

age, to attend school, unless there be a reasonable excuse for non-attendance.

Any of the following reasons shall be a reasonable excuse, viz. :—

1. That the child is under efficient instruction in some other manner.
2. That the child has been prevented from attending school by sickness or any unavoidable cause.
3. That there is no Public Elementary School which the child can attend within the distance of a mile and a half, measured according to the nearest road, from the residence of such child.
4. That such child, having attained the age of ten years, has reached a standard of education which would enable it to pass a public examination according to the fourth standard of the Government Code of February, 1871, and obtained a certificate to that effect from one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, or be found so certified in the School Register.

II. The time during which every child shall attend school shall be the whole time for which the school shall be open for the instruction of children of similar age, provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the withdrawal of any child during the time or times in which any religious observance is practised, or instruction in religious subjects given, and that no child shall be required—

- (a) To attend school on any day exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which his or her parent belongs.
- (b) To attend school on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday, or any day set apart for a day of Public Fast or Thanksgiving, or on Saturday after twelve o'clock at noon.
- (c) To attend school on any day fixed for the inspection of the School, or the examination of the scholars therein in respect of religious subjects.

III. Provided always, that if and whenever the present Bye-laws, or any of them, shall be contrary to, or inconsistent with, the regulations affecting any child subject thereto contained in any Act for regulating the education of children employed in labour, the said regulations shall prevail, and the said Bye-laws shall affect such child only to such extent as they are consistent with the said regulations.

IV. When the parent of any child, resident within the district, shall satisfy the Board that he is unable from poverty to pay the whole or some part of the school fees of such child, the Board, in the case of a school provided by the Board, shall remit for a renewable period, to be fixed by the Board, not exceeding six calendar months, the whole or such part of the fees as in the opinion of the Board the parent is unable to pay.

V. Any person committing a breach of these Bye-laws, or any of them, shall be subject to a penalty not exceeding two shillings and sixpence, provided that all breaches of these Bye-laws by a parent in one and the same week, shall be deemed one offence, and that no penalty imposed for the breach of any Bye-law shall exceed such a sum as, with costs, will amount to five shillings for each offence.

VI. All Bye-laws heretofore made by the said Board in pursuance of the aforesaid powers, are hereby wholly revoked, as from the day hereinafter specified in Bye-law VII.

VII. These Bye-laws shall take effect from and after the day on which the same shall be sanctioned by Order in Council.

Sealed with the Corporate Common Seal of the School Board for the borough of Hartlepool, this 14th day of January, A.D. 1875.

D. R. Falconer, Chairman.

Robert Edger, Clerk.

L. S.

At the Court at *Osborne House, Isle of Wight*, the 4th day of *February*, 1875.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the School Board of *Duston*, appointed under "The Elementary Education Act, 1870," have, in virtue of the powers conferred upon them by the seventy-fourth section of that Act, with the approval of the Education Department, made certain Bye-laws, bearing date the twentieth of November, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, numbered 383 :

And whereas all the conditions in regard to the said Bye-laws, which are required to be fulfilled by the said Act, have been fulfilled, and the said Bye-laws have been submitted for the sanction of Her Majesty in Council: now, therefore, Her Majesty, having taken the said Bye-laws (copy whereof is hereunto annexed) into consideration, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to declare, and doth hereby declare, Her sanction of the same.

Arthur Helps.

Bye-laws referred to in the foregoing Order.

No. CCCLXXXIII.

THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT,
1870.

Duston School Board.

BYE-LAWS OF THE DUSTON SCHOOL BOARD.

Compulsory Attendance.

I. Subject to the provisions of the Elementary Education Act, 1870, and of these Bye-laws, the parent of every child not less than five years of age, nor more than ten years of age, residing within the parish of *Duston*, shall cause such child to attend school full time, and the parent of every child over ten years of age, and under twelve, residing in the said parish, shall cause such child to attend school half time.

Time during which Children shall attend.

II. The time during which every child shall attend school shall be the whole time for which the school shall be open for the instruction of children of similar age.

Exemption from Attendance.

III. Any child between the age of ten and twelve years shall not be required to attend school in case one of Her Majesty's Inspectors shall certify that such child has reached the fifth standard of education mentioned in the New Code of the Education Department, made on the 7th day of February, 1871.