

Surgeon's Journal of Her Majesty's Female Convict Ship *Duke of Cornwall*
 Mr Charles Smith, Surgeon
 from 5th July 1850 to 4th November 1850
 Adm. 101-020-03

PB 100123 & 4

Copy of the sick list of the Duke of Cornwall Female Convict Ship

When Put On Sick List	Name	Age		Disease or Hurt	When Put Off Sick List	How Disposed Of
1850						
July 6 th	Margaret Kenealy	25		Hysteria	July 20 th	To duty
"	Margaret O'Neill	23		Hysteria	" 25	"
" 8	Margaret Enright	28		Pleuritis	" 30	"
" 9	Anne Forbes	34		Catarrhus	" 29	"
" 10	Esther Delany	28		Catarrhus	" 28	"
" 11	Ellen Costello	53		Phlogosis	" 22	"
" 16	Ellen Cotter	23		Pleuritis	" 30	"
" "	Mary O'Connor	34		Menorrhagia	August 15 th	"
" 20	Winifred Brennan	25		Phlogosis	" 13	"
" 23	Honora Keefe	28		Dyspepsia	" 19	"
" "	Johanna Collins	21		Hysteria	" 13	"
" 24	Mary Carroll	21		Contusio	" 8	"
" 28	Mary Farrell	23		Dyspepsia	" 25	"
" "	Eliza Eagar	33		Rheumatismus	" 23	"
" 29	Mary Ann Booth	23		Dysentaria	" 28 th	"
August 5 th	Mary Maher	23		Hysteria	Sept ^r 10	"
" 6	Jane McManus	26		Hysteria	October 24 th	"
" 7	Mary Kenny	24		Hysteria	" 14	"
" 10	Ellen Dawley	30		Dyspepsia	" 2	"
" "	Caroline Edwards	30		Menorrhagia	August 25	"
" 25	Johanna Regan	30		Diarrhoea	Sept ^r 14	"
" 16	Mary A. Colman	23		Hysteria	August 27	"
" 14	Margaret Cunningham	28		Hysteria	August 31	"
" 15	Anne Allan	21		Hysteria	Sept ^r 5 th	"
" 17	Margaret Mahoney	16		Hysteria	Sept ^r 4	"
" 25	Mary Mahoney	23		Hysteria	September 8	"
" 27	Mary Johnson	23		Hysteria	September 13	"
" 29	Mary Keenan	25		Hysteria	" 6	"
" "	Ellen Kelly	17		Hysteria	" 19	"
August 30 th	Margaret Neill	30		Dislocatio	September 19 th	To Duty
" 30	Mary King	28		Hysteria	" 22	"
September 1 st	Ellen Dillon	19		Hysteria	" 7	"
" 2	Catherine Delaney	17		Dislocatio	" 10	"
" 3	Mary Allen	23		Catarrhus	" 20	"
" "	Bridget Mullen	27		Phlogosis	" 16	"
" "	Mary Dusey	23		Hysteria	September 18	"
" 4	Mary Nicholson	23		Menorrhagia	" 29	"
" 5	Mary Egan	15		Catarrhus	" 29	"
" "	Mary Taylor	25		Hysteria	" 30	"
" 10	Susan McKenna	29		Hysteria	October 1 st	"
" "	Bridget Kenny	23		Hysteria	October 1 st	"
" 11	Ellen Sullivan	24		Hysteria	Septem ^r 30 th	"
" "	Bridget Tierney	17		Hysteria	October 2 nd	"
" 13	Anne Doyle	29		Hysteria	" 3	"
" 14	Anne Mateer	29		Hysteria	" 7	"
" 15	Ellen McDonald	24		Hysteria	" 9	"

“ 15	Mary Curren	23		Catarrhus	“ 9	“
“ 15	Jane Groves	23		Hysteria	“ 4	“
“ 15	Mary Johnson	25		Catarrhus	“ 5	“
“ 17	Bridget Mannion	21		Catarrhus	“ 6	“
“ 17	Anne Dunne	23		Colica	“ 25	“
“ “	Ellen Connors	23		Contusio	“ 25	“
“ 21	Bridget Kyne	30		Scorbutus	“ 26	“
“ 25	Mary Quinn	29		Menorrhagia	“ 19	“
“ 27	Dorothea Little	28		Diarrhoea	“ 19	“
“ 30	Jane Whelan	17		Catarrhus	“ 17	“
October 2 nd	Bridget McNulty	29		Catarrhus	October 19 th	To Duty
“ “	Catherine Croke	54		Tumor	November 4 th	Hospital
“ 3	Ellen Dawley	30		Dyspepsia	October 23	Died at Sea
“ 3	Eliza Eagar	33		Rheumatismus	“ 4	Hospital
“ 6	Eliza McGaghran	44		Dysentaria	October 25	Died at Sea
“ 6	Mary Curley	23		Hysteria	Nov ^r 4	Hospital
“ 6	Johanna Regan	30		Diarrhoea	“ 4	Hospital
“ 11	Bridget Grady	23		Dysentaria	November 4 th	Hospital
“ 13	Catherine Casey	21		Dyspepsia	“ 4	Hospital
“ 14	Mary Ann Booth	23		Dysentaria	“ 4	Hospital
“ 14	Caroline Edwards	30		Menorrhagia	“ 4	Hospital
“ 15	Mary Conry	25		Rheumatismus	“ 4	Hospital
“ 15	Eliza McComas	32		Rheumatismus	“ 4	Hospital
“ 29	Margaret Conway	19		Phlogosis	“ 4	Hospital

Medical and Surgical Journal of Her Majesty's Convict Ship Duke of Cornwall between the 5th July 1850 and the 4th November 1850 during which time the said ship has been employed in a voyage from Kingstown to Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land

