

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 shall 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 George Giberne, from illness, or other sufficient cause, shall be unable to exercise or discharge such powers or duties, or shall be absent, or shall refuse to act, then William Everest, Esq. shall 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, shall be given to the said George Giberne; or in case he shall refuse or be unable to receive the same, then to the said William Everest. *Wm. L. Bathurst.*

AT the Court at *Buckingham-Palace*, the 9th day of *March* 1850,

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 sixth day of March instant, in the words following; that is to say:

"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 Hitchin, in the county of Hertford, having a known and defined boundary (the number of the said petitioners greatly exceeding thirty in the whole), directed William Ranger, Esq. 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 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 Public Health Act, and the time for forwarding such statements has now elapsed; and all such statements as have been received by the said Board have been duly deposited as required by 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 said Public Health Act, humbly report to your Majesty, that it appears to us to be expedient 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 boundaries at present fixed as the boundaries of the said township, and that such area, places, and parts of places should be and constitute a district for the purpose of the said Public Health Act accordingly.

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

"3. That the first election of the said Local Board of Health shall take place on the second day of May one thousand eight hundred and fifty.

"4. That one-third in number of the said Local Board shall go out of office on the twenty-fifth day of March in each year, subsequently to that in which the said election takes place.

"5. That every person at the time of his election as member of the said Local Board, 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 and possessed of real or personal estate, or both, to the value or amount of not less than one thousand pounds, or shall 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 thirty pounds.

"6. That at the first election of the said Local Board William Hawkins, Esquire, shall 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 of owners of property and rate-payers, and shall 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 William Hawkins, from illness or other sufficient cause shall be unable to exercise or discharge such powers or duties, or shall be absent, or shall refuse to act, then William Stevens, Esquire, Clerk to the Guardians of the Hitchin Union, shall 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, shall be given to the said William Hawkins, or in case he shall refuse or be unable to receive the same, then to the said William Stevens.

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

L. S.

(Signed)

Ashley.
Edwin Chadwick."