his care, and those under my charge, on the Quarantine Ground.

In the first place, it is most gravely set forth that an “*almost daily intercourse is tolerated, or tacitly allowed, between the healthy and the convalescent*”. This, I once deny, as being grossly false, and malicious, on the part of your informant; for it is well known to the great *majority* of the people here, that Dr. Stewart and myself, have done everything in our power to *prevent* the slightest intercourse; but still, in some instances our best endeavours have been frustrated, by the over anxiety of some, to know the real state of their friends at the Lazaretto, I have repeatedly remarked, both the Dr. Stewart and others, that *nothing* short of a *file of soldiers* could enforce our orders.

As to the second charge of your correspondent, which bears more directly upon myself, and which I look upon as a piece of *spleen*, because the gentlemen (Mr. McComb) alluded to, as being *harboured*; as it were, in my own house, contrary to the “Quarantine Regulations” was preferred to another; or at least, because that individual could not be kept here also, in place of being sent to the Lazaretto. Your correspondent state that, “a Mr. McComb from Belfast, in the worst stage of typhus fever, is allowed to remain in a house to which the emigrants are obliged to come daily for their supply of milk”. This, Mr. Editor, is *untrue*. The milk has been measured out at the *storehouse*, with the exception of two mornings, when it was supplied to the people, not in my house, but outside, opposite the door. As to Mr. McComb’s complaint it was *not* a case of the *worst kind of typhus fever*; but, on the contrary, an exceedingly mild one; insomuch, had it happened at *another time*, and upon *other ground*, it might have passed almost unsuspected as typhus. When I first saw Mr. McComb, he was labouring under an *asthmatic affection*, accompanied with a slight rheumatic attack. He had been much afflicted during the passage with difficulty in breathing and general debility. He was in my house for three or four days before any *typhoid* (i.e. *typhus*) systems made their appearance, and they were very mild; and he was completely apart from the rest of the people, and attended by no one save Mrs McComb. I considered myself justified in *conducting the case*, and more especially as Mrs McComb earnestly begged I would do so, if possible. Dr. Stewart (Stuart) did not interfere in the case, and I am happy to say, that in place of my patient being, at the date of your correspondent’s letter, “in the very worst stage of fever,” he was actually *convalescent*, and had *been so for two days* previous, a fact well known all over the Quarantine Ground. So much for the *veracity* of your Spring Cove correspondent

I cannot conclude without tendering you my thanks for the *guarded manner* in which you received your *correspondent’s statements*, - I allude to the words - “if true”.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

G.BROWNING, Surgeon.

In justice to Dr. Browning we publish his letter, in explanation of the statements made by our correspondent, inserted in our Tuesday’s number. We leave each statement to speak for itself, and will only remark, that the Doctor is wrong in attributing our correspondent’s remarks to have originated in “a piece of spleen”, because he could not be kept in the Doctor’s house, “instead of being sent to the Lazaretto”. Our correspondent has as yet had no occasion for medical assistance, having escaped the fever up to the date of our last advices from the Quarantine Ground.

-ED. SYD. GAZ.

Regarding the serving of milk, the Quarantine Station's 'correspondent' to the *Sydney Gazette* replied:

It is preposterous in Dr. B. to quibble as he does, as to the serving of milk. The storehouse to which he refers contains Mr. and Mrs. McComb's clothes, to which they are of course under the necessity of resorting constantly, and the milk was measured out at Dr. B.'s door, by the woman who is in constant attendance on Mr. McComb.

There was much disquiet among the officials behind the scenes concerning what was happening. On 14<sup>th</sup> February the Acting Governor of New South Wales communicated with the Medical Board as follows:

Government House  
Sydney 14 February 1838

I am directed to inform you (the Board) that the Acting Governor has perused with much regret your report of this morning wherein you announce the death of two more individuals at the Lazaretto, and the admission of a new case from the health station.

The continued occurrence of new cases would seem to indicate that the precautionary measures recommended by the Board and approved by the Executive Council have not been duly carried into effect both with respect to the cleansing and purifying the clothing and other articles in use by the Immigrants under his charge, and the destruction of the filthy and ragged clothing worn during the passage.

There is reason to believe also from the statement of Surgeon Stuart to the Colonial Secretary on his visit to the Quarantine Station on Sunday last that the efforts of the former officer to prevent communication between the healthy and the convalescent have not been wholly successful.

The Acting Governor under all circumstances of the case therefore, deems it necessary that you should proceed immediately to the Quarantine ground to confer with the respective Surgeons in charge and to report your opinion as to the general state in which they may find the immigrants and whether they deem the arrangements made by Mr Browning to be such as to be consistent with a due observance of Quarantine and calculated to prevent any further encrease of this distressing disease, and whether he appears to have that influence and authority over those committed to his charge which is absolutely necessary to effect these desirable objects or whether you deem it requisite that another more efficient Surgeon should be selected for the service.

The Acting Governor desires me to observe that he is still without the daily reports from Surgeon Browning which he has been instructed to furnish.

His Excellency requests also that you will avail yourselves of the opportunity of ascertaining from Surgeon Stuart his mode of treatment of the Patients under his charge, and with assisting him with your opinion and advice as to any change or improvement in the treatment you may deem expedient.

The Harbour master is instructed to have a boat in readiness to convey you today to Spring Cove.

R.S.

The Medical Board visited the Quarantine Station on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> February and conveyed an injunction to Dr Browning on the spot to remove Mr McComb immediately to the Convalescent Station. Instead of complying with this order, however, he wrote to Dr Thompson the next day as follows:

Quarantine Station  
Spring Cove 16<sup>th</sup> February 1838

Sir, - Permit me the honor of laying before you and the Gentlemen of the Medical Board the Case of Mr Thos. McComb of Belfast, which has made no little noise amongst a certain party here.

The particulars are simply these – Mr and Mrs McComb came to lodge with me on the Friday after leaving the ‘Minerva’. Mr McComb was at this time complaining of Rheumatic pains, as he described them. He was also labouring under an Asthmatic Affection, to which he had been subject for some considerable time previous. He continued in this State till the Monday following, when slight Typhoid (i.e. typhus) Symptoms showed themselves. I immediately stated my fears to Mrs McComb, and she intreated as he was apart from the rest of the people (not being in one of the Wards) I would allow him to remain (if possible) where he was, for a few days, at least, and if he did not get worse, *perhaps*, she said, there might be no *necessity* to send him to the Hospital to which, they had both almost an unconquerable repugnance. I was, of course disposed to do everything in my power to sooth the feelings of both. The symptoms were as yet very mild. I consulted with Dr Stewart, and he did not appear to disapprove of Mr. M. remaining under my care. Thus far the case went on quietly and peaceably enough until a little *personal* misunderstanding took place between Mrs McComb and a *Gentleman* ‘a German’ calling himself ‘A.L. Pasche’ (*who*, I must say has made himself remarkably *officious* on very many occasions to the great annoyance of several of the Emigrants) and who, to be revenged as it were, on Mrs McComb (who had, God knows, already enough anxiety on her mind) swore he would give no *rest to the sole of his foot*, until he had her husband removed to the Hospital.

Knowing, as I thought I did, that this was not the Spirit in which either the ‘Government’ or the ‘Medical Board’ wished to act towards any individual, I took upon myself the responsibility of opposing ‘Mr A.L. Pasche’, and in doing so I find I have offended, mightily, this Gentleman and incurred his high displeasure, or I may rather say, *low*, for *Mr Pasche*, in *this case* is actually ‘below notice’ – but still, I am sorry to say he has managed to make a great *fuss* about the Matter, and all to gratify a low revenge. ‘This is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.’