Nature of Disease	No. of Case	Men's Names, Ages, Qualities, Time when and where taken ill, and how disposed of.	The History, Symptoms, Treatment, and Daily Progress of the Disease or Hurt.
<p>Hysteria</p> <p>PB 100126</p>	1	<p>Margaret Kenealy ætat: 22 was taken ill at Kingstown on the 8th of July and discharged cured on the 20th July 1850</p>	<p>This woman is unmarried and has no children, states that she has been liable to fits for many years, but her health is generally good. She attributes her present attack to the excitement of taking leave of her friends and native country.</p> <p>Symptoms – Pain in the right side between the last rib & the crest of the os innominatum, severe headache with flushed face Tongue white & furred, pulse 90 & hard, bowels rather confined has had no catamenial discharge for 4 months, These Hysterical Paroxysms have recurred during the last 10 hours, consisting of [crying?], laughing & convulsive motion of the extremities, the usual sensation of having a ball or globe in the throat is also present-</p> <p><i>V.S. ad Z xij-</i> <i>Rx Chloridi Hydrargri gr iv</i> <i>Ext: Colocynth: Co gr v</i> <i>Hyoscomi gr ifs ℞</i></p> <p><i>Divide in Pilul: ij – statim Sumentur</i>, to have Barley water for common drink</p> <p>9th Has had two fits since yesterday but of a less severe character, general Symptoms improved, Blood abstracted yesterday buffy with a firm coagulance bowels freely moved, evacuation dark & offensive, tongue cleaner with less thirst- Pulse softer [...] still accelerated</p> <p><i>Rx. Agent Ammonia Aromat zij</i> <i>Mistura Camphoræ Z iv ℞ duo cochlearia magna Sumentur ter vel quater die</i></p> <p><i>Decoct: Hordie continuatur pro communi potu;</i> to have a little arrow Root twice a day.</p> <p>10th Has had several fits since last report but of a modified character, the headache is removed & the pulse & tongue are natural, Bowels have not been open since the 9th <i>Mistura antispasmod contin;</i></p> <p><i>Rx Massæ Pilul: Alves Comp: əj Divide in Pilul: quarum; una Sumenda mane, nocteque</i></p> <p>13th Has had only one attack since last report, <u>general symptoms much the same</u>, appetite improving; sleeps more natural, spirits not so depressed, Bowels are kept open daily by the alcoholic purgative.</p> <p>16 Has been suffering a great deal during the night from colic, with great flatulent distension but the Hysterical Seizures have not recurred general health good.</p> <p><i>Rx Aqua Ammonia zfs</i> <i>Tinct: []Comp.zij</i> <i>Opii gr xx</i> <i>Aq: Fontana Zj ℞ Ft Haustus. Statim Sumentus-</i></p> <p>20th Has had no complaint since the 16th & appears to be in a good state of health.</p>

<p>PB 100127 Pleuritis</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Margaret Henwright ætat 22 was taken ill at Kingston on the 8th July 1850 and discharged cured at Sea on the 30th of July 1850</p>	<p>This Patient is married and has borne several children, states that she has not enjoyed good health for many years, that she has been bled and blistered several times for some complaint of the chest, her constitution does not appear to have suffered much, however, & she has a healthy & vigorous aspect.. Symptoms, sharp pain under left mamma, much increased on taking a deep inspiration. Dry suppressed cough, pulse small and hard, skin hot and dry. Tongue white & slightly furred, bowels confined. catamenia natural, percussion over affected part is dull & the respiratory murmur not very distinct <i>V.S. ad Z xxii</i> <i>Rx. Chloride Hydrargri ðifs</i> <i>Opii gr iij</i> <i>Confect: Aromat: qs ut Ft Pilul: Sex quarum, una ter in die sumenda</i> 9th Has passed a restless night & the pain of side which had considerably abated last night has returned, breathing very uneasy and cough troublesome. Febrile symptoms rather increased in severity, To be bled from a large orifice until the pain is relieved or until faintness supervenes, <i>Pilul: Chloridi Hydr: Contin.</i> To have Barley water <i>ab libitum.</i> Vesp: Is considerably easier tonight, the respiration is freer in comparison & the Pleuritic Stitch much less acute, 18 oz of blood were abstracted, which is buffed and cupped, & has a large proportion of firm coagulum, bowels not open <i>Hab: olei Ricini Zj hora somni</i> 10th Much the same as last night pulse 90 & soft, skin moist, bowels well opened, there is still however pain, in the side increased by pressure or breathing deeply, but there are no Symptoms of effusion into the cavity of the Pleura, although if it is probable that slight adhesions may have formed. <i>Pilul: Chloridi Hydrargri: Repet</i> 11th Has slept a little during the night, & the general Symptoms are much the same as on yesterday, gums somewhat tender, & the mouth has that peculiar mercurial fetor which is generally observed when the System is under the specific action of that metal, as the pain of side is still present a Blister is applied to the affected Part. <i>Pilul: Chlorid: Hydr: omittat.</i> <i>Habeat P: Ipecac Comp gr ʒ h.s.</i> 12th Feels much better this morning can take a deep inspiration without difficulty & the pain of side is in a great measure removed Blister has risen well. vesicated surface to be dressed with <i>unguent: Resinos:</i> <i>Pulv: Ipecac: Comp: repetat</i> 18th This patient continued to improve up to last night when she unfortunately caught a severe cold, & she is suffering this morning from headache with difficult respiration, pulse quick but soft, skin hot & dry the side formerly affected however is free from pain. <i>Rx. Liquor: Ammonia. Acetat: Zifs</i> <i>Antimon: Potassia. Tart: gr ij</i> <i>Aqua Pura Z iij M</i></p>
<p>PB 100128</p>			

			<p><i>Ft. Mist: Cochlearia ampla duo Sumentur ter in die</i> 19th Has passed a tolerably good night the breathing is easier and the Febrile Symptoms have partly subsided <i>Mist: continuatur.</i> 25th The catarrhal affection has disappeared, & she appears to have regained her former state of health. She was discharged on the 30th and cautioned to avoid exposure to cold.</p>
<p>PB 100129 Page 8 Catarrhus</p>	3	<p>Anne Forbes Ætat 34 was taken ill on the 9th of July at Kingstown and discharged at Sea on the 29th of July 1850</p>	<p>Of a feeble constitution is married and had born several children, states that she has been liable to a weakness at the pit of the Stomach & a shortness of breath for many years, & that many members of her family have died of Pulmonary consumption – Symptoms, headache, with a feeling of weight over frontal Sinuses general lassitude, & pain in the loins, pulse small & compressible Bowels confined. Tongue white skin preternaturally hot & dry <i>Rx. Chloridi Hydrargri gr iv</i> <i>Pulv: Rhei əi</i> <i>Pulv: Zingiberis [] iij ℥</i> <i>Ft Pulvis statim Sumendus</i> Lime Juice & water <i>por communi Potu.</i> 10. Has slept little during the night & the febrile symptoms are increased & with a cough & pain in the chest bowels were well moved, <i>Rx. Aq: Ammonia Acetat: Ziifs</i> <i>Pulv: Ipecac: gr xij</i> <i>Misturæ Camphoræ Z iij</i> <i>Cochlearia magna duo. ter vel quater in die Sumenda</i> A little turpentine to be warmed & rubbed into the seat of pain in Thorax until the skin becomes red. 11th Has passed a quiet night and the catarrhal Symptoms are less urgent, skin moist & more cool, <i>Misturæ continuatur</i> To have a little arrow root twice a day. 13th The catarrhal complaint has in a great measure disappeared but the patient complains of debility & pain at the scrobiculus cordis. <i>Rx. Disulphat: Quininæ əj</i> <i>Acidi Sulph: Dilut Ziifs</i> <i>Aq” Fontana lb ifs</i> <i>Cyathus vinarius Sumentur ter quaterve in die</i> To have preserved soup and a little wine twice a day. 15th no improvement since last report the pain in lower sterna region has increased, & there is great debility on making any exertion, appetite defective, & bowels constipated. <i>Emplastrum vesicator: applicator Scrobiculi cordis.-</i> <i>Rx Massæ Pilul: Aloes: Comp: əj ℥ Pilul vj – una Sumenda mane et [Tero?]</i> 17th Feels better this morning and the appetite is improving Blister rose well & has been of considerable benefit, & the pills have acted on the bowels <i>Disulphat: Quininæ, continuatur</i> To have soup & wine as formerly 25 Continues to progress favourably & the pain or cough have not returned <i>med: contin: ut antea</i> 29th Is discharged from the List</p>
<p>PB 100130 Page 10</p>			

