

premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorise and empower you, or any three or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit to assist you in conducting any inquiry which you may hold.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this Our Commission shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you Our said Commissioners, or any three or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof, and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you, or any three or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time, if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any three or more of you, your

opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

And for the purpose of aiding you in your inquiries, We hereby appoint Our trusty and well-beloved Alfred Herbert Higgins, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, to be Secretary to this Our Commission.

Given at Our Court at Saint James', the seventeenth day of March one thousand nine hundred, in the sixty-third year of Our Reign.

By Her Majesty's Command,

M. W. RIDLEY.

WHITEHALL, March 19, 1900.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Wilbraham, Earl Egerton of Tatton, to be Lieutenant and Custos Rotulorum of the County of Chester, and the City of Chester and County of the same, in the room of Hugh Lupus, Duke of Westminster, K. G., deceased.

STATEMENT showing the Quantities Sold and Average Price of BRITISH CORN, per Quarter of 8 Bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise, in the Week ended 17th March 1900, pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	QUANTITIES SOLD.		AVERAGE PRICE.	
	Qrs.	Bus.	s.	d.
Wheat ...	76,435	5	25	10
Barley ...	46,053	0	24	6
Oats ...	20,104	7	16	11

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT for the corresponding Week in each of the Years from 1896 to 1899.

Corresponding Week in	QUANTITIES SOLD.						AVERAGE PRICE.					
	WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.		WHEAT.		BARLEY.		OATS.	
	Qrs.	Bus.	Qrs.	Bus.	Qrs.	Bus.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1896 ...	34,404	7	38,111	2	16,996	5	25	1	21	1	13	9
1897 ...	47,905	3	28,373	0	14,151	5	27	11	22	8	16	2
1898 ...	51,984	5	29,480	5	15,775	3	35	6	28	0	17	10
1899 ...	67,262	3	34,456	6	17,583	4	25	10	26	3	16	10

* 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.

Board of Agriculture, 4 Whitehall Place, London, S. W.,

March 17, 1900.