In conclusion, I am most happy to add that Mr McComb is so far Convalescent that today he was able to take an Airing *twice*. In this stage of the business I beg leave respectfully to wait *your answer* or that of the ‘Medical Board’ (although this letter is meant more as a *private* communication than as an official one) as to whether he should be removed or not.

I hope the ‘Verdict’ will be ‘Continue’. I have & c G. Browning Surgeon.  
I take the liberty of enclosing a few lines from Mrs McComb at her particular desire. G.B.

On the same date (16<sup>th</sup> February) Dr Stuart reported that Mrs Swan, who he had seen every two hours during the night, had died. In the notes on her treatment he wrote, “I regret to remark that for several days previous to her coming under my charge, she

had suffered from the disease without being subjected to any active treatment.” He was also looking after another seventeen sick and 22 convalescents at this time.

The Medical Board’s report for 17<sup>th</sup> February said,

The Medical Board having assembled and had under consideration the report of the Surgeon in charge of the Lazaretto of the 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. Together with a letter from Surgeon Browning of the same date to the Deputy Inspector General – Have to observe that one female has died since the previous day, but that no new case has originated, and that the other cases show generally a shade of improvement.

From Mr Browning’s letter it would appear that he has not complied with the injunction of the Medical Board conveyed to him on the spot on Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> inst. To immediately remove Mr McComb to the Convalescent Station.

The Board therefore considering the communication which must have been kept up amongst the inmates of Mr Browning’s house now recommend that the whole of them, viz. Mr and Mrs McComb & Miss Land (McCombs’ servant) be removed to a separate tent at the Convalescent Station, and that again it should be impressed upon the Surgeon in charge, that by not acting on the instructions of the Board, and instantly removing any suspicious case to the Hospital, he compromises the liberation of the whole from Quarantine, and increase the risk of keeping up the contagion, to an indefinite period.

(signed by Drs Thompson, du Moulin and Robertson)

By this time there were moves to appoint a Naval Surgeon to superintend the healthy emigrants in place of Dr Browning. (The advisability of employing naval surgeons on emigrant ships had been discussed favourably when the *Lady McNaughten* was in quarantine in 1837, chiefly because of their strict adherence to discipline.) By 17<sup>th</sup> February Dr William Rogers, R.N. had been appointed, and he entered on duty on 19<sup>th</sup> February. He took up his residence in Ward no. 1, a portion of which was partitioned off for his use.

Dr Stuart was asked to explain part of Dr Browning’s letter of 16 February stating that he did not disapprove of Mr McComb remaining under Dr Browning’s care when affected with fever. He replied on 19<sup>th</sup> February:

As well as I recollect Surgeon Browning mentioned to me that a Mr McComb was suffering from Rheumatism and Asthma – which diseases I would have considered it my duty to prevent being received into a Hospital infected with Typhus. But it turned out that the patient alluded to was attacked with Typhus Fever, which Surgeon Browning – by his own admission – mistook for Rheumatism and Asthma. If, when the real nature of Mr McComb’s illness was known to Surgeon Browning, he asserts that I approved of his conduct in not removing the patient immediately to hospital, I beg to contradict such assertion in the most unqualified manner. So far from sanctioning such conduct, I have had occasion to complain, in many instances, of the delay which occurred, in sending patients to hospital. (To corroborate this statement Dr Stuart quoted the remarks he had made in his daily report of 9<sup>th</sup> February.)

I take this opportunity to contradict a previous statement of Mr Browning, that he borrowed coals and candles from me, as such articles were never removed from the Lazaretto, with my permission or knowledge.

There was some uncertainty about what to do with the McCombs, Dr Stuart objecting to being asked to walk a considerable distance in order to look after Mr McComb, thus being 'obliged to suffer, from the error committed and persisted in by Dr Browning.'" Eventually on 21<sup>st</sup> February the Medical Board recommended that Mr McComb should go to the convalescent station, under Dr Stuart's care, and the females should be placed in a tent at a distance from the other healthy emigrants, under the observance of Dr Rogers.

However, Dr Rogers still had trouble with Mrs McComb, and on 27 February wrote to the Medical Board:

I would also beg to state that I had erected a tent half way between the Lazaretto and convalescent tents, both of which are on the same site, on the 20<sup>th</sup> for Mr McComb and family, but the instant I had your orders to send Mr McComb to the convalescent Lazaretto ground, I took upon myself to pitch her tent within 60 yards of the end house on my station, this was on the 24<sup>th</sup>, the morning after her husband was removed to the care of Dr Stuart. Every, and any thing I would do for her consistent with my Duty here, but she spurns and rejects all my intentions, but I shall still continue to be kind to her, at the same time I shall order Dr Browning to my quarters today, and then I shall be within 60 yards of her tent when I occupy Dr Browning's quarters, and be always ready to give her and family every assistance.

Sir George Gipps took over as Governor on 24 February 1838.  
The *Sydney Gazette* reported on 24 February:

#### **The Quarantine Station – Spring Cove**

We have letters from the Quarantine Station, dated yesterday, confirming the satisfactory intelligence in our last number. The number of cases considered at all dangerous is now reduced to three; the remainder of the patients are in the fair way of recovery. Dr. Rogers' conduct is spoken of in terms of the highest commendation. Our correspondent's letter of yesterday says:- "Dr. Rogers does every thing in his power to facilitate our release, and to add to our comforts while here; he visits every house and tent under his charge, twice every day, to ascertain from personal inspection that the regulations with regard to cleanliness are duly observed. We have had very little short of a battle-royal caused by Dr. Browning's anxiety to discover your correspondent here, fortunately for my well-being he has not the most distant conception that I am the actual culprit. It might be dangerous were he to ascertain the fact while he continues here, as I am not in a situation 'to cut and run!' We anticipate a release, about the end of next week."

Dr Browning again wrote to the *Sydney Gazette*, which published his letter on 27 February:

Sir, - Your correspondent appears to me to possess a strong disposition to quarrel not only *in his own house*, but he will right or wrong, have people "*by the ears*" (in his own unhappy imagination) amongst whom the very best feelings and understanding have subsisted. He will have in order to gratify his miserable selfish ends, Dr. Rogers and myself, almost at *daggers drawing*, on Mr. McComb's account. I assure you, Mr. Editor, that so far from an *unpleasant word*, or *ungentlemanly expression* of any kind having passed between Dr.

Rogers and myself, the very opposite has been, and still continues to be, the case; we never had an angry word *on any subject*, neither regarding Mr. McComb's removal, nor any thing else. I really wish, for his own *honour*, that your friend here would show a little more respect to truth. "I calculate" as 'Jonathan' would say, "that from the nature of 'his calling,' being educated, I understand, as a teacher of youth, and forsooth, a 'preacher' too, he ought to bear in mind that *his example*, may, in many instances, go before *his precepts*." I would not have troubled you on this subject again were it not that I conceive it a dangerous thing to allow *falsehood* "to stride at will" in "open day". I have not the *honour* of your correspondent's acquaintance, but I think, if he is not ashamed of his sentiments, he might favor your readers here with his name. If he possesses the feelings of a gentleman I will be proud to meet him on his own ground, I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,  
Quarantine Station, Spring Cove G. BROWNING, Surgeon  
22<sup>nd</sup> February, 1838.