<p>Phlogosis</p> <p>PB 100131 Page 12</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Ellen Costello Ætat 49 was taken ill in the bay of Biscay on the 11th of July, and discharged from the Sick List 22nd of July</p>	<p>This patient is married and has borne several children, her constitution appears to be broken up & she has a sickly & worn outlook. Symptoms, complains of severe pain in right mamma, which is hot & somewhat enlarged, Pulse, accelerated, Tongue furred and dry, with some heat of skin and constipated bowels. <i>Rx Chloridi Hydrargri gr iij</i> <i>Pulv: Rhei gr xv</i> <i>P – Zingiberis gr iij ℥</i> <i>Ft Pulvis, statim Sumendus</i> The mammary gland to be well fomented with Hot water; and Decoct: Hordie taken <i>ad libitum</i> 12th Has had a very uneasy night, & the pain & swelling of the gland have increased, the skin of the affected part is red & hot and extremely tender to the touch, <i>cataplasms Lini Farina applicet: mamma dextra</i> <i>Hab: Pulv: Ipecac: Comp: gr x h.s.</i> 13th Swelling in breast much increased, but the pain is less severe, & she has passed a quiet night, bowels open & tongue clean poultice to be changed every 3 hours, To take a little wine and water occasionally. <i>Pulv: Ipecac: Comp: h.s. repetatur.</i> 14th Fluctuation being perceptible in the breast an opening was made in a depending position & about 3 oz of a [noxious?] matter discharged, Simple dressing was applied & an opiate administered 18th this patient is doing well, the cavity of the abscess has contracted and the wound is healing up, She complains of debility & has a sickly & pallid hue <i>Rx Sulphat Quininae gr xii</i> <i>Ammon Sulphat: Dilut: zj</i> <i>Aqua Fontana lbj solve</i> <i>cyathus vinarius ter vel quater die</i> To Have preserved soup, & a little wine <i>pro re nata</i> 22nd Wound healed up. Health much improved. Is discharged from List</p>
<p>Menorrhagia</p> <p>PB 100132 Page 14</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>Mary O'Connor Ætat 34 was taken ill at on the 16th July and discharged from the Sick List on the 15th August 1850</p>	<p>States that she has been married 10 years and has borne 4 children, and that she has invariably bad recoveries after being confined & is liable to attacks of Flooding which leave her in a weak and exhausted condition. Symptoms, severe headache with pulsation of the temporal arteries, Pain in loins, & rigors, with a quick jarring pulse, and a profuse discharge of blood from the vagina, a pocket Handkerchief was dipped into a quantity of vinegar & water & cautiously introduced into the vagina as a Plug. The Horizontal position was enjoined & the following pills prescribed – <i>Rx Acetat: Plumbi zfs</i> <i>Pulv: opii gr iij ℥</i> <i>Confect: Aromat: q.s. ℥</i> <i>Ft Pilul: xij = quorum una ter in die Sumenda</i> 18th There is little change since yesterday, the discharge of blood is still profuse, altho the plug appears to have a beneficial effect in checking it – <i>Pilul: contin: pulse quick, but easily compressed; with thirst To have lime juice & water ad libitum.-</i></p>

			<p>20th Has improved since last report, the discharge is much diminished and the Febrile Symptoms have in a great measure subsided, she complains of weakness & palpitations of the heart on the least exertion. The face is pale & the lips bloodless.- <i>Rx Tinct: Ferri Sesquichloridi Zj</i> <i>Aqua Fontana Ziv ꝥ</i> <i>duo cochlearia magna ter vel quater in die Sumentur</i> To have a little preserved Soup & a little wine occasionally 23rd Appears to be gaining strength slowly, complains today of headache, loss of appetite, & the Tongue is yellow and furred & bowels rather confined. <i>Rx Massæ Pilul: Hydrargr gr xij</i> <i>Pulv: Rhei gr xxv</i> <i>Confect: Aromat q.s. m</i> <i>Ft Pilul xx de quibus una ter in die Sumend: Tinct: Ferri Sesquichloridi continuatur.</i> 25th Bowels have been well opened by the Pills, and the tongue is clean, & appetite improved, there is still some sanguineous discharge & her appearance is not much improved, <i>Tinct: Ferri Sesquichloridi xv g^{ss} & cyath aqua ter in die Sumentur.</i> - generous diet with a little Port wine – 28th Is gradually regaining her strength; appetite moderately good and there is no untoward Symptom, the vaginal discharge is much lessened & is colourless - <i>Medicina contin:</i> to take oz 1½ of Port wine twice a day. August 4th continues to improve slowly, the Rhubarb & blue Pill to be taken as formerly the bowels being confined - <i>Rx Sulp: Quinæ gr xv</i> <i>Acid: Sulp: dilute zj</i> <i>Aq: Fontana lbj solve</i> <i>Cyathus ter in die Sumendus-</i> 15th Feels now stronger than when she first came on board and is much improved general health</p>
<p>PB 100133 Page 16 Contusis</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Mary Carroll Ætat: 21 was taken ill at Sea on the 24th of July & discharged from the Sick List on the 8th of August</p>	<p>Is unmarried & of a healthy constitution, while passing the after hatch way this morning lost her balance & fell down on the lower deck, striking against the lower part of the Iron ventilator on the descent. When taken into the Hospital she as nearly insensible, but swallowed a little wine and water which gradually brought on reaction, on examination a swelling was observed on the upper portion of the Sternum, apparently depending on a slight displacement of the Clavicle at its sternal extremity She complains of difficulty of breathing & of <i>severe pain in the chest on moving the upper extremities</i> – <i>VS. ad Zxij</i> – The Bruised part to be fomented with Chamomile flavoured hot water – 25th Has slept very little during the night, & complains of pains in the joints & general lassitude & uneasiness no doubt produced by the shock of the fall yesterday, The swelling of the Sternum is increased, & the displacement if there is any is not so evident; a figure of 8 flannel bandage is applied with a pad, to render the parts more secure, <i>Hab: olei Ricini Zj –S. h.s.</i></p>

