

*To the Editor of the Woodstock Journal.*

SIR: – I observe in your paper of the 22nd inst., an effusion respecting Mr. Glass's emigrants who were landed on Partridge Island, stating that the buildings on the Island are mere shelter – an nothing else; that the rooms are totally unfurnished, being unprovided with chairs and tables, and that no even straw is given to sleep on; that there is no provision for dividing the sick from the well, no matter whether the disease is contagious, or otherwise, and that they were on landing either compelled to continue to live on the ship's provisions, or pay very exorbitant prices for fresh provisions brought from the City. Such is the report of which you state is in circulation respecting the "Irvine's" passengers in quarantine.

Permit me in your columns to give a true picture respecting those emigrants who were under my charge, as never a more palpable tissue of falsehood could be circulated, and I am satisfied that not one of the emigrants could be so ungrateful, after the kindness and attention received, to make such a base statement as you have conveyed before the public, as every thing was the ver reverse to what you have represented. And I challenge any of the emigrants to come forward personally and substantiate any of your statements.

The ship "Irvine" was inspected at the quarantine station on the 27th of June, with 134 passengers on board, four deaths on the passage, and eight cases of small-pox occurred, two on arrival, with several cases of [diarrhœa], and many of the emigrants debilitated, with a dejected appearance, their clothing unclean, from the long passage and disappointment they had to contend with. All of them were landed on Partridge Island on the 28th, the day after arrival, comfortably, the sick placed in rooms separate from the others immediately on landing, and no communication allowed, as a precautionary measure. The healthy also in comfortable clean rooms with stoves, one or two families occupying each; thirty of the young single men, in health, in a building separate from the others, with stoves; also, the cabin passengers in a separate building. Abundance of fuel and straw was landed on the Island, expressly for their use previous to their landing, and freely given to all, as much as called for, upwards of 300 bundles

used; two quarters of fresh beef also issued, with their Government supplies on arrival. Fresh beef at other periods (during their detention) by the ship's steward, and every kindness and attention shown to all during their quarantine, with liberty in writing daily to the city, and amusing themselves in various ways on the quarantine ground, without restriction farther than necessary. Tables, chairs, dishes, and stretchers were issued to all, as required. The passengers improved much after landing – became healthy, strong, the sick recovered rapidly, expressing gratitude for the benefits of the establishment. Such are facts, which the passengers cannot deny. If there were cases of the boatmen charging for any luxury from the city which they desired, I heard of nothing of the kind, nor any complaint to that effect; nor would such be allowed. The boat proceeded daily to the City in attending the wants of the Island.

As for the establishment here at present it is in a fit state to afford comfort to any emigration that may be expected. There are four separate buildings, 100 feet in length, as hospitals, (one somewhat out of repair, and not required with the present emigration.) two cook and wash houses in connection with the establishment. The rooms in the hospitals are plastered, made comfortable with stoves in two of the buildings since 1847; and hundreds of emigrants have since been landed, as respectable as the Rev. Mr. Glass' emigrants, without expressing any desire for more comfortable apartments during the Summer months, or want of any necessaries.

The "Irvine's" passengers were infected on landing; on being discharged were clean, healthy, and free from infection, or they would have carried disease to different parts of the Province. The result of the quarantine shows the absurdity of your statements, and whether the sick and healthy were kept together, as not a case of sickness occurred after the passengers were landed.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

G. J. HARDING, M. D.,

Resident Physician.

Quarantine Station, Partridge Island,

26th August, 1861.