(Editor's Note) Dr. Browning is again at fault. Our correspondent was neither educated as a "teacher of youth" nor as, "forsooth, a preacher too." Were his charges against Dr. B. made on *private*, instead of *public* grounds, we should be most happy to favour the Dr. and our readers at the Quarantine Station with his name, as it is we do not think such a step necessary. In justice to our correspondent, however, it is incumbent on us to say, although we have most implicit reliance on his veracity, that his statements are corroborated from other quarters. – ED. SYD. GAZ.

Dr Rogers reported to the President, & Members of the Quarantine Board of Health, Sydney, on 21<sup>st</sup> February:

Quarantine Station  
Spring Cove 21 February 1838

Gentlemen, - I beg leave to state for the information of the Quarantine Board of Health that there are none sick on this Station, if I may be allowed to except two children, one Jane McNeal an orphan Aetat (aged) 4 years with Diarrhoea, the other Aetat 14 Days with symptoms of (Talers?). The father of this Child died on the voyage and the mother poor woman (Christy McPhail) very disconsolate at his loss, which may account for the state and appearance of the Child. If it be agreeable to the Board I would propose placing the Child McNeal under Dr Stuart's charge and care, as no one here will volunteer to nurse it under the present circumstances; in Hospital it might find an indulgent and kind Nurse while sick.

I am employed at present in going on whitewashing the different Wards (and collecting the old clothes &c, laying around them, also the Clothes, Bedding &c, of those sent to the Hospital. I had consumed a quantity yesterday, but still not finished.

The Medical Board responded decisively to Dr Rogers' proposal:

Dr Rogers reports a case of diarrhea in a child of four years old, which he recommends should be sent to the Lazaretto; this the Board can by no means approve, all cases of ordinary disease as heretofore must be treated apart, and by no means mixed up with those of Fever in the Lazaretto.

When Dr Stuart sent his daily report on 24 February he had no new cases and only seven people sick, one of whom was John Latta, ill since 11 January and clearly dying. He added:

The Board of Health are requested to inform Surgeon Stuart what is to be done with the bedg. blankets &c. of the patients, after their removal from Hospital. At present those articles are put away under a Tarpaulin until he receives instructions as to their disposal. J.S.

The Board replied by referring Dr Stuart to "the practice on former occasions, which was finally to destroy by fire all the bedding used in the Hospital of the Lazaretto."

Dr Stuart ordered a slipper bath, which was duly forwarded to the Quarantine Station by the Colonial Storekeeper on 24<sup>th</sup> February.

By 1<sup>st</sup> March there were only three on the sick list, but Dr Stuart again complained to the Colonial Secretary about the quality of the meat:

Sir, - I am again under the necessity of complaining of the quality of meat sent for this establishment. The beef sent for the last two days has been as bad as any sent previously – there was no mutton yesterday and but a scanty proportion the day before, and to the coarse and indigestible quality of the meat I attribute the occurrence of bowel complaints which are frequent among the convalescents.

A note on the letter says:

Transmit a copy to the Col. Storekeeper and request his explanation and report. Impress upon him the necessity for extreme vigilance in preventing the transmission of meat or other articles composing the ration of an inferior quality, whereby the health of the persons in quarantine may be, as is reported in the present case affected.

The Colonial Storekeeper replied that,

... I have neglected no reasonable means within my power to procure (the meat) from the contractors in a state sound and proper to be issued, and that whenever it has appeared to be otherwise I have caused it invariably to be rejected and better meat supplied, as also in, as nearly as circumstances would occasionally allow, alternate proportions of beef and mutton; but that I could not always secure it of the primest possible description, that depending much on the at all times shifting state of the Sydney market.

In evidence however of the meat issue being of a suitable quality for most ordinary purposes, I beg to refer to you the enclosed Certificate under the hand of Mr Nicholson the Harbour Master; and Mr Macpherson, Clerk of the Councils, at my request, likewise attended this morning at the Dock Yard, and inspected the quality of the meat there sent.

John Nicholson the Harbour Master certified that,

I have frequently seen and occasionally examined the meat issued by the Colonial Storekeeper to the Quarantine Station, and that it has always appeared to me to be perfectly sweet and wholesome, although sometime none of the fattest.

William Macpherson, Clerk of Councils, reported,

Yesterday morning, without any previous notice, I went to the Dock Yard, and inspected the meat just about to be sent to the Quarantine Station. There was a whole sheep and part of a leg of beef; both the mutton and the beef were perfectly sound and free from any taint – and although not of the very primest description, yet appeared to be of very fair quality, such as I think there could be no just cause to complain of.

The end of quarantine for the *Minerva* emigrants was in sight. Reports in the *Sydney Gazette* tell the story:

Saturday 3 March 1838, *Sydney Gazette* page 2:

#### **The Quarantine Station – Spring Cove**

We have received letters from the Quarantine Station of yesterday's date. The disease is rapidly disappearing. The convalescents are removed from the hospital, into houses and tents set apart for their use, as soon as they are sufficiently recovered to bear removal. Our latest letters say:- "there are now only four cases of fever in the hospital, and only one of these is considered at all dangerous. We have now been the full time (i.e. 14 days) prescribed by Government without the appearance of a new case, but, as we anticipated, the delay in removing Mr. McComb and his family has retarded our deliverance. Dr. Rogers stated today, that our division of the station (the healthy division) is as clear from infection as any portion of Sydney. Formerly the delay would have weighed heavily on our spirits, but we do not feel it some much now. Since Dr, Rogers came he has encouraged dancing, and every other species of healthy amusement among us, and I firmly believe that the effect this has had in raising our drooping spirits has contributed materially to check the progress of the disease. Dr. Rogers has taken possession of Dr. Browning's quarters, Dr. B. has removed to No. 1 Ward. The reason assigned for this change is, that a suspicion exists that there was still a continued interchange of communication between Dr. B.'s residence and the convalescent grounds. Suspicion as to the authorship of your communications from Spring Cove is again afloat, but the *quidnuncs* are as much astray as ever. We are making preparations for removal about Monday next."

Tuesday 6 March 1838, *Sydney Gazette* page 2:

#### **The Quarantine Station – Spring Cove**

We have letters from the Quarantine Station to the 5<sup>th</sup> instant. A letter written on Saturday says:- "I am sorry to inform you that another of our number has gone to his long home. The deceased a Mr. John Latta, from Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, was a young man of remarkably strong constitution. Latta was a currier (dresser of leather) to trade; he was unmarried, but he has left attached comrade behind him to lament his loss. There now remain but three cases of fever in the hospital and all of them are nearly convalescent." The Executive Council sat yesterday to consider the propriety of allowing the healthy emigrants to come up to Sydney. It was resolved, we understand, that they should be relieved today. Orders to that effect have been transmitted to the Harbour Master.

Thursday 8 March 1838, *Sydney Gazette* page 2:

### **The Quarantine Station – Spring Cove**

Such of the immigrants by the *Minerva* as were never attacked by the typhus fever, or had recovered from its effects before the arrival of the vessel in harbour, were relieved from their confinement at Spring Cove on Tuesday, and were brought up with their luggage in the Government boats, to the Dock Yard, in the course of the afternoon. There are still at the Quarantine Grounds, on the convalescent list, very nearly one half their number, who have moved into possession of the houses vacated by the healthy immigrants. The hospital was cleared of patients on Saturday last, so that all who now remain are on the convalescent list, and it is expected, will be allowed to come up to Sydney in the course of ten days. Drs. Rogers and Stuart still remain at Spring Cove in charge of the convalescents. Dr. Browning has been relieved, and returned to Sydney on Tuesday. In our next we shall furnish our readers with a list of the deaths since the vessel left Greenock, for the information of their relatives in the Colony and in the mother-country.

