

Sir Edward Troup, Knight Commander of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath, one of the Under Secretaries of State to Our Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department;

Frederick William Verney, Esquire;

John Allsebrook Simon, Esquire, one of Our Counsel learned in the Law;

William Ryland Dent Adkins, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law;

Thomas Gair Ashton, Esquire;

William Clive Bridgeman, Esquire; and

Arthur Henderson, Esquire.

Greeting!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to consider and report whether any and what steps should be taken to facilitate the selection of the most suitable persons to be Justices of the Peace irrespective of creed and political opinion:

Now know ye, that We, reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge and ability, have authorized and appointed, and do by these Presents authorize and appoint you, the said Henry, Baron James of Hereford (Chairman); Victor Albert George, Earl of Jersey; Jocelyn Brudenell, Earl of Chichester; Edgar Algernon Robert Cecil (commonly called Lord Robert Cecil); Gavin George, Baron Hamilton of Dalzell; Sir William Hart Dyke; Henry Hobhouse; Sir Francis Mowatt; Sir Arthur Osmond Williams; Sir Edward Troup; Frederick William Verney; John Allsebrook Simon; William Ryland Dent Adkins; Thomas Gair Ashton; William Clive Bridgeman and Arthur Henderson 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 three 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 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 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 three 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 three 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 three or more of you, your opinion upon the matter herein submitted for your consideration:

And for the purpose of aiding you in your inquiry We hereby appoint Our trusty and well-beloved Aubrey Vere Symonds, Esquire, of the Local Government Board, to be Secretary to this Our Commission.

Given at Our Court at *Saint James's*, the fifth day of *November*, one thousand nine hundred and nine, in the ninth year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

*H. J. Gladstone.*

EDWARD R. & I.

EDWARD THE SEVENTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, to

Our right trusty and well-beloved Counsellor John Gorell, Baron Gorell, late President of the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division of Our High Court of Justice;

The Most Reverend Father in God Our right trusty and right entirely beloved Counsellor Cosmo Gordon, Archbishop of York, Primate of England and Metropolitan;

Our right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin and Counsellor Edward George Villiers, Earl of Derby, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order, Companion of Our Most Honourable Order of the Bath;

Our trusty and well-beloved Lady Frances Balfour;

Our right trusty and well-beloved Counsellor Thomas Burt; and

Our trusty and well-beloved:—

Charles John Guthrie, Esquire (commonly called The Honourable Lord Guthrie), one of the Senators of Our College of Justice in Scotland;

Sir William Reynell Anson, Baronet;

Sir Lewis Tonna Dibdin, Knight, Judge of the Arches Court of Canterbury and of the Chancery Court of York;

Sir George White, Knight;

Henry Tindal Atkinson, Esquire, one of Our Judges of County Courts in England;

May Edith, wife of Harold John Tennant, Esquire;

Rufus Daniel Isaacs, Esquire, one of Our Counsel learned in the Law;

Edgar Brierley, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law, Stipendiary Magistrate of the City of Manchester; and

John Alfred Spender, Esquire;

Greeting!

Whereas We have deemed it expedient that a Commission should forthwith issue to inquire