

Surgeon's Journal of Her Majesty's Female Convict Ship Edward  
 Mr Joseph STERET Surgeon  
 From 7 March until 9 September 1834  
 Adm. 101 22/8 No 37

**Medical and Surgical Journal of Her Majesty's Convict Ship Edward between the 4  
 March 1834 and the 9 September 1834 during which time the said ship has been  
 employed in a voyage from Woolwich 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>PB100184 Loss of power in the lower limbs</p> <p>PB100185</p>	<p>One</p>	<p>Mary Creed Note. I have thought to give a very full account (although the case can hardly be considered a medical one of any importance) because had anything happened to her on the voyage – blame might have attached to me for carrying her – Extract from remarks JS</p> <p>Mary Creed Age 28 years at Horsemonger Lane gaol at Woolwich entered on list</p> <p>Hospital Hobart Town September 5<sup>th</sup> 1834</p>	<p>This woman was sent on board from the Prison in Horsemonger Lane. The letter from the medical officer who attends that Establishment expressed considerable doubt as to the reality of her complaints- it appearing from it that she has been confined to bed for three years nearly. I would have rejected her, but there was an official intimation “that it was considered advisable to send her, unless the voyage should be thought likely to be seriously detrimental – Her temper and habits in the prison were so vile – her removal was thought necessary”.</p> <p>When examining her I consider her general health sufficiently good to justify my taking her although of course she will be in bed the greater part, if not all the passage. She is reported by the person who brought her here, to be of the most stormy temper, frequently throwing articles at the matrons and nurses and keeping the whole prison in subjection to her untameable passions; doing so with perfect impunity either from want of power, or will in the persons, having charge, until I understand it is quite a jubilee to have <u>closed her</u> out.</p> <p>The account she gives of herself is; that she had a Gonorrhoeal discharge at the time of her conviction, for which “mercurials” were used, and Ptyalism kept up for some time; upon which “she says” she lost the effective use of her lower limbs. They are not however paralysed as she can move them about with freedom and they do not appear to be wasted. She can also rest with comfort on her hands and knees and move about the bed with facility in that manner- so that if there be debility it must be of the feet and ankles. It is suspected by her fellow prisoners that she has been <u>seen to walk</u>. Constipation seems to be the only bodily ailment to which she is at present subject. We have come to a sort of understanding; that it will be best for her to be quiet here. April 26<sup>th</sup>. She has not required any medical treatment - except a little Castor Oil.</p> <p>The matron of her mess asked me to send her into the Hospital on board – (she has hitherto remained in the prison with her fellows) as her being constantly in bed destroyed the comfort of the others in the mess. She is exceedingly astonished that I did not send her back to the prison, she told the Hospital matron that had she thought</p>

<p>PB100186</p>			<p>I would have kept her, they would have had some trouble in getting her clear of the Gaol  . Her general health is good and as yet she behaves well.  May 5<sup>th</sup> It appears that her messmates were so very anxious to get rid of her into the Hospital, as she is one of the most expert thieves and “Conveyancers” on board- besides being a good planner of a robbery – on investigating into a case of theft this morning, it is proved that she instigated two young girls into her [plan] to thieve, and received the booty. She is so cunning that she was prepared for this accusation and had told me this morning that it would be made in order to prejudice me against her, the other women being envious because I was kind to her. She received the information that the evidence against her was conclusive with great coolness merely looking sulky.  She says her teeth are loose, but upon examination I cannot find them so. Her health is good.  May 15<sup>th</sup> The poor unfortunate has been most dreadfully seasick; with intense headach – She also “Shamed” fits, and faintings in order to get wine of which she says she was allowed half a pint daily in the jail. I do not wonder that she remained in her bed more than two years, when by doing so she got everything she asked for.  For the fits and faintings I ordered a blister to the stomach and another to the neck – instead of wine – it is needless to say they were both off, and the fits recovered from in special short time, long before the skin on either part had time to be discoloured.  May 20<sup>th</sup> After Devine service she asked to be carried up on deck where she remained for a couple of hours. She “shamed” Syncope beautifully for a little additional wine, but she spat out the water which was presented to her. She gets wine occasionally and preserved meats twice or thrice a week.  May 28<sup>th</sup> Diarrhoea – <i>Haust. Rhei ĉ Tinc Opii gr xv statim</i>  Ordered her flour instead of biscuit weight for weight.  29<sup>th</sup> better; is by no means fond of taking medicine, but very fond of complaining.  <i>Rx Pulveris Rhei gr x</i>  <i>Magnes ʒs</i>  <i>Aquae Menth ʒ ʒs ft. Haust.</i>  31<sup>st</sup> Diarrhoea ceased</p>
<p>PB100187</p>			<p>June 8<sup>th</sup> A storm in the Hospital between Creed and one of the women. She uses the most foul, and abusive language with a fluency to me quite astonishing – but the threat of the strait waistcoat and shaving and blistering her head as if she were mad quieted her – This has been the first outbreaking of her temper at least of any consequence.  June 23<sup>rd</sup> I put her in Coventry for a week or more. She is today in particularly good humour endeavoured to walk across the Hospital with the assistance of the two Hospital girls, and is now busy making a pudding – all this “<u>fine weather</u>” is to get a little more wine- as usual her health continues good, but she is constantly asking for medicines which she seldom, if ever takes. She is</p>