There is one subject connected with the release of these immigrants that requires particular notice. It is not the practice to place immigrants who have been brought out on the bounty, as the immigrants of the *Minerva* were, in the barracks erected by the Government for the reception of such immigrants as are selected by the Government Emigration Agents. It has always been the practice, hitherto, to retain such immigrants on board their respective ship for eight or ten days after their arrival in harbour, to allow them time to make their requisite arrangements for their settlement in town, or complete their engagements for proceeding to the interior. From the unfortunate circumstances attendant on the arrival of the *Minerva*, her immigrants were shut out from this privilege, and consequently, on their arrival in Sydney, had no other resource than to be turned adrift in the streets of Sydney, to shift for themselves as best they might. Under such circumstances we should have thought that our paternal Government would have conceived it a duty to provide them with an asylum for a week or ten days until they should have been provided for, and the more especially as wives had been separated from their husbands, and children from their mothers, who are still retained at the Quarantine Grounds. So far, however, was this from being the case, that we are assured that an absolute refusal was given by the Executive Council of the Government on Monday last, to an application for leave to place them in the Immigrants' Barracks on their arrival, although it is a well known fact that these Barracks are nearly empty at the present moment. We confess our inability, altogether, to account for the refusal so heartlessly callous, nevertheless we are assured, and on the best authority, that such a refusal was actually given.

It is at all events certain that the immigrants found no place prepared for their reception, on their arrival, and many of them were obliged to leave their luggage exposed to the mercy of the wind and weather, while they went to look for "where to lay their heads". One particularly affecting case of this kind was that of four infant children of the late Mr. Dickson, the eldest of whom does not apparently exceed ten years of age, who were sent up to Sydney in the Government boats, without a single individual to look after or care for them, their only surviving parent being still detained among her fellow sufferers.

Since the above was written we have learned that Mr. Polack, the auctioneer, very kindly allowed the immigrants the use of the large building in lower George-street, formerly occupied as his auction rooms.

The convalescents under Dr. Stuart's care at the Quarantine Station have presented him with following address un acknowledgment of his services:-

*Lazaretto, Spring Cove,  
March 5<sup>th</sup> 1838.*

TO JAMES STUART, Esq.,  
COLONIAL ASSISTANT SURGEON  
Sir,

As we now have every reason to believe that the disease has come to a termination, we, the undersigned, take the opportunity of returning you our most sincere and grateful thanks for your perseverance and kind attention to us while labouring under the fever, and during our convalescence; day and night you have been always at your post, with medical aid, and nothing was wanting on your part to promote our health or increase our happiness while under your charge.

(signed by 54 of the immigrants)

It was reported later that the Dickson children were being looked after by a relative or friend of the late Mr Dickson, named Gilchrist.

Saturday 10 March 1838, *Sydney Gazette* page 2:

#### **The Quarantine Station – Spring Cove**

There now remain, in all, at the Quarantine Station, but 70 of the immigrants by the *Minerva*, of whom 43 are in the houses, recently vacated by the healthy immigrants, and 27 are in the convalescent grounds. Those at the healthy station, all of whom have for a considerable time been convalescent, will be the first relieved, and the others, who have only recently been removed from the hospital, will follow in a short time after. The following list of the deaths, from the date of the ship's departure from Greenock, we publish for the information of their friends in the mother country:-

#### *On Board the Minerva*

Mrs. McKinnon, from Kilmarnock, died on the 29<sup>th</sup> September (1837)  
Donald McPhail, from Kintyre, carpenter, 27<sup>th</sup> October  
Mary Angus, an infant, from Iona, 30<sup>th</sup> October  
John McIntosh, from Caithness, carpenter, 6<sup>th</sup> December  
John Carr, from Perthshire, shepherd, 6<sup>th</sup> December  
John Cook, from the Isle of Arran, 19<sup>th</sup> December  
Mrs. Cook, wife of the above, 20<sup>th</sup> December  
Mary Cook, daughter to the above, 31<sup>st</sup> December  
John Campbell, from Belfast, gardener, 5<sup>th</sup> January (1838)  
Alexander McClure, from the Isle of Skye, shopkeeper, 7<sup>th</sup> January  
Alexander McNeil, from Kintyre, farm labourer, 15<sup>th</sup> January  
Mrs. Dr. Cook, a native of Saltcoats, 17<sup>th</sup> January  
James Currier, from Saltcoats, tailor, 17<sup>th</sup> December (1837)  
Mrs. Neil McNeil, from Kintyre, 21<sup>st</sup> December  
Hector McKelvie, Campbelltown, shepherd, 25<sup>th</sup> January  
Mrs Alexander McNeil and infant, from Kintyre, 26<sup>th</sup> January  
Mary McKinlay, 10 years of age, from Campbelltown, 27<sup>th</sup> January

*At the Quarantine Station*

James Ogilvie, from Glasgow, blacksmith, 31<sup>st</sup> January

Mr Schneider, German Missionary, 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Mr McArthur, second officer of the *Minerva*, 5<sup>th</sup> February

Miss Martha Lucas, from Dungannon, 5<sup>th</sup> February

Peter McNeil, from Dindinnie, Wigtonshire, farmer, 5<sup>th</sup> February

David Dickson and Son, from Kilmarnock, farmer, 6<sup>th</sup> February

Matthew Mitchell, from Kilmarnock, shopkeeper, 7<sup>th</sup> February

Alexander Sutherland, from Morayshire, teacher, 8<sup>th</sup> February

Mrs. Clark, from Dunoon, Argyleshire, 13<sup>th</sup> February

Angus Stevenson, from Oban, Argyleshire, farmer, 18<sup>th</sup> February

Mrs. Swan, from Ayrshire, 18<sup>th</sup> February

Mrs Cunningham, from Kilmarnock, 21<sup>st</sup> February

John Latta, from Kilmarnock, currier, 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Of these, one, viz., Donald McPhail was drowned; one Mrs. Alexander McNeil, died in childbirth; one Mrs Cunningham, from asthma; and the remainder from typhus fever.

Dr Stuart's thanks for the testimonial were published in the *Sydney Gazette* on 15 March:

*To the Emigrants per Minerva, convalescent from typhus fever, who were delivered to the care of Dr. Rogers, from the Lazaretto, on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 1838.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I acknowledge with thankful feelings the testimonials of your approbation of my conduct, which appeared in the *Sydney Gazette* of yesterday, and it is a source of much pleasure to me that my humble efforts in your behalf have been appreciated by you. I am sorry that my exertions were not crowned with more success, in rescuing your companions from the ravages of the malignant fever which raged among you; but in this the will of Divine Providence has been fulfilled, and the arm of human aid has been raised in vain.

It is but natural that the circumstances under which we have met here, should have excited on my part an interest in your future welfare in this distant land, and from the intercourse which I have had, in my professional capacity, with the more general portion of society in this colony, I can, from experience, advise you, that in order to ensure success and happiness in your various callings, you will continue to observe the same peaceful and orderly line of conduct which I have witnessed on your part, without exception, during the period you were under my charge. The dangers and calamities through which you have passed, and they have been many, - the bereavements which some of you have suffered, and they have been great, will be as nought in comparison to the miseries which await you should you swerve from that course of moral rectitude in which you have been instructed by your fathers in your native land, and in which you will be sure to find a safeguard against temptations in a strange one.

