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Public Health Reports

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UNITED STATES.

Columbia River Quarantine—The establishment of a national quarantine station at the mouth of the Columbia River.

An act of Congress approved July 1, 1898, carried an item of \$30,000 for the purchase of a site and the establishment of a quarantine station at or near the mouth of the Columbia River. In pursuance of this act a board was appointed, of which Surg. D. A. Carmichael was chairman, to examine all possible sites and report on the same with recommendations.

A site was promptly selected, but, pending the examination of title, in view of the necessities of the largely increasing commerce entering the mouth of the Columbia River, temporary arrangements have been perfected for the examination and treatment of vessels.

On April 28 Asst. Surg. Hill Hastings was ordered from Seattle, Wash., to Astoria, Oreg., to take such measures as may be possible before the installation of the quarantine plant. He has been furnished with a boarding vessel, with instructions to begin boarding at once, and a full supply of disinfectants.

On May 12 he reported the arrival of the steamship *Columbia* from Hongkong, carrying 100 Chinese and 230 Japanese passengers. This vessel had landed 1 case of smallpox among its Chinese passengers at Moji on April 18. Sanitary Inspector Eldridge, at Yokohama, where the vessel was afterwards inspected, reported that there had been no subsequent case. Dr. Hastings has held the ship for disinfection of Chinese baggage, compartments, and vaccination of all who had been exposed. The Japanese had been taken on at Yokohama under inspection.