

ORDER of the Local Government Board: Relief Committees: School Fees.**South Shields Union.**

To the Guardians of the Poor of the South Shields Union, in the County Borough of South Shields and the County of Durham;—

To the Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor of the several Parishes and to the Overseers of the Poor of the several Townships comprised in the said Union;—

And to all others whom it may concern.

WHEREAS by an Order dated the 22nd day of January, 1857, the Poor Law Board empowered the Guardians of the Poor of the said South Shields Union to form Committees of themselves and from time to time to assign to any such Committee the whole or part of the District of any of the Relieving Officers of the said Union in order that such Committee might hear and determine all applications for relief on account of poor persons residing or being in the District or part of a District so assigned to such Committee, and might give all directions respecting the continuance of relief to poor persons belonging to such District or part of a District, in such manner as the said Guardians, acting as a Board, were or might be authorized to do;

And whereas by a General Order dated the 5th day of September, 1877, addressed to the Guardians of the Poor of the said South Shields Union, among others, We, the Local Government Board, empowered the said Guardians to authorize the said Relief Committees to deal with all applications for payment of School Fees on account of parents, not being paupers, residing or being in the Districts or parts of Districts which might have been assigned to such Committees;

And whereas it is expedient that other provision should be made for the appointment of Committees for the purpose of hearing and determining applications for relief by paupers belonging to the said Union, and of dealing with the applications made by parents, not being paupers, for payment of School Fees, whether such last-mentioned applications are made directly to the Guardians of the Poor of the said Union or through an Inquiry Officer:

Now therefore, in pursuance of the powers given to Us by the Statutes in that behalf, We do hereby rescind the above-cited Order dated the twenty-second day of January, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven, and the above-cited General Order in so far as it relates to the said South Shields Union, and We Order that the following regulations shall be substituted in lieu thereof; that is to say,—

ARTICLE I.—The Guardians of the Poor of the said Union may at any ordinary meeting appoint one or more Committee or Committees, hereinafter termed the Relief Committee or Relief Committees, each consisting of not less than Three Guardians, and may from time to time assign to any such Relief Committee, the whole or part of the District of any of the Relieving Officers of the said Union.

ARTICLE II.—Every Relief Committee shall meet at the same place as is appointed for the Meetings of the Guardians, or at such other place as the Guardians may, with Our approval, appoint, and at such times as the Guardians shall appoint.

ARTICLE III.—Every Relief Committee shall at every Meeting appoint one of themselves to preside as Chairman at that Meeting, and shall cause Minutes of their proceedings to be kept in a Book to be provided for that purpose by the Board of Guardians. The Minute Book of each

Committee shall be laid before the said Board of Guardians at each of their ordinary meetings.

ARTICLE IV.—Any Relief Committee so appointed may hear and determine all applications for relief on account of poor persons residing or being in the District or part of the District which may have been so assigned to them, and may give all directions respecting the continuance of relief to poor persons belonging to such District or part of the District, in such manner as the Guardians of the Union, acting as a Board, are now or may hereafter be authorized to do; but an order for relief given by any such Committee shall not be valid unless a majority of the Members of the Committee then present concur in such relief, nor unless three Members, at least, be present when such order is made.

ARTICLE V.—The Guardians of the Union may, if they think fit to do so, authorize any Relief Committee appointed as aforesaid to deal with all applications for payment of School Fees on account of parents, not being paupers, resident or being in the District or part of the District which may have been assigned to such Committee; and such Committee shall thereupon hear and determine all such applications and give all directions respecting the continuance of the payment of the Fees in such manner as the Guardians, acting as a Board, are now or may hereafter be authorized to do.

ARTICLE VI.—Nothing contained in this Order shall at any time prevent the Guardians, acting as a Board, from rescinding or altering any order of a Relief Committee in regard to relief not previously administered or to School Fees not previously paid, or from considering and deciding on any application for relief from any poor person or any application for payment of School Fees on account of any parent as aforesaid, or from determining on the continuance or cessation of any weekly or other allowance of relief which shall not have been actually given or any weekly or other Fee which shall not have been actually paid.

ARTICLE VII.—Every Relieving Officer or Inquiry Officer, as the case may be, whose District or any part thereof is assigned to a Relief Committee shall submit to the Committee at every Meeting,—

In the case of an application for relief, the Application and Report Book, which he is required to keep by the General Order of the Poor Law Board dated the 14th day of January, 1867; and

In the case of an application for the payment of School Fees as aforesaid, the School Fees Application and Report Book, which he is required to keep by the General Order of the Local Government Board dated the 22nd day of March, 1877:

And with respect to every such application, either for Relief or for payment of School Fees, a note of the decision or direction of the Committee thereon, whether the application be made directly to the Committee or through the Relieving Officer or Inquiry Officer, shall be inserted at the Meeting of the Committee in the proper columns of the Application and Report Book or the School Fees Application and Report Book, as the case may be, and authenticated in the proper column by the initials of one of the Members of the Committee or of the Clerk to the Board of Guardians.

ART. VIII.—Relief Order Sheets according to the Form prescribed for the Relief Order Book by the said General Order of the Poor Law Board dated the 14th day of January, 1857, and