You will please bear in mind that every emigrant ship coming to these shores is expected to bear on board persons, the influence of whose good example will tend to improve the social condition of the class of the community to which they may belong, and your good sense will point out to you the necessity of perseverance in those principles of conduct which will obtain respect for yourselves and honour for the country whence you came, and thus fulfil the

expectation of those who are interested in your own welfare and in the public good.

Already has your reputation been encouraging, your misfortunes have excited the sympathies of the good and humane, and it must be a consolation to you to know, that even in this distant part of the world the hand of commiseration and friendship has been extended to you.

The Lord Bishop of Australia, as you are aware, in a note to me, offered to provide the services of a clergyman of the Episcopalian Church to administer to the spiritual wants of such of you as belonged to her communion, and expressed himself in the warmest terms of benevolence towards you.

A committee of ladies was formed in Sydney who furnished your females and children with an ample stock of comfortable clothing, and the Government have been most prompt in sending for your use a constant supply of provisions and comforts of the very best description.

Therefore it remains with yourselves to realize in this prosperous colony the hopes of success which induced you to leave your native land. A well directed resolution will enable you to guard against the evils and temptations by which you may be surrounded, and to overcome any difficulties which may lie in your way, and in the hope that they may be few and transient.

I remain

Your sincere friend

(signed) JAMES STUART, Col. Asst. Surgeon

*Lazaretto, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1838.*

At the Quarantine Station a number of matters had to be tidied up. The orphan, Jane McNeil, was being looked after by Mrs McGlashan, who had elected to stay in quarantine while her husband Robert was still there. On 11 March an order was made for Jane to be admitted to the Orphan School.

Two children whose mother was dead and father in the Lazaretto (Neil McNeil?), also Mrs McCormick with three children, and Mrs McGuire with two, were allowed to stay in the healthy quarantine station until the men were released.

Many people had to be paid. It was established by the Colonial Architect that the rate of wages paid to Emigrant Mechanics (tradesmen) was 6/8 per day. And this, deducting rations, would be a fair allowance for the carpenter, John Alexander. The hospital attendants were to be paid, John Cockburn the superintendent at 2/6 per day and the others at 1/6. Of the original attendants, Mrs Cunningham had died, Eliza Leighton had gone down with the fever, and Turin McKinley had deserted from his position as a hospital attendant. Mrs Mitchell and Richard Kidston had then been appointed, but both had gone down with the fever.

Dr Browning tried to claim 4/- per day for Peter Nicholson, who had acted as Storekeeper and had served out the rations daily, but as there had been no previous agreement or promise made "by any competent person", this was not allowed.

Dr Browning's remuneration also was subject to some controversy. Dr Thompson, who had approved his appointment, thought he should be paid for the whole period on the same scale as gentlemen who had been similarly employed on previous occasions, but because he had been superseded in consequence of his "disobedience", it was recommended that he be paid one guinea per day for the time he was in charge, and half a guinea for the remainder of the period. He was also authorized to receive 5/- per day table money (to cover meals).

Dr Stuart considered that he should be eligible for 30/- per day as he had sole charge of the Lazaretto without any assistant. However he was only allowed 20/- per day, in addition to his pay as Colonial Assistant Surgeon. He also received 5/- per day table money.

When putting in his claim Dr Rogers asked for 5/- per day table money and wisely left a blank for his remuneration. It was filled in for him at 30/- per day!

Dr Stuart prepared a nominal list of all persons under his charge at the Lazaretto on 24 March:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>State</u>
1. Mr John Cockburn	27	healthy
2. Mrs Cockburn	21	convalescent from fever
3. William Henderson	26	healthy
4. Mrs Henderson	22	convalescent from fever
5. Mrs Mitchell	17	“ “ hysteria
6. Jane Sloss	20	healthy
7. Elizabeth Leighton	17	convalescent from fever
8. Mrs Dixon	32	“
9. Janet Shaw	17	“
10. Joseph Brison	30	healthy
11. Mrs White	21	convalescent from fever
12. Robert White son	2	healthy
13. R.W. Kidston	26	convalescent from fever
14. Thos. Ewing	20	“
15. Hugh McCrea	29	“
16. James Swan	25	“
17. John Alexander	24	at present ill with slight attack of fever
18. Mrs “	26	convalescent from fever
19. Allen McCormick	28	“
20. Mrs Clara Zillman	21	“
21. Mrs Schneider	26	presently ill but recovering from relapse of fever
22. Alexr. McGuire	25	convalescent from fever and affected with dysentery
23. Mrs McGuire	23	convalescent from fever
24. Allen McGuire	3	“
25. Peter McGuire	1	healthy/ suffering from severe scald on breast
26. Neill McNeill	27	convalescent from fever
27. Andrew McNeill	3	healthy
28. James McNeill	1	subject of dysentery

The *Sydney Gazette* reported that another division of the emigrants were brought up to Sydney:

Saturday 24 March 1838, *Sydney Gazette* page 2:

**The Quarantine Station – Spring Cove**

The division of emigrants under the charge of Dr. Rogers, at Spring Cove, were released from Quarantine and brought up to Sydney in the Government boats yesterday. Considerable fear was felt, some days since, lest the disease should again make its appearance, in consequence of Mrs. Schneider, the widow of one of the German missionaries, feeling unwell and being placed in hospital. It was soon ascertained, however, that Mrs. Schneider's illness was more of the mind than the body, arising from the loss of her husband, to whom she has been

devotedly attached. This incident occasioned the detention of the emigrants in quarantine a few days longer than would otherwise have been the case. Before the emigrants left yesterday Mrs. Schneider had fully recovered her wonted health, and was visible among the other convalescents assembled on the brow of the hill to witness their departing companions. There now remain in the convalescent station, in all, 22 individuals, all perfectly free from fever, and gradually regaining their strength. It is expected that they will all be relieved in the course of a few days. Dr. Rogers who has charge of the healthy station returned with his charge to Sydney yesterday. The emigrants speak in high terms of the kindness they experienced while under his superintendence.

Thursday 29 March 1838, *Sydney Gazette* page 2:

TO WILLIAM ROGERS, Esq R.N.

*The Address of the healthy Emigrants per Minerva, recently released from quarantine*

Sir, We regret that the bustle and confusion attendant on our settlement in the "land of the stranger" have prevented us from acknowledging, at an earlier period, the obligations we owe to you for the uniform kindness and urbanity we experienced while under your superintendence at Spring Cove. We regret it the more because many of our number, equally desirous with ourselves to record their deep sense of the gratitude we all owe you for your unwearied exertions in our behalf, have been called, in the good providence of God, to proceed to various parts of the interior, and are thus prevented from joining us in offering you that tribute of thanks you well deserve at our hands. Accept then, Sir, we entreat you, our most sincere acknowledgements for your unvarying kindness and attention to everything that could in any degree contribute to our comfort, under the distressing circumstances in which we were placed.

It is your promptitude in putting a stop to the intercourse which, previous to your arrival, was tolerated between the Lazaretto and the healthy station, that we consider ourselves indebted for our release from Quarantine; and to the excellence of your regulations in removing from among us everything likely to propagate contagion, we ascribe under Divine mercy, our preservation from the ravages of the disease which carried so many of our companions to an early grave.

We have now but to bid you farewell. May you hereafter, wheresoever, or however placed, enjoy unbounded health, happiness and prosperity.

