

Chapter IV

THE DISINFECTION OF LETTERS AT MALTA

Translation of Chapter IV of the book by Marino Carneva le-Mauzan.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

To be observed by all Persons performing Quarantine in the Lazaretto of Malta.

I

All passengers on landing are to give their names to the Captain of the Lazaretto, which are to be entered in the Registry of the Office.

II

The Captain of the Lazaretto will assign apartments for Passengers, and each Passenger will be provided with two chairs, a table and a wooden bedstead, for which no charges are made; but any damage done by the Passengers to the apartments or furniture is to be made good by them before pratique.

III

Passengers are not to be permitted to enter other apartments; nor can they be allowed to receive visitors, except at the "Parlatori" of the Lazaretto, and that only during Office hours; nor are they to trespass the limits assigned to them by the Captain of the Lazaretto.

IV

Passengers must pay a strict attention to all the instructions they may receive from the Captain of the Lazaretto and from the Health Guardians, and particularly in every point that regards their baggage, clothes, etc., being properly aired and handled during the period of their Quarantine, and their Quarantine will only commence to reckon from the day from which all their baggage, clothes, etc., have been duly opened and handled.

V

All letters and parcels, or other effects brought by Passengers, must be given up, in order that they may be fumigated or deputed separately from them, as the occasion may require.

VI

All cases of sickness must be reported immediately to the Captain of the Lazaretto and all persons sick are to be visited immediately by the Physician of the Lazaretto, after which official visit, passengers are at liberty to avail themselves of any medical attendance they think proper.

VII

Passengers are to pay the Government fee for the Guardians employed to attend them for the number of days of their Quarantine at the following rates; viz, at 1/-sh 3 p. per day for the Guardian who attends one Passenger, and at 2s. 6d. per day for the Guardian who attends more than one Passenger.

They are to victual the Guardian or Guardians during their Quarantine, or to pay to each Guardian an allowance of 7d. per day in lieu thereof.

It is to be clearly understood that the Guardians are employed, solely for the Quarantine purposes, and they are strictly prohibited to interfere in any other service, whilst they attend Passengers.

VIII

The Office hours at the Lazaretto are from 8 a.m. to 12, and from 2 p.m. to 5 daily; and all letters sent to the fumigating room before 9 a.m. daily will be delivered in Valletta at 10, and these sent before 3 will be delivered in Valletta at 4 p.m. by the letter messenger; who is entitled to receive from the Passengers a penny for each note, parcel or letter as a remuneration for his trouble and for boat-hire.

IX

A daily report of all circumstances is to be made by the Captain of the Lazaretto to the Superintendent of Quarantine and Marine Police.

E. BONAVIA,
Superintendent of Quarantine and Marina Police.

N.B. — A Tratoria has been established at the Lazaretto for the convenience of Passengers who wish to avail themselves of it, from whence they can

be supplied with dinners, wines, etc., in their own apartments. Beds complete and other articles of furniture, if required, can also be hired from a person appointed to provide them. A note of charges for the Trattoria, and for the hire of furniture will be furnished to the Passengers on their applying for it.

Reglement of the Lazaretto of Malta, 1840.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Lazaretto at Comino was opened for a few months during 1900, and served to hospitalize Cholera patients, thus permitting the Islands of Malta and Gozo to be free from any quarantine regulations. It is doubtful whether more than 3 patients were ever admitted to this Isolation Hospital; it was therefore, closed as stated.

There is evidence enough that mail was also disinfected by the usual measures prevalent at the time. So any stamp or covers must be those of Queen Victoria.

EDITOR.