Whereas by section 8 (1) of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1891, it is enacted that—

"Where the Secretary of State certifies that, in his opinion, any machinery or process or particular description of manual labour used in factory or workshop (other than a domestic workshop) is dangerous or injurious to health, or dangerous to life or limb, either generally or in the case of women, children, or any other class of persons, or that the provision for the admission of fresh air is not sufficient, or that the quantity of dust generated or inhaled in any factory or workshop is dangerous or injurious to health, the Chief Inspector may serve on the occupier of the factory or workshop

a notice in writing, either proposing such special rules or requiring the adoption of such special measures as appear to the Chief Inspector to be reasonably practicable and to meet the necessities of the case."

Now I, the Right Honourable Sir Matthew White Ridley, Baronet, one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, do hereby certify that, in my opinion, the process of sorting foreign hides and skins and dry East Indian hides and skins, and the processes incidental thereto, are dangerous or injurious to health.

M. W. RIDLEY.

Whitehall, April 2, 1898.

STATEMENT showing the Average Price of BRITISH CORN, per Quarter (Imperial Measure), for the Quarter ending Lady-Day 1898, pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

BARLEY.	OATS.
s. d.	s. d.
27 9	17 5
	P. G. CRAIC
	s. d.

STATEMENT showing the Quantities Sold and Average Price of BRITISH CORN Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise, in the Week ended 2nd April 1898, conformably with the Act of the 45th and 46th Victoria, cap. 37.

			QUANTITIE	S SOLD.	AVERAGE PRICE		
Wheat			 Qrs. 53,483	Bus.	s 35	i 3	
Barley	•••	•••	 14,017	7	27	11	
Oats	•••	•••	 11,343	6	17	10	

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT for the corresponding Week in each of the Years from 1894 to 1897.

Corresponding Week in		QUANTITIES SOLD.						AVERAGE PRICE.						
		WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.		WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.		
1894			Qrs. 35,206	Bus.	Qrs. 9.304	Bus.	Qrs. 5.554	Bus.	s. 24	d. 6	s. 26	d. 7	s. 18	d. 3
1895	•••	•••	29,536	0	22,634	4	11,960	6	20	4	20	11	14	5
1896	•••	•••	29,442	3	26,336	7	11,157	5	24	7	21	10	13	3
1897	•••	•••	45,027	3	18,927	2	9,289	6	27	10	22	3	16	3

^{*}Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act. 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the Local Inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the imperial bushel, or by weight or by a weighed measure, that Officer shall convert such returns into the imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

P. G. CRAIGIE.