We are, Sir,

Your very obedient servants,  
(signed by 33 emigrants)

20<sup>th</sup> March 1838

Thursday 29 March 1838, *Sydney Gazette* page 2:

*To the Emigrants per Minerva released from the Quarantine Health Station, Spring Cove.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The honor you do me in expressing your approbation of the manner I carried into effect my public duties at the Quarantine Ground, is to me highly flattering, and for which allow me to return to you my warmest thanks; but your own orderly and moral conduct, and the prompt manner you always assisted in forwarding the service I was sent to accomplish, tended much to arrest the progress of the

infection and to forward our release. That all of you may enjoy every blessing this world can afford in this your adopted country, is the heartfelt wish and fervent prayer of

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your very faithfully and obedt, servant,  
WM ROGERS, R.N.

Sydney, 26<sup>th</sup> March, 1838.

John Cockburn was one of the emigrants, chosen by Dr Stuart to superintend the attendants in the hospital:

Saturday 31 March 1838, *The Colonist* page 3:

THE MINERVA.  
TO MR. JOHN COCKBURN.

Quarantine Station, March, 1838.

Dear Sir, - We the undersigned would consider ourselves guilty of a gross dereliction of duty, did we not thus publicly come forward and render to you our most sincere thanks and gratitude for the unwearied care and persevering kindness you have invariably shown to those who have been placed under your cognizance.

We beg also to state that the labour, the anxiety, and trouble you experienced in attending to the sick and convalescent, will ever be held in remembrance by us; we hope you will be blessed in all your undertakings, because under God and Dr. Stuart we consider you as instrumental in saving many, that you may be blessed in your family, in your basket and in your store, is, and ever will be, the desire of T.C.Ewing, James Hill, Richard W. Kidston, David Leighton, Alexander McGuire, Thomas McComb, Neil McNeil, James Crawford, James Falls, Theodor Franz, Godfrey Wagner, Maria Schneider, Tzillmann, Hector Angus, Malcolm McFarlane, Edward Thomson, Robert White, Joseph Bryson, Thomas Lewis, Hugh McBarin, John Alexander, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Angus, Allan McDonald, Mrs McPhie, Mary Ogilvie, Allan McCormick, James Swan, Miss Fulton, Mrs. Dickson, Elizabeth Leighton, Mrs. McGuire, Mrs. McKinlay, Isaac Tafton, Mrs. White, Mrs McArthur, Mrs. Duff, Isabella Mckinnon, Mrs McCormick, William Clark, Janet Shaw, William Henderson, Mrs. Henderson.

(It appears likely that Mr John Cockburn acted as correspondent for the *Sydney Gazette*, as he was a well educated person, a natural leader of the emigrants, and as head hospital attendant had an intimate knowledge of the emigrants' progress. However this is pure speculation on the part of the authors.)

On 29 March a "List of Immigrants per ship 'Minerva' brought out by the Revd. Dr. Lang" was compiled for the purpose of calculating and paying the bounty. The total number of individuals eligible for the bounty was 128, 115 of whom were actually examined, especially as to evidence of their age. The total amount of the bounty to which Dr. Lang was entitled was £1030, although Dr. Lang did not gain personally from the receipt of this money.

On 31 March the Colonial Secretary, E. Deas Thomson, wrote to the His Excellency the Governor expressing his concern that the Emigrants had been detained in Quarantine for a very long time, and, from the change in the weather, they may suffer in their present situation. During the following week Dr Stuart reported daily that the people were all well, with the exception of the McGuire's son, who had been badly scalded on his chest. They were finally released from quarantine on 7 April.

Immigration was a subject of great concern to Dr Lang's *Colonist*, and on 17 March a leading article appeared entitled 'The immigration ships'. The possible causes of typhus fever were explored, and the article advocated "touching at some port by the way" instead of the quicker, direct voyage generally undertaken at that time. The writer was also "decidedly of opinion that it is both unnecessary and the worst possible policy to subject the healthy portion of the immigrants arriving in the colony by any vessel infected with typhus fever to that (quarantine) system at all."

Dr. Stuart wrote a letter to the *Colonist*, putting them right on some matters of fact and attempting to reason on some of the points raised. His letter was made the subject of a further leading article on 31 March, in which he was charged with *mystification* and *insinuation*. Dr. Stuart was also asked to explain how and by whom, when he was *surgeon in charge*, "Attempts had been notoriously made by certain parties at the quarantine station, to convert the lazaretto into a seraglio – to practice debauchery amid the dying and the dead! nay, that some creature in human form had been actually making dishonourable advances to the poor disconsolate widow of a German missionary, whose husband at the time was scarcely cold in his coffin!" Also in the article were references to two emigrants who were found stealing during the passage, and a third who had just escaped his creditors at home.

The first report came from some of the German missionaries, and was labelled a falsehood by Dr. Stuart. Could it perhaps have been a distorted reference to the dancing encouraged by Dr Rogers among the healthy emigrants?

Mrs Schneider, widow of the German physician and missionary, was still under the care of Dr. Stuart. When Dr. Stuart pointed out the passage referring to her, she contradicted it with indignation.

Dr Stuart, and separately ten of the emigrants, wrote indignantly to the *Sydney Gazette* and the *Colonist*, both of whom published their letters. The immigrants felt that their hitherto unimpeached characters had been "maliciously calumniated". The correspondence seems to have petered out on 5 April, when the *Sydney Gazette* urged upon the government the necessity of investigating into the foundation of so grave a charge. No action appears to have been taken.

In addition to their rations, provided by the Colonial Storekeeper, the following articles were supplied, for which Mr Frances Mitchell claimed the sum of £301-1-6:

List of Articles supplied to Emigrants per Minerva while in Quarantine at Spring Cove from 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1838 to 7<sup>th</sup> April 1838 inclusively

22 lbs	Arrowroot	6	Pans Bed
31 lbs	Ashes	17 quires	Paper Foolscap
234 lbs	Barley	50	Pens
1	Bath – slipper	3 lbs	Pepper
130	Beds	1	Poker
85	Blankets	21	Poles tent
154 bottles	Brandy	50	Pegs tent
3	Brooms – Long Hair	25	Quills
1	Can – 3 gallons	30 lbs	Raisins
105 lbs	Candles	1	Rake Iron
39 lbs	Coffee	143 lbs	Rice
2	Candlesticks – Brass	52	Rugs
32 lbs	Currants	24 lbs	Sago
27	Caps – Night	60	Sheets

5 ½ ton	Coals	25	Shirts
14 Suits	Clothes	64 Pair	Shoes
9 Pair	Drawers	386 lbs	Soap
2436	Eggs	49 Pair	Stockings
17	Forks	18	Spoons
1	Fork – Flesh	12	Spittoons
396	Fowls	3	Stoves Swinging
54	Frocks – Guernsey	1	Steelyard
9	Do. – Duck	5 lbs	Sulphur
1340 lbs	Fruit	7 lbs	Soda
1 basket	Do.	12 lbs	Sugar
1	Fumigating Machine	1 bag	Do.
4	Goblets	1 loaf	Do. Refined
20	Gowns – Hospital	14 lbs	Tea
2	Hats – Straw	13	Tents with Poles, Pegs, Mallets & c.
2	Jackets		Trousers
1 bottle	Ink	37 pair	Towels
1 powder	Do.	20	Tongs
17	Knives	1 Pair	Vest
	Leather for One Pair Shoes	1	Vinegar
72	Mattrasses	3 bottles	Do.
2 lbs	Mustard	4 gallons	Wafers
149 quarts	Milk	1 box	Wheelbarrow
2000	Nails	1	Wine Port
182 lbs	Oatmeal	18 bottles	Do. Do.
6 gallons	Oil – Lamp	11 gallons	Do. Do.
95	Pillows	2 casks	Do. Sherry
198 bottles	Porter	12 bottles	Wick Cotton
		2 balls	

On 8 April the Colonial Architect compiled another inventory of stores held at the Quarantine Station at that date.