			<p>1st Has had no untoward Symptoms & there is little pain in the chest, unless she attempts to lift anything, appetite good, & pulse and Tongue natural –</p> <p>8th Appears to have completely recovered and can use her hand and arms without inconvenience is discharged from the Sick List this day.</p>
<p>PB 100134 Rheumatismus Page 18</p>	7	<p>Eliza Eagar ætat 34 was taken ill at Sea on the 28th of July and discharged from the Sick List on the 27th of August – was put on the Sick List a second time on the 2nd of October and discharged to the Colonial Hospital on the 4th of November.</p>	<p>This Patient states that she is unmarried but has borne two children that she has suffered every now & then from attacks of Rheumatism & has been in several infirmaries under treatment for this complaint. She is a Hawker by Trade and has in consequence been much exposed to the vicissitude of the weather & to other causes having a tendency to injure the constitution. Symptoms, swelling & severe pain in the large joints, skin hot & dry Tongue white and much furred pulse about 90 & hard bowels constipated , catamenia natural. <i>V.S. ad Zxy - Hab: olei Ricini Zj – S. statim</i></p> <p>To have Barley water for common drink – Vesp:- Bowels freely evacuated, stools fetid & a large quantity. Blood abstracted covered with a thin layer of Buff with little firmness of coagulation, & much serum; pains etc not relieved –</p> <p><i>Rx Chloridi Hydrargr; zfs Opii gr vi Confect: Aromat q.s.</i></p> <p><i>Ut Ft. P. vj. de quibus una ter die Sumenda</i></p> <p>31st Feels much easier this morning, the gums are tender & the breath has the mercurial Fetor – can move the joints without pain or inconvenience.</p> <p>August 4th Has had no return of Rheumatism, but does not appear to be gaining strength – To take Quininæ & a little Port wine, with Preserved Soup & an occasional laxative to keep the bowels open,</p> <p>15th Has no complaint of any kind & appears to be suffering from general debility – Quininæ, & wine to be continued with generous diet.</p> <p>27th very much improved.</p> <p>14th This woman has not been in good health during the voyage & was now suffering from a second attack of Rheumatism & various remedies, have been tried, [.] Colchicum, Quinine, opium & Ipecac etc in different combinations but without permanent advantage now she is [ever/ never?] likely to enjoy good health her constitution very very much impaired.</p>
<p>PB 100135 Page 20 Dysentaria</p>	8	<p>Mary A. Booth Ætat. 23 was taken ill at Sea on the 29th of July and was discharged from the Sick List on the 28th of August. Was put on the Sick List a second time on the 14th of October and discharged to the Colonial Hospital on the 4th of November 1850</p>	<p>States that she is married and was brought to bed about 9 months ago, with a child which was stillborn. She had a bad recovery, & suffered much from bowel complaint & passing of blood etc – She is a Hawker by Trade & has under gone many hardships in travelling over the country & she also adds that her habits have been very intemperate.</p> <p>Symptoms, severe griping pains in belly, frequent purging, evacuations muco-sanguineous, with hardened fæces, pulse about 90 but soft and compressible tongue clean but preternaturally red, no catamenial discharge for 5 months</p>

			<p><i>Hab: olei Recini Zj</i> <i>Tinct: opii gr x # Statim S.</i> Vesp: The oil has brought away a large quantity of Scybalous matter but there is now tenesmus & bearing down pains. <i>Rx. Pulv: Ipecac: Co: gr xij</i> <i>Hora Somni Sumentur</i>, To wear a Flannel Petticoat & to drink freely of warm barley water 30th Hs slept a little during the night, & perspired freely, evacuations not so frequent, & tenesmus less urgent. To take some arrowroot & warm barley-water <i>ad libitum</i>. <i>Rx. Pulv: Dover zfs</i> <i>Confect: Aromat: q.s. ut</i> <i>Ft Pilul viij – De quibus duo hs in die Sumentur.</i> 33(sic) The same treatment has been continued since last report, & the Symptoms are much improved to continue arrowroot & barley water, take the Pills as formerly. 40th Dysenteric Symptoms have now entirely disappeared & the evacuations are feculent, but she complains of weakness, & is pale & emaciated. To take 1 ½ oz of Port wine, daily, with a little preserved Soup. This patient has occasionally suffered from bowel complaint since she was last on the Sick List for the relief of which various remedies have been used but with permanent benefit – latterly her complaint has become much aggravated, astringents & anodynes have been used in various combinations but with the same result - & there are doubtless ulcerations of large intestines []</p>
<p>PB 100136 Page 22 Dyspepsia</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>Ellen Dowley Ætat 30 was taken ill at Sea on the 10th of August & discharge from the Sick List 1st Sept. Died at Sea on the 28th of October.</p>	<p>Of a feeble & worn out constitution is unmarried & has no children states that she has been in delicate health for some years, & that she suffered much distress for want of food during the Famine in Ireland; which was the original cause of her being transported She is a native of Co. Clare and speaks little or no English is altogether a poor helpless creature, & quite unfit to endure a long sea voyage, but on the point of Embarkation her previous History was unknown – Symptoms; little or no appetite, pulse feeble but not accelerated tongue clean, bowels constipated complains of pain & a feeling of sinking at Scrobiculus Cordis, Face pale & thin, extreme depression of Spirits, & appears quite hopeless of recovery. Apply a small Blister over the pit of the Stomach - <i>Rx Acid: Sulph: Dil: zj</i> <i>T. Quininae ʒj</i> <i>[vini?] Rubi []</i> <i>Aqua Fontana lbj solve.</i> <i>Duo cochlearia ampla ter in die Sumd^r.</i> To take a little arrow Root, occasionally, - 11th Blister has risen well, surface to be dressed with resinoris ointment, bowels not open- <i>Rx Massæ Pilul: 4. Dua hora somni Sumentur.</i> <i>Medicina Contin: ut antea.</i> 19th The same treatment has been continued but without much advantage. She does not gain in strength and her digestive powers appear to be thoroughly exhausted, there is now considerable pain after eating and there is now tenderness on pressure over the Epigastrium;</p>

