

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, and 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 the statement which has been received by the said Board has 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:

"1. '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 of the said township of Houghton-le-Spring, in the county of Durham, 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. 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. The first election of the said Local Board should take place on the twenty-fifth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

"4. 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 first election of that Local Board 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. 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, should 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 three 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 ten pounds.

"6. At the first election of the said Local Board, Thomas William Usherwood Robinson, Esquire, of Houghton-le-Spring, should perform the duties which it may be requisite for him to perform in conducting the said first election; and in case the said Thomas William Usherwood Robinson, from illness or other sufficient cause, should be unable to discharge such duties, or should be absent, or should refuse to act, then Edward Davison Welford, Esquire, of Houghton-le-Spring, should perform such of the said duties as then remain to be performed.

"7. 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 Thomas William Usherwood Robinson, at his residence, Houghton-le-Spring, or in case he should refuse or be unable to receive the same, then to the said Edward Davison Welford, at his residence, Quality Hill, within the aforesaid township.

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

(Signed)

*Shaftesbury.*

*Edwin Chadwick.*

*T. Southwood Smith."*

L. S.

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 that:

1. "The Public Health Act, 1848," and every part thereof, except the section numbered 50 in the copies of that Act, printed by Her Majesty's printers, shall be applied to and be in force within and throughout the entire area, places, and parts of places comprised within the boundaries of the said township of Houghton-le-Spring, in the county of Durham, and that such area, places, and parts of places shall be and constitute a district for the purposes of the said Public Health Act accordingly.

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

3. The first election of the said Local Board shall take place on the twenty-fifth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four.

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

5. 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 shall 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