On 9 April Dr Stuart submitted a list of clothing burnt, and on 23 April a supplementary list, for which the emigrants received compensation. Several late claims were submitted on 4 May for clothing and bedding destroyed by fire under the inspection of Dr Browning in February, but this time they received the comment, “Much reliance is not to be placed, it is believed, on these certificates, which although signed by Mr. Browning, seem to be prepared by the parties.” A further note says “I can sanction no more payments on account of clothing destroyed at Spring Cove. Ample time was allowed for all claimants to come forward – and a stop must be put to these demands.” One of these lists with its original spelling is presented here for interest:

1 Par Black tsr	16
1 Par Drab tsr	16
1 Vast black	8
1 Par of Draws	4
1 Jacot Black	18
	£3-2-0

On 24 April Dr Stuart made a claim to the Colonial Secretary for compensation relating to his personal articles of clothing and bedding, which had to be destroyed at the

lazaretto Spring Cove, in accordance with Government direction, following the completion of his attendance on the sick from the ship *Minerva*. A note with his letter recommended that he be paid £20 pounds compensation. Although he had still not been paid by 9 June, hopefully he was paid eventually.

On 2 July 1838 the ship *Amelia Thomson* went into quarantine at Spring Cove, and so the whole process began again.

However in spite of the loss of some of the emigrants, either on the passage out or in quarantine, through communicable diseases, the country benefited. The influx of free settlers, who contributed useful skills and labour, helped more rapid growth to take place. Australia owes a debt to people like the Rev Dr John Dunmore Lang, whose efforts helped the bounty scheme to succeed.

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*The Colonist*

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## **Appendix                      List of known People on Ship Minerva**

### **Married immigrants and children on Minerva**

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Alexander John	Joiner/house carpenter	24	Typhus? - recovered
2	“ Isabelle	House maid	26	Typhus - recovered
3	Angus Hector	School master	34	Typhus - recovered
4	“ Marion	Farm servant	27	Typhus - recovered
5	“ Neil		8	
6	“ Hector		4	
7	“ Catherine		3	
8	“ Mary		5	Died on passage 30-10-1837
9	Brice (Bryce) William	Farmer	24	Typhus - recovered
10	“ Margaret	Dressmaker	25	
11	“ William			
12	Clark Walter	Farm overseer	34	Typhus - recovered
13	“ Margaret		30	Died quarantine 12-2-1838
14	Cockburn John	Farmer	28	Chief hospital attendant
15	“ Ann		20	Typhus - recovered

16	Cook	Alexander	Ship's surgeon/farmer	26	Typhus - recovered
17	"	Jane		17	Died on passage 17-1-1838
18	Cook	John	(father of Alexander)	64	Died on passage 19-12-1837
19	"	Mrs	(mother of Alexander)	56	Died on passage 20-12-1837
20	"	Catherine		26	
21	"	Mary	(sister of Alexander)	24	Died on passage 31-12-1837
22	Cunningham	Daniel	Tailor	35	
23	"	Jane		33	Died quarantine 19-2-1838 - asthma
24	"	Daniel		15	
25	"	Samuel		9	
26	"	Mary Jane		11	Typhus - recovered
27	"	Margaret		7	Typhus - recovered
28	Cuthbertson	William	(or Hugh) Nailor	25	
29	"	Margaret	(or Mary)	31	

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Remarks</u>	
30	Cuthbertson	Hillary	6		
31	"	Robert (or William)	7	Typhus - recovered	
32	"	Thomas	1		
33	Dickson	David	Farmer	34	Died quarantine 6-2-1838
34	"	Margaret		32	Typhus - recovered
35	"	Benjamin		11	
36	"	Robert		8	
37	"	William		6	
38	"	George		4	
39	"	David		1	Died quarantine 6-2-1838
40	Duff	Robert	Engineer/farmer	25	
41	"	Elizabeth	Straw bonnets maker	22	
42	Eagleson	Hugh	Tailor	25	
	(Eaglesham)				
43	"	Frances		23	
44	Ewing	Thomas Campbell	Teacher	20 or 28	Typhus - recovered
45	"	Eliza		35	
46	"	Robert		?	
47	Gardener	John	Farmer	35	
48	"	Mary	Farm service	33	
49	"	John		7	

50	"	Robert		6	
51	"	David		5	
52	"	Alexander		2	
53	"	James		1	
54	"	Jane		9	
55	Gunn	Daniel	Joiner/carpenter	22	
56	"	Margery	House servant	23	
57	Hansman	Gottfried	Missionary/butcher	26	
58	"	Wilhelmia	Seamstress	28	
59	Henderson	William	Engineer	21	Hospital attendant
60	"	Elizabeth	Dressmaker	20	Typhus - recovered
61	Hortenstein	A.W.F.	Weaver/missionary	35	
62	"	Christina	School mistress	28	
63	Leighton	David	mason and builder	33	Typhus - recovered
64	"	Mary	Country servant	33	
65	"	David Blair		10	Typhus - recovered
66	"	William		1	
67	"	Janet		6	
	<u>Name</u>		<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
68	Leighton	Margaret		4	
69	McArthur	Gilbert	Potter	32	
70	"	Margaret	Potter/painter	28	Typhus - recovered
71	"	Alexander		10	
72	"	Thomas		8	
73	"	Gilbert		4	
74	"	Janet or Jane		5	Typhus - recovered
75	"	Minessa		4 months	- born on the passage
76	McComb	Thomas	Farmer	27	Typhus - recovered
77	"	Frances		26	
78	McCormick	Allan	Farm overseer	28	Typhus - recovered
79	"	Mary		24	Typhus - recovered
80	"	Hugh		3	
81	"	John (nephew of Allan)		10	
82	"	Effy		1	
83	McFarlane	Robert	Blacksmith	23	
84	"	Agnes	Embroidress	17	
85	McFarlane	John	Ploughman/farm servant	28	
86	"	Isabella	Farm servant	22	
87	McGilvary	Alexander	Joiner	30	

88	"	Isabella (or Mary)	House servant	24	
89	McGlashan	Robert	Coachmaker	33	
90	"	Elizabeth		?	
91	"	Alex		5	
92	"	Elizabeth		2	
93	McGuire	Alexander	Shoemaker	25	Typhus - recovered
94	"	Catherine		23 or 25	Typhus - recovered
95	"	Peter		1	Severe scald on chest
96	"	Anne		3	Typhus - recovered
97	McKinlay	Turing	Farm servant	32	
98	"	Janet		27	Typhus - recovered
99	"	Mary	child, age uncertain		Died Pt Jackson 27-1-1838
100	Mackinnon	Alexander	Currier	26	
101	"	Martha		21	Died on passage 29-9-1837
102	McMillan	Alexander	Shoemaker	33	Engaged by Mr Smith George St Sydney to work by Piecework
103	"	Martha (or Mary)	Country servant	31	
104	"	William		5	
	<u>Name</u>		<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
105	McMillan	Janet		9	
106	"	Martha		4	
107	"	Letitia		11 months	
108	McNeil	Alexander	Farmer	30	Died on passage 15-1-1838
109	"	Mary		30	Died Pt Jackson 26-1-1838 In childbirth
110	"	Janet		2	Orphan
111	McNeil	Neil	Farmer	27	Typhus - recovered
112	"	Mary		29	Died on passage 21-12-1837
113	"	Andrew		3	
114	"	James		1	
115	McPhail	Donald	Joiner	22	Drowned on passage 27-10-1837
116	"	Christy	Farm servant	24	"good plain cook"
	"	Female child born in quarantine			
117	Mitchell	Matthew	Farm servant/shopkeeper	32	Died quarantine 7-2-1838
118	"	Jane	Nursery maid	17	Typhus - recovered
119	Nique	Peter	Bricklayer/missionary	25	
120	"	Maria Sophia		23	
121	Ogilvie	James	Blacksmith	25	Died quarantine 31-1-1838