			<p><i>Unguent: Antimon: Potassio – Tart;</i> To be rubbed into the Epigastrium, & a small dose of powered Rhubarb taken occasionally to keep the bowels open – To have Sago or arrowroot</p> <p>26th There is little change since last report, the ointment has brought out a copious eruption of pustules & the Rhubarb acts on the bowels.</p> <p>(See Page 25)(actually page 26)</p>
<p>PB 100137 Page 24</p> <p>Dislocatio</p>	10	<p>Margaret Neill Ætat: 30 was put on the Sick List on 27th of August & was discharged cured on the 9th of September</p>	<p>A strong and muscular subject, received an injury of the Elbow joint by falling down on Deck from the rolling of the vessel, on examining the joint the displacement of the head of the ulna backwards was evident, from the projection of the olecranon Process, & the arm being immoveably (sic) fixed at right angles, extension & counter extension were used, & an attempt was made to straighten the arm when the extremities of the bones resumed their natural position, the muscles being much relaxed from fear, & the injury being recent contributed much to the facility of the reduction, a bandage was applied & the Arm put in a sling.</p> <p>12th Has had some pain & swelling of Joint, during the last two days Cold Lotion to be used & keep the Arm at rest –</p> <p>19th Has now completely regained the use of the arm.</p>
Disloctio	11	<p>Catherine Delaney Ætat: 15. Received the injury on the Second of September and was discharged on the 10th September 1850</p>	<p>A weak & timid girl fell down about 11 P.M. the vessel rolling heavily at the time, & dislocated 3rd phalanx of the thumb from the metacarpal bone, the nature of the injury on examination was very evident, a clove Hitch was put on the extremity of the Thumb, & extension and counter extension used, when the parts were easily brought into their natural position, the muscular fibre being weak & flaccid from fear.-</p> <p>This patient has had several attacks of Hysteria in all probability brought on by Fear. Stimulants and antispasmodics have been given with much benefit.</p> <p>8th She can now move the thumb with ease, & has got over the Fits of Hysteria at this time is discharged from the Sick List this day.</p>
<p>PB 100138 Page 26</p>	9	<p>Hellen Dowley Ætat: 30. Was put on the Sick List on the 10th of September, & was discharged on the 27th of September. Died at Sea on the 27th of October</p>	<p>(continued from page 22)</p> <p>Without much inconvenience</p> <p>October 2nd Has improved a little since the 26th ult. & appears to be gaining a little strength – The same treatment to be continued</p> <p>10th Symptoms not so favourable today, the patient is weak with total loss of appetite, & prostration of strength, the tongue has a red & glazed appearance indication of severe gastric irritation, although there is no vomiting or febrile disturbance – a small piece of oatmeal cake is the only [article?] of food she will make use of - apply a mustard cataplasma to the Epigastrium, Congee for common drink-</p> <p>18th Is gradually become weaker, is much emaciated, & nothing will induce her to take either medicine or nourishment.-</p>

			<p>28th No change of Symptoms have taken place but she is evidently sinking – died at 4 P.M.</p> <p>Inspectio Cadaveris 8 hos p .mortem Subject very much emaciated abdomen collapsed & apparently empty.-</p> <p>On laying open the Stomach the mucous membrane was found considerably thickened near the Pyloric extremity with patches of ulceration about the size of a Sixpence along the smaller curvature, certain portions of the membranes had a grey or flaky color evidently the result of chronic inflammation the intestines & other abdominal [] were in all appearances healthy.</p>
<p>PB 100139 Catarrhus Page 28</p>	12	<p>Mary Curren Ætat: 23 was put on the Sick List on the 14th of September and was discharged on the 7th of October 1850</p>	<p>Of a robust Constitution and Strumous Diathesis, states that she had generally enjoyed good health prior to the period of here being convicted, since that time she has been liable to coughs with some difficulty of breathing, She caught a severe cold yesterday which she attributes to having slept in a draught, & complains this morning of Severe headache with a feeling of weight over the frontal sinuses, & there is a general lassitude with slight Pyrexia and a discharge of the Nose & Eyes. Bowels costive, catamenia natural.</p> <p><i>Habt: olei Ricini Zj</i> <i>Tinct: cinnamon: Co: Zij</i> <i>Ft Haustus Statim Sumendus</i></p> <p>Vesp: Vowels well opened, catarrhal symptoms much the same – <i>Rx. Liq. Ammon: Acetat Z ij</i> <i>Antimon: Potass: Tart j</i> <i>Mistura Camphoræ Z iv M</i></p> <p><i>Ft Mist: - Cyathus vinarius ter vel quater in die Sumendus.</i></p> <p>16th Has slept [little?] during the night. there is severe pain in left side, dyspnœa, pulse strong & not easily compressed, V.S. ad <u>xij</u> or until some impression is made on the System , to have barley water <i>ad libitum</i></p> <p>17th Has passed a quiet night & the pain & difficulty of breathing is much relieved, blood, abstracted yesterday buffy but the coagulum without [...ness?], <i>Mistura Diaphoretica contin:</i></p> <p>21 There is little change since last report, the febrile symptoms have partly abated, but there is a dull pain left side, aggravated by coughing or pressure.</p> <p><i>Emplast: Vesicatorium lateri sinister applicator.</i> <i>Rx Pulv: Doveri gr x hora somni Sumendus</i></p> <p>23rd The Blister, produced free vesication, & has relieved the pain, the cough is also much improved complains of weakness with defective appetite</p> <p><i>Infus: Gentianæ Z iij</i> <i>Quassia zifs</i> <i>Zingiberis zj</i> <i>Carbonat: Soda zfs</i></p> <p><i>Cyathus vinarius ter in die Sumenda</i></p> <p>7th The same treatment has been continued since last report the patient has recovered from the catarrhal [ailment?]</p>