PB100188			<p>dirty in her habits, and occasionally suffers from excoriations about the labia from inattention.  <i>Rx Sulphatis Zinci ʒi</i>  <i>Aqua lb j ft Lotion</i></p> <p>I have had her removed since the commencement of the warm weather into one of the small cradles in the middle of the Hospital where a screen is put around.</p> <p>July 3<sup>rd</sup> She is very sulky with me because I will not give her wine every day, and only a gill per day – also that I will not examine some excoriations – but have directed the nurse to do so- they are of no consequence.</p> <p>July 7<sup>th</sup> Last night she began beating against the deck with a broom handle in order to get a light although it was not the hour to send one into the Hospital – so I did not send one all night. This morning I had her removed bag and baggage into the centre of the after prison. She tried to scratch and kick, and bite the men and I understand frightened some of them, however there she is.</p> <p>8<sup>th</sup> She contrived to get drunk last night and made a glorious row. I ordered her into a strait waistcoat.</p> <p>12<sup>th</sup> I have not been near her since Thursday. I understand she says she has lost her voice. I would not be much astonished at this, from the mode in which she exercised her lungs. She complains of Haemoptysis.</p> <p>Bowels not open <i>Ol Ricini ʒi</i></p> <p>13<sup>th</sup> She has sent me a long letter expressing her sorrow and contrition and as usual asking for wine- blankets etc</p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> She threw the spitting pot at one of the girls heads, and in the evening sent one of the most extraordinary letters of abuse possible to me. This I suppose is because I have not been near her since she was turned out of the Hospital. During the night she exercises her lungs in a manner to show there was nothing wrong either with the lungs or trachea, and that the whole affair of her aphonia was simulation.</p> <p>30<sup>th</sup> July She has sent a letter of apology and contrition throwing the whole on some of the other women – and as usual asking for more blankets.</p> <p>I have directed the screens to be put up around her, as before, and for her to have another blanket as the weather is cold.</p> <p>23<sup>rd</sup> August She has gone on pretty well till last night - when she contrived to get drunk and threw the whole after prison into a complete uproar. I ordered her to be sluiced with three buckets of cold salt water – which made her tolerably quiet- this conduct of her's was the more inexcusable as [Wm?] Martin the Master died the evening before- and is not yet committed to the deep. From this time forward she behaved pretty well; and on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> September I had the satisfaction of sending her to the care of my friend Dr Scott at Hobart Town. In nearly quite as good health as I had received her.</p>
Obstipatio	Two	Eliza Sidnem Age 21 years	May 19 <sup>th</sup> . This girl was one of those who suffered very severely from sea-sickness – which has caused very considerable debility and irritability of the stomach.

