

At the Court at Buckingham-Palace, the 1st day of April 1853,

PRESENT,

The QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas there was this day read at the Board a Report from the General Board of Health, dated the tenth day of March one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three, in the words following; that is to say:—

“To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

“We, the General Board of Health, appointed for the purposes of the Public Health Act, 1848, have, in pursuance of the provisions of that Act, upon the Petition of not less than one-tenth of the inhabitants rated to the relief of the poor of and within the township of Heckmondwike, in the parish of Birstal, in the county of York, the said township being a place having a known and defined boundary (the number of the said petitioners greatly exceeding thirty in the whole), directed William Ranger, a Superintending Inspector appointed for the purposes of the said Public Health Act, to visit the said township, and to make public inquiry, and to examine witnesses as to the sewerage, drainage, and supply of water, the state of the burial-grounds, the number and sanitary condition of the inhabitants, and as to any local Acts of Parliament in force within such township for paving, lighting, cleansing, watching, regulating, supplying with water, or improving the said township, or having relation to the purposes of the said Public Health Act; also as to the natural drainage areas, and the existing municipal, parochial, or other local boundaries, and the boundaries which might be most advantageously adopted for the purposes of that Act;

“And the said Superintending Inspector, having previously given the notices directed by the said Public Health Act, proceeded upon the said inquiry in the manner directed by that Act, and hath reported in writing to the said Board upon the said several matters with respect to which he was directed to inquire, and upon certain other matters with respect to which he deemed it expedient to report for the purposes of that Act;

“And copies of the said Report, accompanied by a notice stating that written statements might be forwarded to the said Board with respect to any matter contained in or omitted from the said Report, or any amendment proposed to be made therein, have been duly published and deposited as directed by the said Public Health Act, and the time for forwarding such statements has now elapsed; and all such statements as have been received by the Board have been duly deposited in accordance with the requirements of that Act;

“And it appears by the said Report that there is no local Act of Parliament in force within the said township for paving, lighting (otherwise than for the profit of proprietors or shareholders), cleansing, watching, regulating, supplying with water, or improving such township, or any part thereof, or in anywise relating to the purposes of the said Public Health Act;

“Now therefore, we, the said General Board of Health, do hereby, in pursuance of the Public Health Act, humbly report to your Majesty that it appears to us to be expedient—

“1. That the Public Health Act, 1848, and every part thereof, except the section numbered 50 in the copies of that Act, printed by your Majesty's printers, should be applied to and be in force within and throughout the entire area, places, and parts of places comprised within the said township of Heckmondwike, in the parish of

Birstal, in the county of York, and that such area, places, and parts of places, should be and constitute a district for the purposes of the said Public Health Act accordingly.

“2. That the Local Board of Health to be elected under the said Public Health Act should consist of nine persons, and that the entire number should be elected for the whole of the said district.

“3. That the first election of the said Local Board of Health should take place on the fifth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

“4. That one-third in number of the said Local Board of Health should go out of office on the thirty-first day of March in each year subsequently to that in which the said election takes place; but in case the day so appointed should fall on a Sunday, or on a day appointed for public fast or thanksgiving, then that such one-third should go out of office on the day next following.

“5. That every person at the time of his election as member of the said Local Board of Health, and so long as he shall continue in office by virtue of such election, be resident, as in the said Public Health Act, 1848, is required, and be seized or possessed of real or personal estate, or both, to the value or amount of not less than five hundred pounds, or should be so resident and rated to the relief of the poor of some parish, township, or place, of which some part is within the said district, upon an annual value of not less than fifteen pounds.

“6. That at the first election of the said Local Board of Health, Mr Henry Oates, of Heckmondwike, should have the powers and perform the duties vested in or imposed upon the Chairman of the Local Board of Health by the Public Health Act, 1848, in relation to the election by owners of property and rate-payers, and should perform all other duties which it may be requisite for him to perform in conducting and completing the said first election; and in case the said Henry Oates, from illness or other sufficient cause, should be unable to exercise or discharge such powers or duties, or should be absent, or should refuse to act, then that Mr Michael Swallow, Carpet Manufacturer, of Heckmondwike aforesaid, should exercise and perform such of the said powers and duties as then remain to be exercised or performed.

“7. That the fourteen days' notice of qualification required by the Public Health Act, 1848, to be given by owners of property, in order to entitle them to vote at the said first election, should be given to the said Henry Oates, at his house, within the district aforesaid; or in case he should refuse, or be unable to receive the same, then to the said Michael Swallow, at his house, likewise within the said district.

“Given under our hands, and under the seal of the General Board of Health, this tenth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-three.

(L. S.) (Signed) “SHAFTESBURY.
EDWIN CHADWICK.
T. SOUTHWOOD SMITH.”

Now therefore, Her Majesty having taken the said Report into consideration, is pleased to approve thereof, and by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, doth hereby, under and in pursuance of the Public Health Act, 1848, order and direct—

1. That from and after the date of this Order, the Public Health Act, 1848, and every part thereof, except the section numbered 50 in the