

to be used only for the burial of members of the same family, no coffin to be covered with less than four feet of soil or buried in any grave which is not always free from water.

C. I. Peel.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 9th day of *December*, 1876.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS by an Order in Council, dated the 23rd October, 1876, Her Majesty was pleased to sanction certain Bye-laws purporting to have been made by the School Board of Reading, in virtue of the powers conferred upon them by the 74th section of the "The Elementary Education Act, 1870."

And whereas it is expedient that the said Order be revoked.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, is pleased to direct that the said Order in Council of the 23rd of October, 1876, be, and the same is hereby, revoked.

C. I. Peel.

AT the Court at *Windsor*, the 9th day of *December*, 1876.

PRESENT,

The QUEEN's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

WHEREAS the School Board of Reading, 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 twelfth of April, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, numbered 697:

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.

C. I. Peel.

Bye-laws referred to in the foregoing Order.

No. DCXCVII.

THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT,
1870.

BYE-LAWS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE
BOROUGH OF READING.

At a Meeting of the School Board of the borough of Reading, holden at the Athenæum, Friar-street, Reading, on Wednesday, the 12th day of April, 1876, the said Board, in pursuance of the powers given to them by section 74 of the Elementary Education Act, 1870, and subject to the approval of the Education Department, hereby make and ordain the following Bye-laws:—

I. The parent of every child not less than five years of age, nor more than thirteen years of age,

residing within the district of the said borough shall cause such child to attend school.

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 is 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 Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday, or any day set apart for a 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. In case one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools shall certify that any child between ten and thirteen years of age has reached the fifth standard of education mentioned in the New Code of Regulations of the Education Department, with respect to the Parliamentary Grant in force at the date of such certificate, such child shall be totally exempt from the obligation to attend school, and any such child who has been so certified to have reached the fourth standard of education mentioned in the said Code, shall be exempt from the obligation to attend school more than five attendances in each week, each attendance being for the whole time the school shall be open either in the morning or the afternoon.

IV. A child shall not be required to attend school—

- (a.) If such child is under efficient instruction in some other manner.
- (b.) If such child has been prevented from attending school by sickness, or any unavoidable cause.
- (c.) If there is no Public Elementary School which such child can attend within two miles, measured according to the nearest road, from the residence of such child.

V. Nothing in the present Bye-laws shall have any force or effect in so far as it may be contrary to anything contained in any Act for regulating the education of children employed in labour.

VI. If the parent of any child residing within the district of the School Board satisfies the School Board that the reason that his or her child does not attend school is that he or she is unable, from poverty, to pay the school fees of such child, the School Board will remit at their own schools, or pay at any other Public Elementary School, the whole, or such part of the school fees as, in the opinion of the Board, the parent is unable to pay for a renewable period, to be fixed by the Board, not exceeding six calendar months, provided that the amount of fees to be remitted or paid shall not exceed the ordinary payment at the school selected by the parent.

VII. 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 for each offence; but no penalty imposed for the breach of any Bye-law shall exceed such a sum as with the costs will amount to five shillings for each offence.

VIII. All Bye-laws heretofore made by the School Board in pursuance of the aforesaid powers