<p>PB100189</p>		<p>May 19<sup>th</sup> 1834 Cured June 10<sup>th</sup> 1834</p>	<p>There is also tendency to Hepatic Derangement to which from her own account she is occasionally subject. Her bowels require constant attention – and this constipated state is at present the most prominent symptom. <i>Pil: Hydrargyri g' xij</i> <i>Extract Colocynth C. xvij</i> <i>ft Pil sex quorum sumat unam nocte – aqer.-</i> <i>Rx Infus Gentianae ℥ifs</i> <i>Sulphatis Magnesia ℥ Solve ft haustus primo mane sumendus</i> 25<sup>th</sup> Is pretty well but occasionally vomits- and has little appetite. Infus Quassiaē ℥j ter in die Sumendus 31<sup>st</sup> Is considerable better, her strength very slowly improves – ordered preserved soup, and a little white wine negus. June 5<sup>th</sup> Improves – it is still necessary to attend regularly to the bowels for which purpose I usually order five grains of blue pill at night or Castor Oil. 10<sup>th</sup> June Considers herself quite well.</p>
<p>Pneumonia</p>	<p>Three</p>	<p>Mary Herring Age 24 June 3<sup>rd</sup> At Sea  Cured June 30<sup>th</sup></p>	<p>This woman has been less and more sea-sick ever since we opened the Western Ocean, latterly she has complained of cough – and to-day she says there is pain of the chest – general- diffused- the pulse and skin have inflammatory characters – she was free from vomiting yesterday but it came on again last night – I need hardly premise that her strength is much reduced. <i>V.S. ad ℥xij</i> <i>Rx Vin. Antimon ℥j</i> <i>Liquoris Ammoniaē Acetal ℥vj</i> <i>Aqua ℥i ft mist.</i> <i>Cochleare dua amplum: sumantur ter in die</i> June 4<sup>th</sup> As yesterday. <i>V.S. ad ℥xij</i> <i>Conf. Mistura, Emplast Lyttaē pector</i> 5<sup>th</sup> Pain is nearly removed, Cough severe, expectoration abundant. Bowels not open. <i>Pil Scammon No ij statim – Sumend</i> <i>Rx. Mistura Camphoraē ℥ij</i> <i>Trae Digitalis [f] ℥i</i> <i>Liquoris Morphiaē Citratis f ℥fs ft mist</i> <i>Sumantur f ℥fs - ter in die.</i> Monday – pulse 83 – <i>Conf medicina</i> Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup> Pulse quickened from some unknown cause – nausea and vomiting during the night – has some pain of the Epigastrium – Bowels not open – 12 o'clock has not taken any medicine, but she has been twice purged since this morning – omitted all medicine- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> The excitement of Tuesday has gone off - but the pulse continues quick 110 – cough and expectoration. <i>Sumat Trae: Digitalis ℥j v in aqua ℥i ter in die ager-</i> 14<sup>th</sup> Saturday. The digitalis was increased yesterday to [ <i>ij</i> ] [ twice/thrice? ] each day – to-day to <i>xxij</i> – it exerts a powerful and beneficial influence over her vascular system – in the evening pulse 80 – 16<sup>th</sup> Pulse 80 – the Digitalis has not been increased beyond <i>ijx</i> thrice a day. – ordered half diet but no wine 19<sup>th</sup> Quit medicine</p>

PB100190			<p>25<sup>th</sup> Appetite good – pulse regular – debility – the principal complaint.  30<sup>th</sup> Cured  This woman was slightly ill again in August for about a week - with pectoral excitement, but not so severe as to require general depletion, a blister and Diaphoretics removed the complaint but it shows there was a tendency to disease of the lungs – She was however very careless of her health.</p>
Pneumonia	Four	<p>Sarah Tyson  Aged 17 years  July 4<sup>th</sup>  1834  At Sea</p> <p>July 16<sup>th</sup>  1834  Cured</p>	<p>This is one of the most careless thoughtless girls in the Ship – Her present complaints are entirely occasioned by her exposing herself to rain etc –  July 4<sup>th</sup> Cough, headache and soreness of the Chest – pulse quick and tolerably full – <i>V.S. ad ℥ – Syncope- Liquoris Ammon: Acet</i>  <i>Aqua</i> <i>a.a ℥iij</i>  <i>Liquoris Antim Tart</i> <i>℥i</i>  <i>Træ Scillæ</i> <i>℥ifs</i>  <i>Cochleare magnum Sumendis horis</i>  <i>Emplast Lyttæ – pectori</i>  5<sup>th</sup> Very little excitement of the skin but the pulse is an hundred and the cough is troublesome  <i>Træ Digitalis η viij in Aqua ℥i ter in die</i>  7<sup>th</sup> One of the glands in the anterior part of the left axilla a little swollen and painful – pulse 84 – Continue the Digitalis – Fomentations to the gland.  9<sup>th</sup> Cynanche Tonsillaris – omit the Digitalis – pulse very little affected. This indisposition has again been owing to carelessness.  <i>Pulveris Ipecacuanhæ Comp g<sup>r</sup> vj</i>  <i>Pulveris Ipecac:</i> <i>g<sup>r</sup> I ft Pulvis - ter in die Sumendus.</i>  11<sup>th</sup> Cynanche continue – pain under the ribs of the left side.  <i>Pil Scammon ij statim</i>  <i>Cont<sup>r</sup>. medicina</i>  13<sup>th</sup> better – Nihil  16<sup>th</sup> Is a little debilitated. I have kept her to be for some days.  18<sup>th</sup> Is well.</p>
Hæmatamesis	Five	<p>Martha Brooks</p> <p>July 4<sup>th</sup>  at Sea</p> <p>Cured</p>	<p>Swelling and pain of the bosom the glands between the mamma and the axilla on the left side are swollen and painful – but it does not appear to be connected with the manna – she is otherwise not in regular health.  <i>C Fomentation</i>  <i>Sumantur Hyd: Submur: g<sup>r</sup> iij</i>  <i>et post horas tres – Solut Sulph Magnes ℥s</i>  5<sup>th</sup> <i>Cont<sup>r</sup>.</i>  6<sup>th</sup> Breast better – has pain in the Hypogastrium – which she attributes to the calculus affection to which she says she is subject – Sand said to be reddish  <i>Infus Gentianæ ℥i</i>  <i>Iodi Carbonatis – g<sup>r</sup> vj ter in die</i>  7<sup>th</sup> Better. <i>Cont<sup>r</sup>.</i></p>
PB100191			

