

Whitehall, February 8, 1901.

THE King has been pleased to issue a Commission, under His Majesty's Royal Sign Manual, to the following effect:—

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EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland King, Defender of the Faith, to—

Our right trusty and well beloved William, Baron Kelvin, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Councillor Sir William Hart Dyke, Baronet;

Our trusty and well-beloved Thomas Edward Thorpe, Esquire, Companion of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Principal of the Government Laboratory;

Our trusty and well-beloved Henry Cosmo Orme Bonsor, Esquire;

Our trusty and well-beloved William Selby Church, Esquire, Doctor of Medicine, Fellow and President of the Royal College of Physicians of London; and

Our trusty and well-beloved Benjamin Arthur Whitelegge, Esquire, Doctor of Medicine, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London, Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops; Greeting!

WHEREAS We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to ascertain with respect to England and Wales—

- (1.) The amount of recent exceptional sickness and death attributable to poisoning by arsenic.
- (2.) Whether such exceptional sickness and death have been due to arsenic in beer, or in other articles of food or drink, and, if so,
 - (a.) to what extent;
 - (b.) by what ingredients or in what manner the arsenic was conveyed; and
 - (c.) in what way any such ingredients became arsenicated; and
- (3.) If it be found that exceptional sickness and death have been due to arsenic in beer, or in other articles of food or drink, by what safeguards the introduction of arsenic therein can be prevented:

Now know ye that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have nominated, constituted, and appointed, and do by these Presents nominate, constitute, and appoint, you the said William, Baron Kelvin; Sir William Hart Dyke; Thomas Edward Thorpe; Henry Cosmo Orme Bonsor; William Selby Church, and Benjamin Arthur Whitelegge; to be Our Commissioners for the purposes of the said inquiry.

And for the better effecting the purposes of this Our Commission, We do by these Presents give and grant unto you, or any two or more of you, full power to call before you such persons as you shall judge likely to afford you any information upon the subject of this Our Commission; and also to call for, have access to, and examine all such books, documents, registers, and records, as may afford you the fullest information on the subject; and to inquire of and concerning the premises by all other lawful ways and means whatsoever.

And We do by these Presents authorize and empower you, or any two or more of you, to visit and personally inspect such places as you may deem it expedient so to inspect for the more effectual carrying out of the purposes aforesaid, and to employ such persons as you may think fit

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to assist you in conducting any inquiry which you may hold.

And We do by these Presents will and ordain that this, Our Commission, shall continue in full force and virtue, and that you, Our said Commissioners, or any two or more of you, may from time to time proceed in the execution thereof and of every matter and thing therein contained, although the same be not continued from time to time by adjournment.

And We do further ordain that you, or any two or more of you, have liberty to report your proceedings under this Our Commission from time to time, if you shall judge it expedient so to do.

And Our further will and pleasure is that you do, with as little delay as possible, report to Us under your hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any two or more of you, your opinion upon the matters herein submitted for your consideration.

And for the purpose of aiding you in your inquiries We hereby appoint Our trusty and well-beloved George Seaton Buchanan, Esquire, Doctor of Medicine, to be Secretary to this Our Commission.

Given at Our Court at Windsor, the fourth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and one, in the first year of Our reign.

By His Majesty's Command,
C. T. Ritchie.

(F. & H. 2544.)

Board of Trade (Fisheries and Harbour Department), London, February 8, 1901.

THE Board of Trade have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, information to the effect that bills of health will in future be required in Belgium for vessels arriving direct from Hull, Goole, and Grimsby.

(F. & H. 2573.)

Board of Trade (Fisheries and Harbour Department), London, February 8, 1901.

THE Board of Trade have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Telegram from His Majesty's Representative at Constantinople, intimating that 48 hours' quarantine against departures from Smyrna is imposed from 4th instant.

(F. & H. 2595.)

Board of Trade (Fisheries and Harbour Department), London, February 8, 1901.

THE Board of Trade have received, through the Secretary of State for the Colonies, information to the effect that the restrictions in force at St. Helena against arrivals from Sydney (N.S.W.) have been removed.

(F. & H. 2639.)

Board of Trade (Fisheries and Harbour Department), London, February 8, 1901.

THE Board of Trade have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from His Majesty's Representative at Havre, intimating that vessels arriving in the Havre Sanitary District from Goole or from other places in the estuary of the Humber will be subjected to the same Regulations in regard to disinfection as vessels arriving from the port of Hull.

(F. & H. 2640.)

Board of Trade (Fisheries and Harbour Department), London, February 8, 1901.

THE Board of Trade have received, through the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy