

**Instructions to be followed by the local governments, concerning
the declaration of plague and the manner to avoid its spread
throughout the kingdom [August 25, 1817].**

Instruction to declare the contagion of a plague or other deadly disease in some population of the King and preserve others of its malignant access.

The precaution of a deadly contagion and the idea of its possibility, while dismaying and shuddering, gives another side to the authorities in charge of its preservation the appropriate energy to resist or to stop the progress of its malignant influence. In Algiers, Bona and other towns of Africa, the bubonic plague, has manifested itself, whose malignancy is the rest of the victims it carries with it, it also leaves to the inert governments the melancholy reviews of a new explosion, and to the sane and diligent the harsh need to preserve themselves from their ravages. And how, for very vigilant the attention of the authorities to repel their access to the King's domains, it fits still possible to mock the challenged men and solicitous only of their personal interest, arrive without foresight or of attempt to concentrate on some population of the King; in this case on how to declare the existence of the plague and its extinction, and about the preservation of healthy persons of the King our Lord on the proposal of his Supreme Board of Holiness has served to adopting on an interim basis and with quality of for the time being the following dispositions.

1...The Justices and Health Boards of the ports and towns of the coastal provinces continued to give the respective Superior the fortnightly parts of the state of their health that they must repeatedly be prevented ; and the faults of the omissions in this part with the corresponding rigour will be punished.

2...The Doctors have an obligation to communicate to the Justice and Health Boards of the towns, where they practice their profession, any accident of suspicious illness, or if they knew of any that with dangerous symptoms perished in a short time, and that with the same dangerous symptoms perished in a short time, and that with the same symptoms they then sickened others from the same house or neighborhood, later from the same house or neighborhood or that they rubbed with them: and it is hoped that the that no less will be attended to the object itself by the parishes, for facilitating their pastoral ministry in the spiritual cares that give the dying sick, a fairly accurate knowledge of diseases, to distinguish the dangerous commons from those that are irregular in their careers and anomalies.

3Advised the Justices and Health Boards of some case of suspicious illness, in addition to reporting to the Superior of the Province, the Doctor and head of the family will be informed respectively of symptoms, progress and curative method of the illness, if the sick person has died or is expected to heal or the sick person dies, their complexion, age and sex, his origin and treatment within fifteen days before he became ill, if he negotiated or was rubbed with foreign effects susceptible to contagion that had not been enabled by health, if he visited any or some sick people, where like, and if they suffered also, even though they have healed, fevers of equal pernicious nature.

4.....In any case, the Justices and Health Boards in accordance with the Doctor order the most cautious of the domestic assistance of the sick person by advising that in their stay only among the person who has first taken care of or more often of

his service : if the sick person does not have the means of comfortable assistance, he shall be provided with the public funds, or will be extracted to a separate ward of the village hospital where there is a disposition to prevent it ; and with the original records that had formed on the case, they will they will give account to the Superior Health Board of the Province, expressed their opinion and compliance with the preceding order.

5....In this state of doubt that no less than soon fades toward the affirmative or negative contagion, health patents are sent with expression of the following circumstance, passports will be released in the same way and only with urgent cause, and the Higher Health Board will be available to prevent the means that are established to avoid their consequences.

6.....When, by the result of the first inquiries or by the successive observations, there will be no doubt about the existence of the contagion, the Justice or the Health Board of the town will promptly give the event to the Higher Meeting, and with it will declare by side or with another notorious solemnity its situation: the public mail and the particular documents of the Royal Service will be dispatched open in a regular dimension by both surfaces and soaked in vinegar : it would prohibit emigration with all rigour, betting on the most trusted neighbours on duty to contain it if there were no troops; because having it, it will be camp it with the double benefit of liberating it from the contagion and to avoid that emigration: in summary to the Military Commanders and Leaders of any more immediate troop picket, they will be warned in advance of this same obligation to attend without delay to intercept the communications of the infected people without concealing or contemplation.

7.....Also if the town were seaport, it would prohibit the Health Board from entering any vessel other than its registration, less in cases of near-shipwreck and other urgent; there will be gathered all the rudders of the anchored ships in it, so that they do not give the candle; and only with the fact that fishermen do not stand from the view of the harbour or that they are rubbing against other vessels, with the use of no pretext staying at sea, extract people to throw it out somewhere off the coast, or attempt to violate by another means the question of the infected people, under the narrowest responsibility of the patrons, they will be allowed to go out fishing. It reserves to agree to the supply of food by sea or land as required by the state of affairs.

8.....Any festivities or other public gathering events will be inhibited.

9.....The troop that is in charge of preventing people from leaving the infected village is careful to communicate with him, whether this troop was earlier within the same village or has come from its provisions according to Article 6. ; but if any soldier or individual from the village get sick with a kind of symptoms that accompany the contagious fever, the significant sense of this novelty will be passed that will be given in advance, and the Health Board of the infected town will send without arrest to collect that sick person, leading him to the hospital inside or outside of which it corresponds.

10.....Always fruitlessly, not to mention pernicious success, always with huge arrears and bankruptcies of the King's public treasury or of the same town, and with cruel

ageing and violence it has always been practised to establish in cases of existence of contagion outside of town hospitals under the name of lazaretos transporting without distinction of sex nor of the quality of the sick, who in their homes perhaps they might heal, to such lazarets in that without being a condom to the spread of the contagion, the patient, who is removed from the presence and loving aid of his family, finds his certain death. Assuming this irrefragable principle, where, in advance, there were no lazaretos prepared with the precise tools, nor should they be established indiscreetly and without superior approval, for the sick who have means must be cured in their homes, and those who do not, in the village hospital, or by providing them in their homes with the precise hospitality; and the Justices, Health Board and the Doctors will put the biggest attempt in persuading and making known to the local community that the only condom of the contagion depends on the lack of communication of the healthy one with the sick, and even more so with the convalescents for this is to be the true spreaders of the contagion, and for whom it would be convenient to allocate a place where they existed isolated in the space of twenty days.

11....The Captain-General President of the Superior Health Board after receiving the notice to be communicated to him of his situation, the people infected, will arrange the early departure of the troop that is at his command and is enough, or else I require the most immediacy of other chief pointed out the one who is to command all, in order to isolate the aforementioned people by rising a cord at a distance of half a league more than its circumference.

12....Arranged this cord and not before, the Health Board and the troop of endowed infected town, or the one that would have come to intercept according to the Article 6, they allow the departure of all families and particular individuals to be placed in the intermediate field in the way and proportion that each one finds best, maintaining the lack of communication of some of those families, that he took care of the same troop that first intercepted the population, and admonish it is also its main interest in the execution of the expressed measure. It is a circumstance among those who go out, that they should not carry dogs, cats, or other breed of animals, those who, as well as within the population, will not kill their owner, any neighbor can do the same way will also be warned the troop to kill and not let them pass through the isolated field.

13....Nor will we be in the way of the exit of the faculty that try to visit families with their sight who have gone out into the countryside in their illnesses, unless the shortage of teachers makes them necessary in the village, unless the shortage of teachers makes them necessary in the village, in which case their departure is prevented; and the Professor of any of the three neighboring faculty in the village infected with the exercise of his profession in him, that he will abandon you from the day that your state of health was questioned, it will occur without prejudice to other penalties in that of the loss of your title that will be collected from wherever you are: and this prohibition of departure from the village is no less understood by the local Authorities and members of Justice, and of the Health Boards, a subpoena of perpetual deprivation of their employment and public and other more serious positions imposed on them, but the central Authorities from the Province which exist in the infected people, will have to go out of in accordance with the ordered in Real Resolution of August 17, 1813.

14....Any of these families or individuals who had left this way, will not be able to return to the village until after declared its free communication ;and in the event that they want to transmigrate to a healthy country, they must be put themselves to rigorous quarantine and general expurgated of effects for equal time to the satisfaction of the cord commander.

15....The anchored ships in the port will be enabled with a dirty patent to leave, if they wish, the lazareto leopard (leper colony/hospital) of Mahon complied with the month of declared contagion, having enough this term so that all the Provinces of the Peninsula and its Islands, and the foreign Powers warned of the novelty, are cautious as appropriate.

16....Although the preceding rules are executed with the corresponding rigour, it must be hoped that evil will not arise to other villages bordering the sick, still in those who circle him to the distance of ten leagues, the Justices will be very vigilant about the free entry and exit of its respective peoples. Whoever translates within this circuit, or has to practice in or out of some proceedings, must carry the corresponding health ballot issued by the board of the people of his departure or residence, subpoena to be arrested and kept in prison at his expense until the identity of his person is justified.

17....It will be tried that at the above-mentioned distance of ten leagues has another cord of troops spread over the points and cruisers that I designate the Captain General to get in the way during the first month after the contagion is declared that, feeling urgent cause qualified by that chief/boss who gave his permission, nobody of the inhabitants within this second line transfers to the towns of the interior; but the month has been fulfilled where he will ensure the concentration of the contagion alone in the village of its explosion, transit will be allowed to the persons who carry Health tickets, which will be endorse with their Seen-Well (approval) the heads/bosses of the first stings by paying them a Spanish cent of each firm.

18....No precautions shall be adopted without necessity or without discretion to the detriment of communications of healthy peoples, at the same time as these measures have well-assured of their public health, it is contained the arbitrariness with which it has been foolishly disturbed even to the greatest distance to the rowers and the travelers in good faith. But if the misfortune is still such that the contagion extends to some coastal towns, the rules established will be adopted proportionally.

19....The reestablishment of the health of an infected town will be counted from the convalescence of the last infected patient, and will be announced in the solemn manner itself with declaring his infection, coming to give thanks to the God of mercies in the temple, parish or womb of the people, and the corresponding parts to the Higher Health Board of the Province and the Supreme King's Supreme Will be communicated in this novelty, so that S.M. of this happy event through the corresponding conduit, also participate by the Ambassadors, Business Managers and Diplomatic Agents of the Foreign Powers near the Royal Person.

20....That is not why the infected town will have free communication from leaving or entering it from outside people, or the admission of vessels in the port as mandated in Article 7, but ever since the restoration was announced, it will remain in the

absolute in communication above, understood to have constituted from that day in a rigorous quarantine, giving rise in the first twenty days to remove all scruple, repair the anxieties suffered, and prepare for the purge to be verified in the other twenty.

21....In churches, hospitals, and other public buildings, the purge will be made at the expense of its own funds through oxygenomytic gases in the care of the Health Board by commissioned deputies at the attempt.

22....In terms of the population, taking through their respective district Councils a reason as accurate as possible of the houses where there have been sick people during the contagion, will also have the Health Board open its windows for the most freer communication of air ; that all the mattresses are washed and removed by venting them with the other effects susceptible to contagion; and whitewash the walls of the house are washed away, or at least rubbed with water and vinegar, as well as all the furniture that supports this lotion.

23....Completed this term of the last twenty days of the purge will be accomplished by the infected town their free communication by sea and land with the restriction that for the extraction of trade of effects susceptible to contagion that existed in the square during calamity, no guide was issued at Customs for the space of three months, in that it is not expressed that they have been purified, or not, that they were introduced dead to the contagion: Health patents shall be issued clean, and to prevent all hindrances in their correspondence, the Supreme Board in addition to the official statement begging S.M. to be made in the gazette, the above-mentioned circumstance of the freedom of the people previously inhibited to all other Boards of the King.

24....Ultimately to ensure more and more public confidence in such a sensitive matter, while consulting at the same time the interests of the peoples who would have experienced such a calamity, the Health Boards of theirs will have repeated from the first of June following until the twenty days of the same kind of purge determined for the quarantine period. Madrid August 25, 1817.