			<p>11<sup>th</sup>. This morning after she arose pretty well; she vomited some blood in clots – dark coloured – and again in the evening – the pulse is quick but soft and she is much frightened.</p> <p><i>Rx. Sulphates Aluminis gr v micæ panis q.s. ft Pilj ter in die Sumendus</i> Vespere. Hæmatamesis again this afternoon.</p> <p>12<sup>th</sup> Complains of pain of the Epigastrium not severe – pulse 136 and rather sharp.</p> <p><i>Cont<sup>r</sup>. Pil.</i></p> <p><i>Sumantur η x Træ Digitalis in aqua bis die.</i></p> <p>14<sup>th</sup> Digitalis has affected her head with vertigo but the pulse is not reduced, she has not vomited blood sine last report. Pulse 140. <i>Omitr Digitalis and the aluminis</i></p> <p><i>Rx. Pil Hydrarg: gr iv</i> <i>Pulvis opii gr fs bis die</i></p> <p>16<sup>th</sup> Says she is better, but has still pain. Pulse 135 –</p> <p><i>Cont<sup>r</sup>. Pil.</i></p> <p>17<sup>th</sup> pulse reduced – is better. <i>Omit<sup>r</sup> Pil ut antea</i> <i>Sumantur – Pil Hydrarg: gr iij nocte</i></p> <p>20<sup>th</sup> pulse 80 – still complains of pain of stomach, and head, appetite improves – <i>Cont<sup>r</sup> Oil</i> <i>Emplast Lyttæ epigastrio</i></p> <p>22<sup>nd</sup> pain much better - - <i>Cont<sup>r</sup> Pil.</i></p> <p>28<sup>th</sup> May be said to be well particularly, as by some means she got drunk in the main prison having gone there with her friends she then (although a little slight creature) commenced a fight with one of the others -at least half as big again – and by all accounts acquitted herself gallantly – for which she is now doing penance in the “Solitary Cell) on low diet.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Requiesat in pace.</p>
		July 28 <sup>th</sup> Cured	
PB100192	Six	Mary Gillard Aged (19) about 23 years	<p>An eruption of Urticaria with headache, and drowsiness</p> <p><i>Sumantur Hydrarg: Subm: gr v et post horas duas Solut Sulph magnes-</i></p> <p>8<sup>th</sup> The eruption has gone fairly all over the whole body – she has been incautiously sleeping on the seat opposite the bars of the main Hatchway – this with the change of temperature appears to be the only cause for this complaint. Bowels open.</p> <p>8<sup>th</sup> The eruption has nearly disappeared in the usual manner – but there remains headache – cough – and itching of the integuments there is very little appetite.</p> <p><i>Rx. Pulveris Ipecacuanha Comp. gr v</i> <i>Ipecacuanha gr 1</i> <i>ft. Pulvis ter in die sumandur</i></p> <p>10<sup>th</sup> Is better – hemicrania- <i>Cont<sup>r</sup> medicine</i></p> <p>12<sup>th</sup> Bowels not open</p> <p><i>Pil Pulveris Jalapa et Hydrarygri Submuriates</i></p> <p>13<sup>th</sup> Is pretty well but weak- no medicine</p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> She incautiously went up on deck yesterday – and washed some things – she suffers today from headach and some cough.</p>
Urticaria		July 4 <sup>th</sup> at Sea	
		Cured July 31 <sup>st</sup> 1834	