<p>PB 100140 Page 30 Hysteria</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>Bridget Tierney Ætat: 17 was taken ill at Sea on the 11th of September & was discharged from the Sick List on the 4th of October 1850.</p>	<p>This Patient who is of a healthy constitution was seized with a sever Hysterical Paroxysm on the 11th - The fit was of the usual character, & consisted in weeping, lauging(laughing?) & singing alternately with convulsive motion of the extremities; the tongue is slightly furred, & the bowels, constipated otherways she appeared to be in good health. She generally has three fits during the 24 hours, varying in duration & intensity. On the 20th she lost completely the power of speech and remained in that condition for 10 days being unable to utter a single word, on awakening on the morning of the 18th she was delighted to find that the power of articulation had returned – some days after this date she lost the use of the right arm, which hung powerless at her side, the memory is also much impaired, & the mental as well as bodily functions much destroyed. Aloterc(Alotec) Purgatives have been given from time to time & various Spasmodics & Stimulants used but it is doubtful whether they have been of any benefit – a succession of Blisters have been applied to the Epigastrium as there was some tenderness on pressure over that region & the appearance of the tongue has generally indicated, considerable gastric irritation. She takes little food, but does not appear to lose flesh in consequence & she has now a more robust look than when first taken ill. October 1st Catamenia appeared yesterday & she has had no paroxysm since that time. 2nd Has slept quietly during the night, & has had no return of Hysteria. The cold shower bath or Douche was tried on this & some other similar cases; it invariably increased the intensity and duration of the Paroxysm. 3rd Is discharged apparently quite well.</p>
<p>PB 100141 Hysteria Page 32</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>Jane Groves cook ætat: 23 was taken ill at Sea on the 14th of September and was discharged on the 4th November 1850.</p>	<p>States that she is married & had borne two children, is of a Plethoric habit, & has generally enjoyed good health, with the exception of Hysterical fits to which she has been liable since the time of her conviction – She has had some Hysterical Paroxysms on the 14th the usual symptoms of lauging (laughing?), crying, screaming etc. presented themselves, but in an extreme degree, pulse quick & strong tongue furred, & white, bowels natural, complains of acute pain in head, & the face is flushed, catamenial discharge has not appeared for three months 12 oz of blood were abstracted from the arm when she became faint & 10 grains of <i>Mass of Pil: aloes: Comp:</i> were given twice a day. – under this treatment the violence of the symptoms at first subsided but on the 20th she became much worse, being quite delirious between the fits, the face was flushed & the eyes wild & maniacal – the head was shaved and vinegar & water poured from a height on the naked scalp. A Blister was applied to the Epigastrium, as there was tenderness on pressure over that region, the violence of the complaint was subdued by these remedies, & the fits were less severe, about the</p>

			<p>28th she began to suffer much from flatulence & a sensation of [suffocation & the Belly became highly tymponitic), <i>Ol: menth: Pip:</i> was given on a little white sugar & turpentine enamata administered with some advantage, but the flatulence was produced with great rapidity & the belly as occasionally distended to a degree scarcely credible unless actually seen –</p> <p>30th Is much quieter today & has had no paroxysm during the night, the appetite is also improving & the tongue is more natural ,To take a little bitter infusion with [ginger?]</p> <p>4th Has had no return of the paroxysm since last report and has had regained her former state of health.</p>
<p>PB 100142 Page 34 Colica</p>	15	<p>Anne Dunne ætat: 23 was taken ill at Sea on the 17th of September and was discharged from the Sick List on the 25th of September</p>	<p>This woman who is of Plethoric habit was seized on the 17th with a severe attack of colic, the abdominal pains were at first very acute, & the muscles hard & rigid no doubt the result of spasm, tongue clean, pulse natural, bowels costive, pressure on the belly relieved the violence of the pain.</p> <p><i>Rx Tinctura opii xxxv</i> <i>Tinct: Cinnamom: Co zjfs</i> <i>Aq: Fontana Zj ℞</i></p> <p><i>Ft Haust.</i> – a vessel containing hot water to be placed on the abdomen – 10 A.M. The opiate has not relieved the pain, the patient has become hot & feverish – <i>V.S. ad Zxy</i> apply a mustard cataplasm over the belly. <i>Vesp:</i> a few ounces of blood were only abstracted as she became faint, the pain is partly abated, & the abdomen is less tense</p> <p><i>Habt Olei Ricini zvi</i> <i>T. opii gr x</i> <i>Aq: Menth Pip. Zfs ℞</i> <i>Ft Haust: h.s S.</i></p> <p>Sept 18th Has been freely purged during the night and the abdominal pain has not returned, To take a little arrow Root. – Barley water <i>ad libitum</i></p> <p>15th This patient has been doing well since last report but as seized this morning with an attack of the same kind, the same treatment to be pursued etc</p> <p>17th The patient has passed a quiet night & is free from pain but complains of debility and want of appetite.</p> <p><i>Rx Infus: Gentianæ Zij</i> – <i>Quassia Ziifs</i> <i>Zingiberis Zij M</i></p> <p><i>Cyathus vinarius ter vel quater in die Sumendur</i></p> <p>20th Appetite improving has had no return of the pains in belly, bowels open etc</p> <p><i>Medicina Contin:</i></p> <p>25th Has completely recovered and is discharged etc.</p>
<p>PB 100143 Page 36 Scorbutus</p>	16	<p>Elizabeth Irvine Ætat 30 was taken ill at Sea on the 31st of September& as discharged from the Sick List on the 26th of October.</p>	<p>Is of a feeble habit of worn out constitution, states that she enjoyed good health prior to her conviction, since that period she has been often sick and has suffered much from depression of Spirits – she has been quiet & inoffensive during the voyage & I was made acquainted with her complaint by one of her messmates.</p> <p>Symptoms. Extreme debility, appetite defective, pulse</p>

			<p>feeble, gums spongy, & bleed on the least touch, spots of effused blood under the skin, emaciation, bowels confined, urine dark & muddy as if containing red globules of the blood. This patient had been taking lime juice daily & a quantity of Preserved Potatoes three times a week, yet notwithstanding these well marked symptoms of Scurvy have appeared, to take a little preserved potatoes daily, & 20 oz of wine night & morning - ʒij of Nitrate of Potass, was also administered three times a day.-</p> <p>30th Appetite appears to be improving & the face is less pallid, there is still great debility & the gums are spongy & bleed – The same treatment to be continued. To be assisted on Deck every fine day.</p> <p>October 10th Has improved considerably since last report & is gaining flesh slowly: urine more clear <i>Nitrat: Potass Contin: ut antea</i></p> <p>20th Gums & mouth much less swollen & teeth not so loose the appetite continues good & the strength is daily increasing bowels somewhat costive <i>P. Rhei gr xij h.s. Sumendus</i> Continue wine <i>Nitrat Potass</i> etc</p> <p>26th General health very much improved, appetite good & no Symptoms of Scurvy remain.</p> <p><i>Crossed out note</i> The Nitrate of Potass seems to have answered well in this case.</p>
<p>PB 100144 Page 38 Dysentaria</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>Eliza McGaghan ætat 44 was taken ill at Sea on the 6th of October and Died on the 29th of October - Off the Coast of Van Diemen's Land.</p>	<p>Is of a feeble constitution but has according to her own statement generally enjoyed good health, she was taken ill on the 6th with symptoms of acute Dysentery – severe griping pains in abdomen with distressing tenesmus, evacuations frequent, & of a purely Dysenteric character, Blood mixed with mucus & Scybala. Pyrexia not severe, 1 oz of Castor Oil was given, & followed up in a few hours by Dover's powder & hot Turpentine applied to the abdomen & a vessel containing hot & water laid over. To take hot Barley-water <i>ad libitum</i>. These remedies produced free perspiration, & cleared out the intestines, but they did not appear to have beneficial effect on the complaint – on the contrary the Pyrexia increased with rapid diminution of strength, a Pill containing <i>Calomel gr iij & opium grj</i> was given three times a day & barley water, Sago –</p> <p>On the 15th the gums became sore, & the breath had a mercurial fetor; this was followed by some relief & the urgency of the symptoms subsided a little port wine was given twice a day into Sago, or arrow Root, & a Flannel roller applied to the abdomen – on the 18th the symptoms recurred with increased severity –</p> <p>Evacuations slimy & sanguineous, pyrexia urgent with great prostration of strength, the abdomen was blistered & opiates administered both by the mouth & rectum – but these remedies were only of a palliative character & produced no permanent benefit the strength gradually became exhausted & she died at 8 P.M. 29th of October.</p>

			<p>S, Cadaveris 8 hos post mortem Subject: Considerably emaciated on laying open the abdomen, the peritoneum was found unusually red but without effusion, the mucous membrane of large intestines was highly [infected?] & intensely red but no ulcerated spots could be observed on any part of its surface,</p>
<p>PB 100145 Page 40 Rheumatism</p>	18	<p>Eliza McComas ætat: 32 was taken ill at Sea on the 15th of October and was discharged to the Colonial Hospital on the 4th of November 1850</p>	<p>Is of a feeble habit and Scrofulous diathesis states that she has been several times in Hospital under treatment for Venereal complaints & that she has led a dissipated life for the last 7 years. She has occasionally suffered during the voyage from Rheumatic pains & stiffness of the Joints but has latterly become much worse, which she attributes to the coldness of the weather. Symptoms, pain, stiffness & some swelling in the knee and elbow joints – nodes on the anterior surface of the right Tibia , slight Pyrexia particularly during the night when the Rheumatic pains become severe, bowels slow; appetite defective, with a wan unhealthy look <i>Rx Masse Pilul: Hydrargri gr xij</i> <i>Pulv: Rhei xxv</i> <i>Confect: Aromat q.s. m</i> <i>Ft. Pilul xij quorum – dua subinde sumendus</i> <i>Rx Vini Colchici (m xx</i> <i>Tinct: opii gr xv</i> <i>Aqua Menth Pip: Zj M</i> <i>Ft. Haust: Hora Somni Sumendus</i> To take a little port wine once a day with generous diet. 18th There is little change in the general symptoms since last report, the anodyne draught at bed time has of much service in producing sleep & relieving pain at night – There is increased swelling and pain of the right knee joint today – apply a blister to the affected part – Continue medicines - & the same regimen 22nd The pain & swelling of right knee joint has been in a great measure removed by the blister, the appetite is also somewhat improved & the Rheumatic pains generally are less troublesome, The Draught at bed time is to be continued - <i>Rx DiSulph: Quina ʒj</i> <i>acid Sulph: Dilut Zj</i> <i>aqua Fontana lbj ℥</i> <i>Ft. Mist: cyathus vinarius ter in die. Sumendus</i> 26th Has not suffered much from pain since the 22nd and the general symptoms are evidently improved. Yet the patient has a faded worn out look and complains of debility, same treatment to be continued. November 4th To discharge to the Colonial Hospital & is certainly looking better than she did 3 weeks ago.</p>
<p>PB 100146 Page 42 Phlogosis</p>	19	<p>Margaret Conway Ætat: 23 was taken ill at Sea on the 25th of October and a discharged to the</p>	<p>Is Stout and of a healthy constitution has been suffering for some days from sever joint stiffness of the right knee joint – the skin of the affected part is red and shining, & there is some constitutional disturbance viz white tongue & confined bowels</p>

		<p>Colonial Hospital on the 6th of November</p>	<p><i>Rx Pulv: Jalapa-ꝓ</i> <i>Chloridi Hydrargri: iij M</i> <i>Ft. Pulv: Statim Sumendus</i> To remain at rest in the horizontal position, & to have the joint well fomented.- 27th Bowels well opened, swelling more circumscribed, the motion of the joint is more free but the pain is rather increased, [linseed?] meal poultices to be applied every 3 or 4 hours - & low diet 29th The swelling has assumed a conical shape with a broad circumscribed base, a conical incision is made which discharged a quantity of blood – continue poultices. – Imperfect Suppuration took place in the swelling & she was sent to the Colonial Hospital for further treatment.</p>
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A Nosological Synopsis of the Sick Book kept during the Period of this Journal, in conformity with the 30th Article of the Surgeons' Instructions.

Diseases Nosologically arranged	Numbers						Nos. of such Cases as are detailed in the Journal
	Total	Discharged to Duty	Sent to the Hospital	Died on board	Invalided	Remaining	
Pyrexiae							
Ord. I. Febres.							
Internulleates Quotutiana							
Tertiana							
Continua Synochus							
Typhus							
Ord. II. Phlegmasiae.							
Phlogosis	4	3	1				4.19
Pneumonia							
Rheumatismus	4	1	3				7.18
Pleuritis	2	2					2
Bronchitis							
Ophthalmia							
Ord. III. Exanthemata.							
Variola							
Rubeola							
Erysipelas							
Vaccina							
Ord. IV. Haemorrhagiae							
Haemoptysis							
Phthisis incipiens							
Menorrhagia	5	4	1				5
Ord. V. Profluvia.							
Catarrhus	9	9					3.12
Dysenteria	4	1	2	1			8.17
Neuroses.							
Ord. I. Comata.							
Apoplexia							
Ord. II. Adynamiae.							
Dyspepsia	5	3	1	1			9
Ord. III. Spasmi.							
Asthma							
Diarrhoea	3	2	1				
Colica	1	1					15
<i>Hysteria</i>	27	26	1				1.13.14
Ord. IV. Vesaniae.							
Amentia							
Mania							
Cachexiae.							
Ord. I. Marcores.							
Tabes							
Ord. II. Intumescenciae.							
Anasarca							

Ascites							
Hydrothorax							
Ord. III. Impetiginos.							
Syphilis							
Scrophula							
Icterus							
Scorbutus	1	1					16
Locales.							
Ord. I. Dysaethesiae.							
Amaurosis							
Ord. II. Dysorexiae.							
Ord. III. Dyscinesiae.							
Ord. IV. Apocenos.							
Gonorrhoea							
Ord. V. Epischeses							
Ischuria							
Obstipatio							
Dysuria							
Ord. VI. Tumores.							
Aneurisma							
<i>Tumor</i>	1		1				
Ord. VII. Ectopiae.							
Hernia							
Prolapsus							
Luxatio	2	2					10.11
Ord. VIII. Dialyses.							
Vulnus							
Ulces							
<i>Contusio</i>	2	2					6
GENERAL TOTAL	70	57	11	2			1.9
NOTE.—Medical Officers are desired particularly to Notice that the Numbers in each Disease and the general Total must not only correspond with the Sick Book, but also with the particulars contained in the several Nosological Returns for the period.							