122	"	Mary	Sempstress	25	Typhus - recovered
123	Rode	Auguste	Joiner/cabinet maker/ missionary	26	
124	"	Julia		23	
125	Schneider	Moritz	Turner/physician/ missionary	26	Died quarantine 3-2-1838
126	"	Maria		27	Typhus - recovered, Pregnant
127	Swan	James	Shemaker	25	Typhus - recovered
128	"	Jessie (maiden name Baine)		17	Died quarantine 18-2-1838
129	White	Robert	Farm servant	26	Typhus - recovered
130	"	Margaret	House servant	21	Typhus - recovered
131	"	Robert		2	
132	"	Female infant died on passage out			
133	(S) Zillman	Leopold (Nopola)	Blacksmith/missionary	25	
134	"	Clara	School mistress	21	Typhus - recovered

### Unmarried Male Immigrants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
135 Adam Thomas	Cabinet maker	18	
136 Albrecht Christopher	Compositor/shoemaker Missionary	22	
137 Bryson Joseph	Groom/coachman	30	Hospital attendant
138 Campbell John	gardener	31	Died on passage 5-1-1838
139 Carr John	Shepherd	29	Died on passage 6-12-1837
140 Clark William	?	?	
141 Cook Henry (Finlay)	Shepherd	18	Typhus - recovered
142 Crawford James	Joiner/carpenter	24	Typhus - recovered
143 Currie James	Tailor	28	Died on passage 17-12-1837
144 Doge Ludovick	Gardener/missionary	24	
145 Falls James	Farm labourer	21	Typhus - recovered
146 Franz Theodore	Tailor/missionary	23	Typhus - recovered
147 Hearst Baptist	Carpenter	31	
148 hill James	Blacksmith	24	Typhus - recovered
149 Hunter James	Farmservant/plasterer	27	
150 Jervis Thomas	?	27	Typhus - recovered
151 Kidston Richard	Farmer	25	Typhus - recovered
152 Latta John	Currier/farm servant	24	Died quarantine 2-3-1838
153 Leitch Alexander	Farm/servant	43	
154 Lewis Thomas	?	?	Typhus - recovered
155 Livingston Lachlan	Shoemaker	25	
156 Lucas John	Farm servant	25	Nephew of Dickson
157 McArthur Neil	Joiner	27	

158	McBean Hugh	?	29	Typhus - recovered
159	McClennan Donald	Shepherd	25	
160	McClennan Duncan	Tailor	25	
161	McCrae Duncan	Farm overseer	30	
162	McCrae Duncan	Ploughman	28	
163	McDonald Allan	Farm servant	28	Typhus - recovered
164	McFarlane Malcolm	Shepherd	23	Typhus - recovered
165	McIntosh John	Carpenter	28	Died on passage 6-12-1837
166	McKay Peter	Farm servant	21	
167	McKeachie Alexander	Farm servant	24	
168	McKelvie Hector	Shepherd	22	Died Pt Jackson 25-1-1838
169	McKindlay James	Joiner	23	Engaged with Robb Bathurst St
170	McClure Alexander	Shopkeeper	24	Died on passage 7-1-1838
171	McNeil Alexander	Farm labourer	31	Died on passage 18-1-1838
172	McNeil peter	Farmer	30	Died quarantine 5-2-1838
173	McPhie John	Farm servant	29	
174	McPhie Ann	<b>Widow</b> mother of John	50	
175	McPhie Neil		10	
176	Nicholson Peter	Sheep farmer	29	
177	Pasche A.L.	?	40	German
178	Plunkett Joseph	Farm servant	20	Typhus - recovered
179	Sefton Isaac	Farm overseer	24	Typhus - recovered
180	Stevenson Angus	Farmer	27	Died quarantine 18-2-1838

#### Unmarried Male Immigrants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
181 Stevenson Hugh	Grazier	35	
182 Sutherland Alexander	Teacher	27	Died quarantine 8-2-1838
183 Sutherland John	Joiner/carpenter	22	
184 Thomson Edward	Miner	25	Typhus - recovered with Mr Walter Mitchell, to go to Mr James McFarlane
185 Wagner Gottfried	Shoemaker/missionary	28	Typhus - recovered
186 Walker Robert	Baker	30	
187 Wiley (or Wylie) Robert	Tailor	21	
188 Wilson Lawrence	Tailor	22	
189 Wright Hugh	Farm servant	24	

#### Unmarried Female Immigrants

190 Cook Margaret	Farm servant	16	With brother Henry
191 Fulton Jean (or Jane)		24	Typhus - recovered with Alexander McKeachie
192 Lang Mary Ellinor	Dressmaker/milliner	26	With Thomas McComb
193 Leighton Eliza	House servant	17	Typhus - recovered with brother David
194 Lucas Martha	(D. Dickson's niece)	18	Died quarantine 5-2-1838
195 McEachen Elizabeth	Country service	24	Protection of Hugh Stevenson and his sisters
196 McKinnon Isabella	House servant	18	Typhus - recovered Protection of Mr John Cook

197	McPhie	Mary		17	Protection of mother and Brother
198	McPhie	Flora		15	Engaged by Surgeon Neilson and wife at £12 pa
199	McPhie	Margaret	Diary maid	21	Engaged by Rev Dr Lang at £12 pa
200	McPhie	Catherine		19	Engaged by Mr John MacPherson of Limestone Plains at £12 pa
201	Niven	Jean	Servant to Mr Dickson	16	Protection of Mr Dickson
202	Shaw	Janet (or Jane)	Housemaid	17	Typhus – recovered Protection of brother and sister
203	Sloss	Jane	Housemaid	17	Hospital attendant Protection Of Daniel Cunningham
204	Stevenson	Jesse	Dairy maid	26	Protection of brother Hugh
205	Stevenson	Anne	Dairy and farm servant	33	Protection of brother Hugh

Of this number of immigrants, 31 died either on the voyage out in or quarantine. Only three of these deaths were not due to typhus fever viz :- Donald McPhail fell overboard and was drowned, Mrs Alexander Mcneil died in childbirth on the passage out, and Mrs Jane Cunningham died in quarantine from asthma.

**Poop Cabin Passengers Total 16** No poop cabin passenger was affected by typhus fever.

George Taylor and Mrs G. Taylor

**Poop Cabin Passengers**

George McAusland, aged 52, mariner, Mrs Christian McAusland, aged 35, and three children, Archibald John Bonar aged 2, Mary aged 7, and one whose name and age were not recorded.

L. Allan McCaskill

H. Norman Simpson

Walter Mitchell

Thomas Stevenson

Angus M. Williams

Rev. William Schmidt and Mrs Schmidt

Rev. Christopher Eipper and Mrs Eipper

**Ship's Crew This totaled 21.** Thomas Furlong Master.

The second officer of the Minerva Mr McArthur died in quarantine on 5-2-1838. he appears to have been the only member of the crew affected by typhus fever.

The known number on board the ship Minerva was 205 immigrants + 16 cabin passengers + 21 crew = **Total 242 persons.** This total does not agree with the recorded number of 235.