

Lazaretto Stations * Student Handout 5

STATION: Daily Routine of Doctor

The American Daily Advertiser
—PHILADELPHIA—
Tuesday, October 3, 1815.

Lazaretto.

There have been visited at the Lazaretto during the late quarantine term,	440 vessels.
Of the whole number, there were	} 194
Coasters,	
There were detained at the quarantine Station,	} 40
In the Hospital there were	53 patients.
The number of Deaths was	10
Discharged, cured	43

PASSAGE 1: From *American Daily Advertiser, Philadelphia*, Tuesday, October 3, 1815

Courtesy the *American Daily Advertiser*

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Dr. Herbst's Work...As Lazaretto Physician down the Delaware River

Dr. [Edwin] M. Herbst...finished his first season as quarantine physician in the Phila. harbor...

[Dr. Herbst said] "Life at the quarantine is full of interesting episodes and incidents. Our hours were from sunrise to sunset.



THE "VISITOR" IN THE INSIDE CHANNEL AT THE LAZARETTO
(From a photograph by the author)

... Attached to the lazaretto is the splendid "tug" [boat]...named the "Visitor". ... Frequently at dawn I was aboard the tug and down the bay inquiring into the health of passengers and crews of incoming vessels. When a ship arrives after hours she is compelled to drop anchor at quarantine and remain there until next morning to be examined by the physician of the port, that is, the lazaretto physician. For that reason early work was necessary. Frequently, before breakfast, I examined a half dozen vessel [sic].

The "Visitor" In the Inside Channel At The Lazaretto (1896) From *Under the yellow flag : an account of some experiences of Henry Leffmann as port physician of the port of Philadelphia ; to which have been added a few notes and comments on the history of the port of Philadelphia*, Philadelphia : G.F. Fell et Societas, 1896

During the season...I officially went aboard 656 vessels and inquired into the health of 11,700 passengers or 20,000 people-passengers and crews...No vessel has the right to proceed up to Phila. until the lazaretto physician gives his consent. He does not do so until he is satisfied there is no contagious disease on board....

PASSAGE 2: Excerpts from *Reading Eagle* September 27, 1891.

Credit: Courtesy Reading Eagle



Detail of Lazaretto and Board of Health Officials (1896) From *Under the yellow flag : an account of some experiences of Henry Leffmann as port physician of the port of Philadelphia ; to which have been added a few notes and comments on the history of the port of Philadelphia*, Philadelphia : G.F. Fell et Societas, 1896

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The Lazaretto Physician would have lived on the grounds so that he could be readily available to do his job. Pictured above is his residence.

Credit: From *Under the yellow flag : an account of some experiences of Henry Leffmann as port physician of the port of Philadelphia ; to which have been added a few notes and comments on the history of the port of Philadelphia*, Philadelphia : G.F. Fell et Societas, 1896