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TERMS OF THE DISPATCH. POSTAGE PAID IN THE UNITED STATES. DAILY DISPATCH, One Year, \$2.00; Six Months, \$1.25; Three Months, \$0.75; Single Copies, 5 CENTS.

There is extraordinary weakness in the policy of administration in issuing a 20-day quarantine order and then taking it back by explanations which practically reduce it to nothing. This is why it was done by the statement on Saturday that the circular does not apply to cabin passengers at all, or to steerage passengers of citizens of the United States and is complied with the necessary health certificate.

There is even more weakness in the apparent surrender of the Washington authorities to the bumpkins declaration of the New York Health Officer that he is independent of the United States Government in the matter of quarantine. He may be independent; but not to a degree that would permit the violation of Federal regulations as to quarantine. If there were any question as to the respective authority of the State and Federal governments in this matter it is the State that is a doubtful position. Under recent decisions as to the relation of the States to interstate or foreign commerce a State quarantine law has no constitutional standing whatever.

It is not necessary to go to this extreme length to show how the Federal Government can act in the matter of quarantine. If the United States authorities should undertake to say that the State shall not enforce a quarantine, that would be an encroachment on the State's power. But when the State establishes a ten-day quarantine, for example, it is simply supposed to assert that the United States authorities have no authority and say that there shall be a Federal quarantine of 15 or 20 days. There may be a doubt as to grant of power by legislation; but it is a matter of fact that after a quarantine has been created by law for that special purpose Congress should have omitted to authorize the necessary action in such emergencies as the present.

The 20-day quarantine order was all too weak and tardy in its action. Since it is all that could be extracted from the administration, it should be held up to light and without commiseration. It is no question as to the public support of any measures necessary to fight back the disease from our borders.

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Just as soon as the Democrats get the power they will wipe out the atrocious Republican sugar bounty system and restore the sugar duties. Instead of paying millions of dollars to the Treasury for sugar plantations, we will re-establish the revenue tariff on sugar, yielding annually about \$50,000,000 to the Treasury.

double the rates on bituminous coal, which yield a good profit. While there may be some color for the claim that anthracite can bear a heavier rate than the cheaper fuel, there is no justification for such a discrepancy as exists.

It is, however, an unusual and praiseworthy evidence of respect for public policy that is shown when the Pennsylvania Railroad declines to accede to any further advance. That corporation furnishes evidence that it is governed by wiser and more far-sighted counsels than those which produce the usual attempt to squeeze the uttermost farthing from the public.

STRENGTHEN THE SAFEGUARDS. The reports from New York of fresh deaths on board the cholera-infected steamers show that the epidemic in a persistent form is at the borders of the public policy, and that the reports that the disease was stamped out there without foundation. The only barrier against the entrance of the disease into the country is the quarantine at our ports and on our borders.

It was with the knowledge that this state of affairs must come sooner or later that the Dispatch has urged the most rigorous quarantine regulations and the stoppage of all immigration until the danger was past. Had the latter measure been adopted in time the shipments of infected vessels would not now be lying in New York Bay. As the situation has arrived it is necessary to resort to the means that have proved effective in the past. The means that have proved effective in the past are the means that have proved effective in the past.

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DEMOCRATIC FLUTTERING. The fluttering of the Democrats over that statistical bombshell of Peck's goes to the pitiable length of attempting to impeach his statistics by assertions which are the strongest indication of the McKinley act. One striking example of this sort is a communication which is published in New York, triumphantly establishing that the report is false because it shows only a 200% increase in wages, without showing in every case a rise in the rate of wages.

LET US SEE. An industrial establishment employs 1,000 hands, paying them \$200,000 a year. Now, if in the next year it employs 1,200 hands and pays out \$300,000 in wages, or by steady employment to the 1,000 hands pays them \$300,000 more wages in the gross, is labor benefited or the contrary? The free trade bawling at Peck apparently regard such a thing as a deadly sin on the rights of labor. Sensible practitioners, however, will be apt to perceive that an increase of \$300,000 in the gross of wages, means an addition to the means of labor in the mass.

BETTER EXPLANATIONS OR BOATS. In connection with the sinking of that big steel steamer on Lake Superior the other day, the explanations offered by its builders disclose an extraordinary weakness either in the explanation or of the steamer, or both. The builders think the disaster was caused by the strain of heavy seas, which threw the steamer first on her center and then on her side. This, with a possible movement of plates cutting off the rivets, is the theory of the disaster in a nutshell. But the testimony is positive that the weather was not more than ordinarily rough. Moreover, if modern industry cannot build steamers that will stand any sea on the lakes, and whose plates will not cut off the rivets, it should go out of business.

THE CONEY ISLAND BATHER TAKES DESPERATE CHANCES AT ALL TIMES, BUT WAS NEVER IN MORE DANGER THAN AT THE PRESENT TIME. The Coney Island bather takes desperate chances at all times, but was never in more danger than at the present time. The Coney Island bather takes desperate chances at all times, but was never in more danger than at the present time.

THE POSITION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA IS UNDOUBTEDLY CORRECT. The fact is that anthracite coal will be more extensively bettered the proposed advance. They were nearly

double the rates on bituminous coal, which yield a good profit. While there may be some color for the claim that anthracite can bear a heavier rate than the cheaper fuel, there is no justification for such a discrepancy as exists.

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