GENERAL REMARKS

Two hundred Female Adults & thirty two children was embarked at Kingston from Grange-Gorman Penitentiary all in good health; but there were several of them as was afterwards discovered ~~who~~ who were unfit to bear the hardships of a long sea voyage, and if their previous Histories had been known at the time of embarkation others might have been selected more healthy & the infirm left Ireland. About two thirds of the convicts were between the ages of Twenty and Thirty and having been brought up in teh country were generally of sound and healthy constitutions many of them had been driven to commit offences during the Famine in Ireland, who originally had very good characters, as when once convicted they were certain of being well fed & taken care of – The remaining third were principally from Dublin and the provincial Towns, their constitutions were more or less injured by previous disease & intemperate & irregular habits. Being a highly susceptible race they suffered much at first from Grief & depression of Spirits at leaving their friends and native Country, the more delicate were Sea Sick and unable to use the common rations and it became necessary to support them with medical comforts & wine etc.

In referring to the Nosological report it will be seen that 70 cases in all have been on Sick List but very few of these have been of a serious character. Two deaths only have occurred during the voyage – of the Catarrhal affections 9 in number, some were severe, & suffered from considerable respiratory disturbance with severe Thoracic pain, followed by general debility; they were treated in the usual manner, the exhibition of laxatives, & Diaphoretics, the application of Blister & Rubifacients to the chest, & by the free use of diluents, They all recovered and were discharged in good health at the end of the voyage. Of the Dyspeptic complaints 5 cases of a tedious & intractable character have been noticed, 4 of these improved much under the use of laxatives, tonics & Bitters, assisted by regimen, exercise, & the sea air –

The remaining patients resisted every kind of treatment and died of chronic inflammation of the mucus membrane of the Stomach which was verified by post mortem examination.

5 cases of Menorrhagia occurred during the passage only of these 3 were cured on board and one was sent to the Colonial Hospital nearly convalescent this patient having had two attacks during the time she was on board makes the No 5. Acetate of lead & opium were at first prescribed, followed by Sesquichloridi: Ferri, & the Mineral Acids – under these remedies the improvement was rapid & permanent. The Sea air with appropriate regimen no doubt also contributed much to the general amelioration of the health.

The Bowel complaints are comparatively few or 4 of a purely Dysenteric character and 3 of diarrhoea Two of these were second attacks which renders the No. of Patients to 5. Ent Dysentery is always a grave disease on board of ship & out of this small number one died and three were sent to the Colonial Hospital, one only having been cured on board. The treatment consisted of the administration of Calomel & opium; castor oil & Pulv: Ipecac: Co – with barley water or Congee and the application of Blisters & Rubifacients to the abdomen – the Rheumatic complaints 4 in No. were all sent to the Colonial Hospital these cases having occurred towards the end of the voyage & being in worn out subjects are not likely to do much good under any treatment – opium, Colchicum & Dover's powder were useful in relieving pain and producing sleep but Rheumatic Subjects are very ineligible for transportation as they can be of little use in the Colony.

Four casualties occurred during the passage caused by the rolling of the ships, of these two were contusions which soon got well & two Dislocations which were easily reduced the accidents being recent & the muscular system in both cases relaxed & flaccid apparently from fear – only one case of Scurvy is reported which was well marked no symptom of the complaint appeared amongst any of the others –Nitrate of Potass. was given three times a day with generous diet – if the theory be true that there is a deficiency of that salt in the Blood the remedy is simple, cheap & convenient & appeared to answer well in this case as the symptoms rapidly improved under its use. Twenty Hysterical cases have been returned, but many of the Females suffered occasionally from Hysterical fits who were not put on the Sick List as the paroxysms were of a short duration, & the general health was pretty good. The symptoms were of the most varied & extraordinary character simulating all the diseases in the nosology – Several of them lost the power of speech and were unable to utter a single word for many days – in others the arms & legs became paralysed & accompanied by the most

extravagant hallucinations Tymponitic distension of the abdomen was also very troublesome in some of the cases swelling the patients out to a size scarcely credible unless actually seen. It is at first difficult to account for such a great proportion of Hysterical cases but if we take into consideration the peculiar position of the Female convicts, crowded together between decks in a Transport, where the heat is often 82° of Fahrenheit and the atmosphere oppressive even under the best System of ventilation, the nervous system no doubt becomes highly susceptible and predisposed to nervous kinds of derangement; as many of the Females were liable under ordinary circumstances to Hysterical affections it is very probable that the well known law - of Sympathy operated powerfully in exciting this remarkable complaint in others – every variety of treatment was tried, but with little apparent benefit V.S. purgatives & antispasmodics; Blisters were applied to the head and Epigastrium & cold Douche etc - used according to the nature of the Symptoms – the patients used very little food during these attacks yet notwithstanding they seldom lost flesh and were all landed in the colony in good health

The vessel was well lighted & very lofty between Decks and the upper deck completely water tight. The Prison Doors were opened about 6 A.M. & the females came from below to wash & clean themselves, the beds were rolled up every morning & stored in the Hammock nettings & long boat & the Prison & mess places carefully scraped, cleaned & ventilated and occasionally washed out and thoroughly dried with hot Sand; The Swinging stoves were always used when there was any appearance of dampness, the Solution of Chloride of Zinc was also sprinkled about the Decks, & pieces of Flannel were dipped into the liquid & suspended in the Hospital; it was found most effectual in destroying bad smells and in purifying the air, and the Patients in the Hospital always experienced great comfort after its use.

The mess women in the vicinity of the water closets very soon discovered its virtues and regularly applied for a small quantity to sprinkle in their mess Places – the meals were punctually & properly prepared & the provisions were of excellent quality, but it seems unnecessary to send on board Cocoa as an article of consumption as few of the Irish convicts have ever even seen it before and they prefer oatmeal Gruel to either Tea or Cocoa – Great attention was paid to cleanliness and the clothes were regularly changed, according to the nature of the weather; every means were taken to keep the mind employed & they were engaged during the day in sewing, knitting and in reading and writing etc. They were encouraged to take exercise on deck & in this way their time was completely occupied and idleness, that most foolish cause of sickness and discontent in a great measure is avoided.

Van Diemen's Land

November 8th 1850

Charles Smith
Surgeon R.N.