Of all the diseases that attack a ship's company, dysentery is the worst. The violent movement of the bowels mean toilet buckets need to be at hand. What makes this such a terrible disease is that there is no method of curing it has yet been discovered.

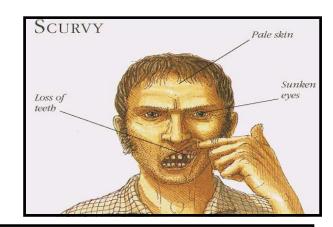
Robert Robertson

The Yellow fever is now having a terrible effect among the crew. Six were either carried to the hospital or buried daily. After losing fifty-two men, one of the lieutenants and four midshipmen, the captain requested that they go to sea, thinking the sea breezes would be best for the ship's crew.

Frederick Hoffman (Yellow fever was greatly feared if the ship was sent to the West Indies)

Twenty men, who looked like bloated monsters were sent ashore and buried in the earth up to the necks for two hours. They were then put into hammocks in a large tent and fed on oranges. They recovered well and went back on board ship.

Frederick Hoffman [Scurvy was a terrible disease caused by a lack of fresh fruit and vegetables. The gums, tongue and flesh would swell to twice their normal size] Angus McKie



Here we began to give men bark in wine; a glass before they went and another when they returned.

Francis Spilsbury (The 'bark' came from a tree in Peru. Today we make quinine from this bark and it can cure fevers like malaria).

Very shortly afterwards poor Jack dies and he is prepared for his burial at sea. He is sewn up into his hammock and in cases of doubt as to whether he has died the needle is passed through the seaman's nose. A couple of cannon shot are placed at his feet and rest the body on a grating which covers the ship's hold. It is then carried to the stern, placed between two guns. Next day about eleven o' clock the bell is sounded and the ship's company assemble. The funeral service is read and poor Jack is launched into the ocean. Edward Mangin