			<p>16<sup>th</sup> Is quite well again but weak – Preserved meats thrice each week.</p> <p>24. Is now pretty strong – She nearly lost her life today whilst sitting at work by the Capstan one of the Cannonades which had been cast loose, and not secured– fetched way to leeward – and caught her clothes dragging her with it – it was caught by one or two of the people – and she was extricated – her side is hurt and her left thigh, but not of any consequence. Fomentations.</p> <p>28<sup>th</sup> Is able to go about again.</p> <p>31<sup>st</sup> Cured.</p>
PB100193	Seven	<p>Mary Wait Aged (22) about 29 years</p> <p>Prisoner</p> <p>At Sea</p> <p>July 8<sup>th</sup> 1834</p> <p>Cured July 24<sup>th</sup> 1834</p>	<p><i>Complains of Diarrhoea</i> <i>Haust. Rhei = Træ Opii m xv</i></p> <p>9<sup>th</sup> Severe pain over the whole of the abdomen – Bottles of hot water – <i>Haust Rhei ut heri</i></p> <p>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> purging ceased, a little pain of umbilical region. Continue the hot water in bottles</p> <p><i>Rx. Pulveris Rhei gr xv</i> <i>Magnes ʒfs</i> <i>Aqua menth ʒ ifs</i></p> <p><i>ft Haust statim Sumendus</i></p> <p>12<sup>th</sup> The Diarrhoea has ceased – pulse 92 – has pains of limbs and head</p> <p><i>Sumantur Pulveris Ipec: C. gr x hora somni Sumendus</i></p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> Much better no medicine</p> <p>18<sup>th</sup> Some pain of the head and stomach – I do not think my fat friend Mary – would have any objection to remain in the Hospital during the voyage.</p> <p><i>Sumantur Pil: Hydrarg: gr iij bis in die</i></p> <p>24<sup>th</sup> Cured.</p>
Rheumatism	Eight	<p>Ann McKenna</p> <p>Aged 25 years</p> <p>Prisoner</p> <p>July 8<sup>th</sup> 1834</p> <p>August 1<sup>st</sup> 1834 Cured</p>	<p>General Pain of the joints and back.</p> <p><i>Pil Jalap ʒ Hydrarg: Submur:</i></p> <p>9<sup>th</sup> Continues much the same with some headach – bowels open. <i>Pulveris Ipecacuanha C. gr vij bis in die</i></p> <p>10<sup>th</sup> Pulse not much disturbed headach better. <i>Cont<sup>r</sup>.</i></p> <p>11<sup>th</sup> <i>Pulveris Ipecac Comp. gr v</i> <i>Ipecacuanha gr i</i> <i>Hydrargyi Submur gr ½</i></p> <p><i>ft pulvis ter in die Sumendus</i></p> <p>12<sup>th</sup> Less headach; severe pain of the limbs and loins – <i>Cont<sup>r</sup>.</i></p> <p>14<sup>th</sup> Considerably better – pulse 92 – <i>Cont<sup>r</sup>.</i></p> <p>15<sup>th</sup> purged four times during the night pulse 108 – headach. nihil</p> <p>16<sup>th</sup> Better pulse 90 -skin natural</p> <p><i>Vin Colchici ʒfs ter in die.</i></p> <p>20<sup>th</sup> The Colchicum appears to have a good effect – <i>Contr.</i></p> <p>24<sup>th</sup> pains removed – debility – <i>Cont<sup>r</sup> Colch.</i> Preserved meats.</p> <p>28<sup>th</sup> <i>Pil Scammon No. ij</i></p> <p>August 1<sup>st</sup> Quite well.</p>

## GENERAL REMARKS

Owing I believe to some alterations, which it was determined to make in the prison after the ship had been fitted in the usual manner; no prisoners were sent on board until the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, and the whole amounting to one hundred and fifty -one women, besides twenty children were received by the 16<sup>th</sup> except one who was sent from the Hospital at Woolwich where she had been left sick, who was embarked on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The ship remained at Woolwich until the 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

The prisoners came on board in small numbers – at different times, and as some came from considerable distance (York for example) they are often much fatigued and not infrequently have Catarrhs but there were not any of such severity as to render confinement to be necessary nor of sufficient interest to detail in this Journal. I have thought it right to give a very full account of Mary Creed (Case No 1) although the case can hardly be considered a medical one of any importance - because had anything happened to her on the voyage blame might have attached to me for carrying her.

In the first week after leaving the river, the ship was slowly proceeding down Channel with light winds. So soon as we opened the Western Ocean, and had a head on sea – the “Edward” owing principally to hr great height and comparative shortness laboured beyond any thing I could have fancied; the prisoners and passengers all became sea-sick - many of them remained so for several weeks.

The prevailing complaints during this and the succeeding month June–(beside the sea-sickness) was intense headach generally without excitement – sometimes complicated with Constipation, and very frequently appearing to have its origin in the motion of the vessel. For this I tried a vast number of remedies -viz- Saline draughts – Camphor and opium – purgatives ammonia, Blisters and bleeding – the very number of my remedies proved how little good resulted from any one. Ammonia dissolved in Camphor mixture and given in a state of effervescence with Citric Acid had I think the preference.

Obstipations also are more than common, they are general, indeed in many instances the women permit constipations to a length quite astonishing – fourteen days for example without complaining or perhaps feeling any great inconvenience – Croton Oil was very frequently necessary- to remove the tendency Infusion of Gentian with a little Epsom Salts dissolved in it – taken two or three times in the day.

Syncope at night when sent below into the prison, and Hysteria fracas also frequent – I have found the greatest benefit from cold ablutions in the former cases – the latter are for the most part in such young girls as have been formerly subject to the complaint.

Although there was a great deal of slight diseases during those two months yet they have afforded a meagre detail. The case of most severity was No 3 in which, and in No 4 Digitalis exerted a very beneficial effect over the pulse, much more so than I have usually witnessed.

In the early weeks of July the temperature became more moderate, the evenings cool and occasionally we have a damp cold day – the cases of Syncope and Hysteria are much less common, and the Cephalalgias have in a great measure ceased – and altogether a beneficial change had taken place – by the end of the month we had got round the Cape of Good Hope and Symptoms of Scurvy were beginning to manifest themselves no doubt occasioned by the damp and wet of the prison. The ship is so high out of the water and altogether in my opinion unfit for such a service the works and strains on her upper deck and poop so much [that?] the pitch and oakum actually bulge out of the water way seams, or are pound to dust in them. So that rain or spray finds an easy passage into the prison. The old and infirm women are those who show symptoms of the disease – but the cases are few and slight.

By the end of August we were near the end of our voyage – on the 22<sup>nd</sup> died W.J. Martin – Master of the “Edward”. He had an attack of disease of the Chest during the time the ship was fitting at Deptford which was treated in London – His medical friends there telling him it was inflammation of the lungs – On this occasion after an attack resembling angina pectoris – Anasarca appeared in a few days – then abdominal and thoracic dropsy – The action of the heart was of a very peculiar character, exceedingly feeble, and intermitting every inspiration - The autopsy showed that the heart had suffered severely from inflammation at some previous periods – the whole surface was reticulated with coagulable lymph – the size smaller than usual giving a feeling of hardness and compactness. The parietes when cut into had a whitish appearance like lymph – indeed it looked as if the whole muscular texture had been superseded – or absorbed. The valves and blood vessels were healthy; the auricles diminished in capacity.

Toward the end of the months a great many cases of Scurvy had appeared – four were confined to bed and probably as many as forty – having symptoms less or more marked – from sleeplessness and small purpuræ – to vibices – one of those confined to bed is Dropsical from this cause – another has dreadful sore mouth so as to be quite offensive to her companions, another vibices - and another stiff joints – however by a careful distribution of preserved meats and Lemon juice – I got them all into Harbour on the 5<sup>th</sup> September – This has been fortunate as I feel confident I should have lost several had the ship been long kept out in bad weather - we have had altogether a quick and tolerably fine weather passage- so that I know no other cause to ascribe nor indeed can there be any other – than the constant damp and wet of the prison caused by leakages through the top-sides and deck – women having fewer restrictions, and much more room than men – they are besides much more cleanly in their prisons and mess places – and are therefore I consider less liable to disease. Indeed I found difficulty in selecting cases for this meagre journal – so little active disease had we – but this is to be ascribed to the constant attention bestowed in airing with stoves, and stowing the beds in dry places – It is but justice to the late master and officers to say they cheerfully complied with all my demands – notwithstanding all our care we had no other prospect – than a vast deal of disease, and probably mortality had we been so unfortunate as to have been detained in Southern latitudes much longer.

Joseph Steret  
Surgeon Superintendent  
“Edward”